

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School



Principal – Kirsty Hill

Chairperson Governing Council – Sally Bailey

57 North Terrace, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Telephone 08 8724 9811 Fax 08 8725 0254 Email dl.1021.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Website www.mcpark7.sa.edu.au



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Issue No 20, 30/11/2023 - Week 7, Term 4

Transition

The end of the school year is fast approaching and for some, this time brings about many feelings. For our year 6 students transitioning to secondary school can bring about many changes and add pressure, stress and uncertainty to their lives. They will be navigating changes in school environments, new rules, new class rooms, different teachers, changes in relationships with their friends, and moving from being the eldest in school to the youngest. All our children are going to go through similar thoughts, worries and concerns as the time for transition gets closer. To support your child through this time, it is important to start having conversations now. Allowing them to express how they are feeling and what their thoughts are about next year. Some children feel more comfortable to open up when they are doing an activity with you. For example, helping cook, playing a game, shooting hoops, colouring in or going for a walk. All feelings are valid and helping them process their feelings and discussing strategies for them to use will help alleviate some of their worries.

Here are some question starters for you:

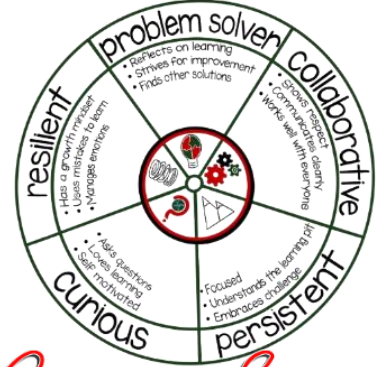
1. What are thoughts about transition?
2. How do you feel about transitioning to a new class next year?
3. Do you have any worries about being in a new class?
4. How did you feel about moving into this year's class?
5. What are you looking forward to about next year?
6. High school is the next step on your journey, how are you feeling about that?
7. What questions would you like answered about transition?

Keeping the communication open between yourself and your child is important as their feelings will change as the time gets closer and after transition has happened. As they express their concerns, worries or feelings with you, it is important to let them know you will support them through it and talk about strategies they can use to manage their feelings healthily.

1. Talking about how they managed transitioning at the beginning of this year.
2. Trusted adults they can go to either at primary school or the wellbeing team at high school
3. Strategies they currently use when feeling anxious and what will work during transition
4. Talking about how resilient they are and building confidence to manage challenging situations is a life skill and as adults we have had to learn to manage our anxious feelings
5. Feeling nervous and worried about transition are normal and everyone else will also be feeling nervous and worried too.
6. When they get home talk about the positive things they did or felt. Congratulate them on being persistent and resilient through the transition process.

Even though they transition every year throughout their schooling, new situations can be a nervous time for everyone. These skills are vital for life and each year they develop strategies that will aid them through adulthood.

Transition happens on Thursday week 8 for the first half of the day and every teacher, leader and SSO will be available to support your child.



Coming Events

WEEK 7

Friday, 1 December

Casual Day

McPark's Got Talent



WEEK 8

Wed, 06/12 & Thurs, 07/12

Year 6 transition to high school

Kindy transition to school

Thurs, 07/12

Whole school transition

Friday, 08/12

PUPIL FREE DAY

WEEK 9

Mon, 11/12

Annexe, Rms 1 & 2 - Valley Lakes

Wed, 13/12

Class Party day

Year 6 Graduation 6:30pm (GYM)

Thurs, 14/12

Block Aquatics Day

Rms 3,4,5 & 6 - Oatmill Cinema

Fri, 15/12

Assembly 9:15 am

Early dismissal 2:15 pm

VISION AWARDS

Term 4, Week 5

Our awards are centred on our school vision. Students will be recognised for their collaboration, respect, engagement, problem solving or progress (thriving). **McDonald Park School community will work collaboratively to develop respectful, thriving and engaged problem solvers.**

| PROBLEM SOLVING | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---|
| Presented to | By | For |
| Oliver C | Miss Eldridge | improving his addition and multiplication fluency and applying it when problem solving in maths. |
| Dakota R | Ms Munday & Mr Castle | showing resilience and persistence when challenged in her learning. |
| ENGAGEMENT | | |
| Presented to | By | For |
| Nic Brooks | Miss Eldridge | being focussed and engaged in all lessons and more consistently striving to do his best. |
| Ann Blossi | Miss Eldridge | improving her confidence in performing in front of others in drama. |
| Diamon H | Mrs Hentschke | using comprehension strategies to make sense of challenging texts. |
| Djakobe L-J | Mrs Hentschke | engaging in all new learning tasks with a positive mindset. |
| Elsie A | Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley | showing a thorough understanding of grammar and parts of speech. |
| Abbey B | Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley | improving in maths by showing persistence and using effective strategies. |
| Halle D | Ms Munday & Mr Castle | engaging in all areas of her learning. |
| Jordy W | Mrs McLean | displaying high levels of engagement and focus towards his learning. |
| Sophie W | Mrs McLean | consistently using her learner assets in all learning areas. |
| Mikaela F | Ms Mitchell | the engaged way she participated in writing lessons and took on feedback to consistently improve her writing. |

| RESPECT | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Presented to | By | For |
| Seb Grosser-Smith | Miss Eldridge | being a kind and considerate class member who is always willing to help others. |
| THRIVING | | |
| Presented to | By | For |
| Jacob U | Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley | listening and responding to feedback to improve his writing. |
| Shaye C | Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley | maintaining a positive work ethic and a focus on improvement. |
| Logan S-W | Mrs McLean | consistently engaging with the learning and using feedback to improve understanding while assisting others. |
| Eli G | Mrs McLean | striving to improve his understanding in all learning areas. |
| COLLABORATION | | |
| Presented to | By | For |
| Maddy G | Ms Munday & Mr Castle | being a respectful and kind group member. |
| Ronnie C | Ms Mitchell | supporting others and involving himself within school activities as part of his sports captain role. |



SAPSASA CRICKET

At SAPSASA Cricket we won the first game by two wickets and I made 19 runs. We lost the second game by 8 runs. After the second game we went to BOUNCE and then out to tea as a team.

The next day we were supposed to play at Eric Sutton Oval but there was a delay because the pitch was all wet and soggy. We had to change ovals to a high school. The second game we played against Mt Barker to get into the grand final. We won against Mt Barker. The next day we played Sothern Valley but we lost by 20 runs or more. **Kye W-M – N6**

I had a fabulous time representing the Lower South East in SAPSASA Cricket. I enjoyed meeting new people and challenging my cricket skills. It was my first time playing on turf which was a good experience. We made the grand final but we went down to a stronger side. I am very grateful for the experience and will always remember the great time we had.

Beau M – N4



SAPSASA TENNIS



My name is Hannah and my time at SAPSASA tennis was great. I made friends with people in my team. The best part about being there was playing a game with the girls and boys which was a girls v's boys elimination. When you hit the tennis ball into the net you were out. Also, if you hit the ball past the base line you were out. It was so much fun. The worst parts were coming last overall and having a few washed out games.
Hannah B – N5



I went to Adelaide for SAPSASA tennis. I represented the Mid South East. I had fun hanging out with my friends and playing tennis. I played number 1 for the week. Over time the boys and girls bonded more. I was very nervous but I became less nervous as the week went by. The second day was a washout because the courts were flooded. I played well and I am sad I can't do it next year.
Ariana E – N6



Tennis is one of my favourite sports and I was lucky to represent my school at SAPSASA tennis. We did really well and came 4th. The first day was very hot and then the next day was a wash out, which meant that we had lots of tennis on the Friday. It was really fun and I love challenging myself against other kids from other regions and making new friends from other schools.

Sometimes I see these friends again at other tournaments during the year which is good.
Beau M – N4

2023 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Once again we are offering a school magazine for the 2023 year. This is a fantastic opportunity to capture your child's primary years in a magazine format. This year's magazine will be in full colour. Forms will come home today. Orders with money need to be returned to the front office by **Friday, 1st December**.

Please remember to still return the order form if payment is made via Qkr!.



COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE

Join your local Bunnings Christmas Family Event

Get into the spirit at the free Bunnings Christmas family event.
 Thursday 7th of December from 6pm to 8pm
 at Bunnings Mt Gambier

Activities and fun for the whole family

Community Groups selling products and raffle tickets,
 FREE Bunnings Sausage Sizzle,
 FREE Games and Craft for Kids,
 FREE Popcorn and Kids Tattoo's
 Drawing the Winner of the Gingerbread House
 and of course SANTA!

For more information contact us on 77232400
 or visit www.bunnings.com.au/mtgambier

Refer to your local store for details and book your spot using the QR Code above.

BUNNINGS warehouse



CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday 18th November

