

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



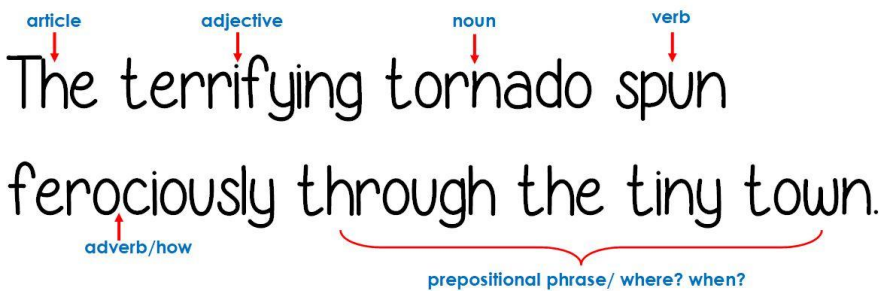
Government of South Australia
 Department for Education

Issue No 4, 14/3/2024 - Week 7, Term 1

Writing

Writing is one of the improvement focus areas for McDonald Park School in 2024. Our focus continues to build on the work that we have been doing in this area over the past few years and is also complemented by the visible learning work that has shaped the way we teach. Writing is made up of many components and all require explicit teaching and regular practise to improve. Each area is important and whilst some aspects are taught separately, there is an expectation that students apply their writing learning to all writing across the curriculum.

Across the school we are focusing on sentence structure and ensuring that students are familiar with the components of a good sentence, can identify these components and independently write them at a level appropriate to their learning. Teachers are using a variety of ways to ensure that students identify and use sentences correctly. Below is an example of the mentor sentence structure that some classes may use, others are using a colour coding system to mark up the components. **Please talk to your child about what they are doing in their class.**



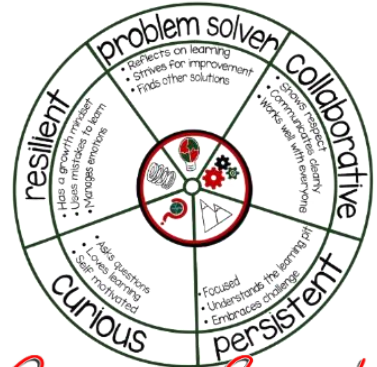
In addition to improving the skills and conventions of sentence structure, which is the foundation of quality writing, we are focusing on maintaining high expectations and students setting goals to improve their own writing. Many students have formed habits within their writing that will take persistence and practise to rectify. For some students this is in relation to the formation of their letters, or the fact that they are including capital letters in the middle of words or not using a capital I when writing I as a personal pronoun. **Are you familiar with your child's individual learning goal?**

Word study relates to the learning of spelling rules and patterns, beginning with the Read Write Inc. program in the Junior Primary section of the school and progressing to Words their Way in the primary classes. These lessons are designed to be short, regular and targeted so that students become familiar with patterns in words and are then expected to apply them in their general writing. Students often need support and encouragement to transfer what they have learnt in these lessons to everyday writing.

In addition to these components students will be explicitly taught the structures and layout of particular texts, as to write a procedure is very different to writing an information report or a persuasive piece. It is expected that students are writing regularly so that all that they have learnt can be put into practice.

WOW! What Outstanding Writing is happening at McPark. It is not always easy for students to see the importance and how it all fits together. You can help by talking to your child about their current writing focus and having high expectations of their writing, both content wise and formation. Please take the opportunity to talk to your child's teacher at upcoming learning conferences to learn more about your child's writing and how you can support their learning in this area.

Kirsty Hill, Daniel Castle & Lia Jordan



Coming Events

WEEK 8

Mon. 18 Mar. to Friday 22 Mar.
 NAPLAN testing

Thursday 21 March
 HARMONY DAY

WEEK 9

Mon. 25 March- Thurs. 28 March
 3 Way Conferences
 Swimming Years 4/5/6

Mon. 25 March
 Governing Council Meeting

Friday 29 March
 GOOD FRIDAY
 Early Dismissal 2:15pm

WEEK 10

Mon. 1 April
 EASTER MONDAY

Wed. 3 April – Fri 5 April
 Year 3/4 Robe Camps

WEEK 11

Mon. 8 April – Wed 10 April
 Year 6 Camp Creswick
 Year 5 Camp Warrnambool

Friday 12 April
 2:15pm Early Dismissal

VISION AWARDS

Term 1, Week 5

RESPECT

Presented to	By	For
Toby K	Mrs Bisnov and Mr Bigg	being a respectful and engaged member of the class.
Zack J	Mrs McLean	exemplary respect displayed towards all members of our school community and his learning.

THRIVING

Presented to	By	For
Tessie L	Mrs Bisnov and Mr Bigg	using voice in her writing to make it more precise and descriptive.
Halle D	Ms Munday & Mrs Bundy	being a strong leader and mentor in the class and on the environment committee.
Ruby C	Mrs McLean	displaying a focused drive towards her learning and working with effort and grit.
Chloe B	Ms Mitchell	settling so well into the new year and striving to meet class expectations.
Skyla L-R	Ms Mitchell	settling so well into the new year and striving to meet class expectations.

COLLABORATION

Presented to	By	For
Imogen S-W	Mrs Bisnov and Mr Bigg	displaying strong collaborative skills during group work in class.
Seth A	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	working effectively and being a leader in group tasks.
Izzy N	Ms Munday & Mrs Bundy	being an organised and active leader in the classroom.

PROBLEM SOLVING

Presented to	By	For
Chelcy K	Mrs McLean	excelling with mathematics especially with fluency and problem solving.

ENGAGEMENT

Presented to	By	For
Meah M	Mrs Bisnov and Mr Bigg	being engaged and enthusiastic in all lessons.
Oliver D	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	participating effectively in class discussions and group tasks.
Logan M	Ms Munday & Mrs Bundy	working with rigor and thinking deeply in all areas of his learning.
Hamish H	Mrs McLean	using feedback to guide his learning and for displaying a strong understanding of his social impact.



SAPSASA SOFTBALL



Congratulations Ty K. on his selection to represent the Lower South East for SAPSASA Softball. He will be competing in the state carnival in Adelaide from Wednesday 3 April to Friday 5 April 2024. Best of luck for the competition Ty.



WINNER

GUESS THE NUMBER OF LOLLIES IN THE JAR

During week 5, SRC leaders were raising funds for their leadership day at Noorla Yo-Long. Their fundraiser was guess the lollies in the jar. We had many guesses and various ways to calculate the number of lollies. The lucky winner was **Hemi L** from room 3. Congratulations Hemi and thank you to all those who supported the leadership fundraiser.



Celebrating 20 Years of Service

McDonald Park Canteen Manager

Michelle Clark

On Friday 1 March 2024, at our whole school assembly Michelle Clark, was congratulated and thanked for her 20 years of service as our school canteen manager.

Michelle has done an outstanding job during the past two decades, providing thousands of meals and tasty treats to feed our school community on a daily basis. On behalf of the Governing Council and all staff and students we would like to recognize this outstanding achievement.



SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Learning Assistance Program LAP

The Learning Assistance Programme is a programme involving interested community volunteers working at schools, with specific children, on a one to one basis. We believe that every child has the right to reach his/her full potential socially, emotionally, physically and educationally.

We believe that it is not only the parent / caregiver or teacher that can assist children to reach their potential, but a confidante is also an asset.

The role of the volunteer is first and foremost to establish a caring relationship with the child. We believe that the LAP role is most beneficial in providing children with a significant other for emotional support.

LAP IS BASED ON SIX "C'S"

- CARE** - Positive relationship is vital
- COMMITMENT** - Time and motivation
- COMMUNICATION** - Sharing with another
- CONFIDENTIALITY** - Of their work
- CONTENT** - Work with teachers
- CO-OPERATION** - Of all parties

ROLE OF LAP VOLUNTEER

1. Acts as a supporter, friend, someone to be safe with, is non-judgemental, a confidante and is sensitive to change and needs.
2. Gives time to listen, share, play games, read stories, write stories.
3. Spends time involved in activities within the school.
4. Confidentially must be observed at all times.

RESOURCES

LAP volunteers may borrow any resource material from the School Resource Centre. A budget allocation will cover the cost of printing, pencils, paper etc.

If you have a spare 45 min or one hour per week, or you know someone that you think would be interested in being involved in the program or would like more information, please give Linda Ward or Daniel Castle a call at school on 8724 9811 or return the slip below.

✂.....

LAP VOLUNTEERS FOR 2024

I am interested in working as a LAP volunteer.

Name:

Phone number:

Elders child's Name.....
(IF APPLICABLE)

Room no.....

Room no.....

SWIMMING – Week 9

Monday 25 March to Thursday 28 March

Rooms – N3, N4, N5

9:30am to 11:30am

**Rooms – N2, N6, Year 4s from
Rm 5 & Rm 6**

11:30am to 1:30pm



YELP excursion to Naracoorte

Wednesday 6 March

Today was a great experience at the caves and working together in groups. There was a great explanation about how the caves were formed and what has happened over time. We were also told about what had fallen down into the caves over time. I would love to visit the caves again.
Halle D

Today was an awesome day. We got to visit a building that showed us what would happen in a bat cave! We got to visit the Alexandra Cave and learn lots about stalactites and stalagmites and get some great pictures. We shared the presentations that we had done really well. We all got a wombat biscuit at the end.
Chelcy K

Today was very enjoyable. My favourite part was the Alexandra Cave and getting to look at the bats in a cave, then we found the entry of the cave. We also got a wombat cookie at the very end.
Abbey B



MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

HARMONY WEEK

18 - 24 MARCH 2024

Everyone Belongs

Join us as we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity, promoting inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for the whole family!

Everyone Belongs Tree – Craft Activity



All week
Children can draw a family picture or write their name on a handprint template and add to the 'Everyone Belongs Tree'.
All welcome.

Children of the World – Community Puzzle

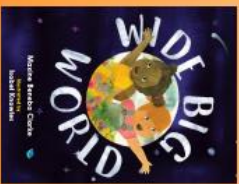


All week
This giant puzzle when pieced together will allow children to enjoy learning about different cultures. With beautiful pictures of traditional clothing and countries of the world.
All welcome.

Special Storytime

Tuesday 19 March at 10:30am

Join us as we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity with sharing a book that promotes inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Craft activity to follow.
All welcome.



Mount Gambier Library
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier
(08) 8721 2540
www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library

INFORMATION SESSION

Multicultural Morning or Afternoon Tea for CARERS from multicultural backgrounds

Hosted by Carers SA and Mount Gambier Library



As part of HARMONY WEEK, please join us for a Multicultural Carers gathering to learn more about how to access FREE support and services that will help you in your role as a CARER.

Wed 20 March 2024

Register for ONE of the following options

Morning Multicultural Carers Tea
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

OR

Afternoon Multicultural Carers Tea
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Book your spot today!

Mount Gambier Public Library
Multifunctional Room
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier

Limited spots, booking is essential

Please RSVP by one of the following ways:

- Send an SMS to 0455 533 361 with your name and which session you are attending.

OR

- Send an email to lina.pere@carerssa.com.au with your name, and which session you are attending.

OR

- Scan the barcode to register online



U8's HOCKEY 2024

term 2
Starting 10th of May
Fridays
4:30-5:15

Blue Lake Sports Park
Jubilee Highway East
Mount Gambier

\$41 rego
Starter Packs including a stick, ball and shin pads or bag are available for \$15 from the LSEHA online shop

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
Learn new skills
Mini matches
fun, social atmosphere!

AGES 4-8

First Session FREE!

REGISTER NOW

www.revolutionise.com.au/lowerseha/events
lsehajuniors@gmail.com
or call Ali on 0408 899 719

Proudly sponsored by **EMPAK HOMES**

LOWER SOUTH EAST HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
NEW IN 2024

UNDER 10'S FAST FIVES!

FUN, EXCITING & A GREAT INTRODUCTION TO HOCKEY. 5 A SIDE MIXED HOCKEY ON A SMALLER PITCH MAKE IT PERFECT FOR LEARNING GREAT SKILLS AND MAKING NEW FRIENDS! AGES 6-10

FRIDAY NIGHTS 5:30 -6:30

8 WEEK SEASON STARTS MAY 10TH 2024

CONTACT YOUR CLUB TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST!
OR CONTACT THE ASSOCIATION TO BE CONNECTED WITH ONE OF OUR GREAT CLUBS
LSEHAJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM OR 0408 899 719

MT BURR MOZZIES

MOUNT BURR FOOTBALL CLUB

JUNIOR COLTS

GREAT FOR FUN AND FITNESS

TRAININGS EVERY THURSDAY AT 5PM FROM FEBRUARY 29TH

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

BOYS + GIRLS AGED 10-14 YEARS

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS, MEET NEW FRIENDS AND HAVE FUN PLAYING FOOTBALL!

ALL ENQUIRIES TO FRAZER JOHNTSON ON 0478 715 379

OR LEIGH WOOLSTON ON 0427 535 000

MOUNT BURR FOOTBALL OVAL

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY PRESENTS

FIONA LOWE THE ACCIDENT

Monday 8 April at 7:00pm

A terrible crash ... but the facts don't add up. Worlds converge and two women's lives are torn apart when a devastating accident uncovers a shocking web of lies...

A gripping and thought-provoking new mystery from the master of the moral dilemma, bestselling author, Fiona Lowe.

Free event - bookings required.
Phone 8721 2540 or scan QR code to book:

Mount Gambier Library
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier
Phone 08 8721 2540
mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library

She thought their life was perfect.
She was wrong.

THE ACCIDENT

The undisputed queen of Australian small-town fiction.
— Catherine Waughly

FIONA LOWE

BESTSELLING AUSTRALIAN AUTHOR

City of Mount Gambier