

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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School camps are an integral part of the educational experience, offering a unique blend of learning and adventure that extends far beyond the classroom walls. For primary school students, these excursions are not just trips; they are a rite of passage that fosters independence, camaraderie, and a love for learning.



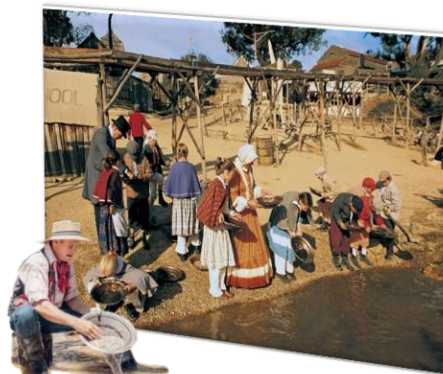
Our Year 3/4 students are set to embark on an exciting journey to Robe, where the natural beauty of the seaside town will serve as the perfect backdrop for environmental education and team-building activities. The immersive experience in Robe's serene setting will encourage students to appreciate nature's wonders while learning valuable life skills.



The Year 5 cohort will venture to Warrnambool, a place where history and culture converge. Here, students will engage in activities that challenge their physical and mental boundaries, promoting resilience and problem-solving skills. The camp's diverse program is designed to ignite curiosity and encourage students to embrace new challenges with courage.

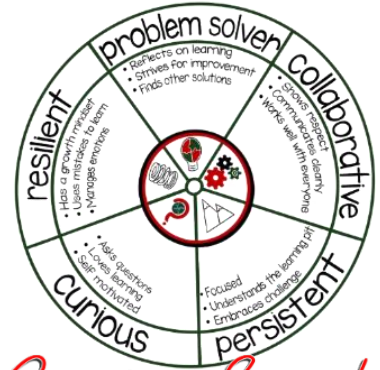
Our Year 6 students will visit Ballarat, stepping themselves in Australia's rich gold rush history. This historical context provides a unique educational opportunity, allowing students to connect with the past in a tangible way. The shared experiences at camp often lead to lasting friendships and memories that students carry with them long after their return.

School camps provide a foundation for personal growth and academic success. They offer a safe environment for students to take risks, learn from their peers, and develop a sense of responsibility. The benefits of these experiences are numerous, contributing to the holistic development of young learners as they prepare for the challenges of the future.



Sincere thanks to the adults attending for making this opportunity happen.

Kirsty Hill, Daniel Castle & Lia Jordan



Coming Events

WEEK 9

Early Dismissal
Thurs. 28 March

2:15pm

Friday 29 March
GOOD FRIDAY

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
Last day term 1
Early Dismissal
2:15pm

TERM 2

Monday 29 April
PUPIL FREE DAY

VISION AWARDS

Term 1, Week 7

RESPECT

Presented to	By	For
Tali J	Ms Huitema	being a respectful class member and completing all learning tasks to a high standard.
Koby J	Mrs Wilson & Mrs Harding	thinking about others through being kind and inclusive. Having positive conversations with class mates and making strong choices.

THRIVING

Presented to	By	For
Charlotte R	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	listening to feedback and adding more details to improve her writing.
Thea J	Mrs Wilson & Mrs Harding	her cheerful, quietly optimistic approach to learning. Thea is a role model for patience and perseverance in the classroom.
Mikayla G	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	using the sounds learnt in Read Write Inc. to write about her weekend independently.
Soraya J	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	using the sounds learnt in Read Write Inc. to write about her weekend independently.
Oliver T	Miss Eldridge	confidently and insightfully contributing to number talks.
Amelia F	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	developing her writing so that it includes FANBOYS to connect two ideas.
Lylah B	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	using the success criteria to assess her writing in order to make learning goals.

COLLABORATION

Presented to	By	For
Riley S	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	collaboratively working with others towards a common goal.
Johniezel C	Miss Schulz & Miss Hutchinson	being a collaborative worker and engaged in all learning tasks.
Jordyn B	Miss Eldridge	taking the time to help others when she can see they need assistance.

PROBLEM SOLVING

Presented to	By	For
Cayleigh F	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	using her initiative to improve and solve a problem for others.
Elliott B	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	being eager to share his learning and modelling his problems solving strategies.
Brax B	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	extending himself during math fluency to multiply square numbers together.

ENGAGEMENT

Presented to	By	For
Chaz P	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	engaging in classroom activities with dedication and determination.
William P	Ms Huitema	engaging in all learning tasks and showing a positive attitude towards his learning.
Nathan B	Miss Schulz & Miss Hutchinson	confidently contributing to class discussions.
Aria L	Miss Schulz & Miss Hutchinson	always displaying a positive attitude towards her learning and trying her best.
Emilia B	Miss Eldridge	participating effectively in our work on identities and change and producing a detailed identity self-portrait.
Angus P	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	learning the signs to our friendship song.
Theo W	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	frequently participating in class discussions and asking questions to further his understanding.

GRANT HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT INFORMATION & SCHOOL TOURS

Grant High School will be hosting a drop-in information afternoon and family tours of the school:

Wednesday 3rd of April
Thursday 4th of April
3:30pm - 6:00pm

School Leadership will be available to answer questions

Small group tours will leave at regular intervals, tours take approximately 45 minutes (no bookings are required)

Location: Grant High School, Junior Floor

RESPECT TRUST COMMITMENT
Building future-ready citizens




AUTISM INCLUSION TEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the Autism Inclusion Teacher (AIT) for McDonald Park Primary School. I currently teach Year 1 and have taken on this exciting new role again in 2024.

Autism Inclusion Teachers are a new, nation-leading, initiative which aims to build teacher understanding and knowledge around supporting children and young people with autism. Each public primary school in South Australia has appointed an AIT who will guide and support their staff in developing best practice whilst teaching and engaging with students who are on the autism spectrum. I have a wealth of experience of teaching students diagnosed with autism. I also have a deep interest in supporting our teachers and school support officers, to develop

their skills and abilities, with an aim in improving the learning outcomes for our students on the autism spectrum.

The AIT role is to build the skills, knowledge and understanding of autism amongst our teachers and school services officers (SSOs) by engaging them in formal learning sessions. The expected outcomes are that teachers and SSOs will then apply this new knowledge when teaching and supporting children with autism in their own classrooms. The AIT role does not include working directly with students with autism, nor are they involved in student or parent conferences.

I am currently working with other AITs, from a variety of school sites across the Limestone Coast, to develop and build upon my current knowledge of working with students with autism. The Department for Education provides an Autism Inclusion Multidisciplinary (AIM) team to support me in the AIT role. The team includes, senior advisor educators, developmental educator, psychologist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist and an Aboriginal cultural project officer. The information from the AIM team is evidence-based and informed by the autistic and autism community. This research is linked to incorporating a student on the autism spectrum's particular interest into daily teaching routines as a means to motivate and further engage in learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me for further information about improving support for children and students with autism.

Kind Regards,

Deanne Spencer

Premier's Reading Challenge 2024

Our Premier's Reading Challenge for 2024 has begun! Students are asked to record 12 quality books they have read on the PRC form and return to the resource centre once the form is complete. We encourage students to record a variety of series, authors and topics to stretch their reading choices.

Students have each been given a form. If it has been misplaced, they can ask for a new one at the resource centre. Forms can also be found on

<https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/resources-and-forms/>

Once students return their form, they put a token on the 'Reading is magic' window.

The challenge ends on September 6th and certificates and medals are presented at an assembly in November. Congratulations to those who have already completed the challenge!



SRC CASUAL DAY, Friday Week 7



On Friday on week 7, the SRC casual day raised a total of \$387.70 for Spare Ya Change For Kids. They are a wonderful organisation who support all school students from around the Limestone Coast. McDonald Park are a hub school and we store the delicious meals that are available to families weekly. Spare Ya Change For Kids have volunteers who come in and cook up thousands of meals every week to stock the freezers of many schools. The money raised by our school community on this casual day will be a big help to support an organisation which supports us. With this in mind, the SRC decided to brighten up our Friday with lots of colours as our fundraiser and capture it with this fantastic whole school picture.

DISTRICT ATHLETICS DAY, Friday Week 8

On Friday, March 22nd 32 of our students represented McDonald Park at the Lower South East District Athletics Day which was held at Mount Gambier High School. Our students were excellent representatives of our school, participating to the best of their ability and always showing good sportsmanship. A number of our students won their events on the day and will now go on to represent the Lower South East in Adelaide later in the year for the state SAPSASA championships. Thank you to our parent volunteers, Damien Bickley and Kelly Albanese for their assistance on the day. Also, thank you to MGHS staff and students for their organisation and assistance with each event.

Daniel Castle



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE






Vacation Care | 15 - 26 April

BOOKING FEE	FULL FEE	\$65.00	OCS REDUCED FEE	\$9.75-32.50
	FULL FEE	\$85.00	OCS REDUCED FEE	\$12.75-72.50

WEEK 1

Monday 15 April In-House Colour Run  Pack a white t-shirt and a spare set of clothes to participate in a colour run. Make your way around an obstacle course receiving a new colour at each check point. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Tuesday 16 April Excursion Oatmill Cinema  We're off to the movies! Excursion times may change due to movie session. Depart: 9:30am Return: 12:00pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 2, 4, 5	Wednesday 17 April In-House Master Chef  Let's take advantage of our amazing kitchen facilities and become master chefs. Cook your own lunch and afternoon snack. Ingredients will be provided. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Thursday 18 April In-House Fabric Bears  Spend the day doodling away on your very own special fabric bear that you get to name and take home. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Friday 19 April In-House Ultimate Cubby Build  Work together to create the ultimate cubby house in the gym with loose parts including sheets, mats, blankets, boxes, and lots more! Outcomes: 2, 3, 4, 5
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WEEK 2

Monday 22 April In-House Nerf Games  Let's use our ultimate cubby resources from Friday and turn them into bases for some fun Nerf games. Outcomes: 2, 3, 4, 5	Tuesday 23 April In-House Plaster Painting and Ice Cream  Get creative and paint your own plaster of Paris to take home. Put your chef hats back on and decorate a yummy ice cream with lollies and sprinkles. YUM! Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5	Wednesday 24 April Excursion Flip Out  Bring your grip socks and energy for a morning of climbing, jumping, and having fun at Flip Out. Depart: 9:15am Return: 10:45am Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 2, 3, 4, 5	Thursday 25 April  PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSED	Friday 26 April In-House Wheels Day  Bring your bikes, scooters, and skates for a day of riding around the school. Don't forget your helmets! Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
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McDonald Park OSHC
50-55 North Terrace, Mt Gambier, SA 5290
Kelly Griffin
0428 401 962

OSHC Support Team
P 08 8200 2516
E oshc@ymcasa.org.au
f /YMCA SA OSHC



Put your knowledge to the test and join us for a night of fun at the...



Ronald McDonald House Charities[®]
South Australia

MT GAMBIER QUIZ NIGHT!

Friday 12 April - 6pm
South Gambier Football Club

Get your brainiest team together & get your tickets today!

Scan for tickets & more info



rmhc.org.au/southaustralia

GATHER ROUND A FESTIVAL OF FOOTY

ROUND 4 | APRIL 4-7

Kids! Celebrate Gather Round with a FREE junior footy clinic facilitated by SANFL Game Development staff.

Includes a special display featuring the SANFL + 2024 AFL Premiership Cups!

All welcome.

Ages: 5 - 12

Date: Thursday, March 28th

Location: Frew Park Oval

Time: Junior clinic from 4:30pm - 5:30pm, photos with the cups until 6pm.

Footy Clinic Registration:



nab AFL Auskick

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

FREE WITH SA SPORTS VOUCHER

East Gambier Football Club - 8 Week Program

Wednesdays - 4.00 - 4.45pm

Start Date - 1st May 2024

All Abilities Welcome
Ages 5-12 years (Turning 5 in 2024)

All enquiries to our AusKick coordinator
Kane Ransom 0411 201 555

Register - <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/c66109>





EAST JUNIOR FOOTBALL SEASON 2024

Registrations now Open! We welcome
all past, present & new players to
come out to junior trainings

U/17.5'S Born July 1st 2009 - June 30th 2006
Training Commencing Tuesday
27th Feb - 5pm - 6pm

U/14.5'S Born 2011 - June 30th 2009
Training Commencing Tuesday
27th Feb - 5pm - 6pm

U/12'S
Training Commencing
Wednesday 13th March
at 4.30pm
12A's - Born 2012
12B's - Born 2013
12C's - Born 2014
12D's - Born 2015
12E's - Born 2016

'NO MOUTHGUARD, NO PLAY'
Must be worn to all trainings

All Enquires and apologies to
Grant Spooner 0428 287 983

*'Before kids
can play like
a pro, they
must enjoy
playing the
game like a
kid'*



Mount Gambier
**HEAD TO
HEALTH**

Join Mount Gambier Head to Health for a series of free creative workshops to contribute to a new community-created collaborative artwork to celebrate Mental Health Month later this year.

Creative Horizon

Visual Arts | Creative Writing | Projection Art



Tuesday April 2 | 2pm - 4pm
Wednesday April 3 | 9.30am - 11.30am
Thursday April 4 | 7pm - 9pm
Friday April 5 | 12.30pm - 2.30pm

Where: Mount Gambier Head to Health
7/165 Commercial Street East Mount Gambier
Cost: Free (limited spaces, please register)
Register: mountgambierheadtohealth.eventbrite.com

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Mount Gambier
**HEAD TO
HEALTH**

Let's Talk Anxiety
information | connection | support

Register: mountgambierheadtohealth.eventbrite.com



Thursday 18 April | 6pm - 7.30pm | FREE
Mount Gambier Head to Health
7/165 Commercial Street East Mount Gambier
(08) 8778 5021

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Mount Gambier
**HEAD TO
HEALTH**

Need some new strategies for your
mental health?

Learn the science and techniques
of mindfulness with Mount
Gambier Head to Health.

Mindfulness May

When: Tuesdays May 7, 14, 21, 28 | 6pm - 7pm
Where: Mount Gambier Head to Health
7/165 Commercial Street East Mount Gambier
Cost: Free (limited spaces, please register)
Register: mountgambierheadtohealth.eventbrite.com
Questions: Sandi (08) 8778 5021

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