

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School



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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Issue No 7, 09/05/2024 - Week 2, Term 2

Writing at McDonald Park

On Monday of week one, our staff completed professional learning focused on writing. Writing is a complex process that students need to be explicitly taught and it is also the most challenging skill that we teach our students.

Handwriting

It is vitally important that our students develop efficient, legible and fluent handwriting. To develop these skills our students, need direct instruction, modelling and time to practice their handwriting. A student who is not able to efficiently produce legible handwriting uses most of their working memory to think about how to write rather than the learning. Over time as a student becomes more efficient, the process of writing becomes more automatic, freeing up space for new learning.

Teaching of Writing

To teach our students to become stronger writers we break the writing process down into small chunks. This means our students are learning to write at a sentence level before moving to writing whole texts of writing. Focusing on the sentence level means that we can correct and focus on areas for improvement. A book we are using as a staff to guide our writing teaching is The Writing Revolution.

Spelling

A number of our classes this term are trialling PhOrMeS. The program teaches sound, letter, morpheme and world-level knowledge and the skills required to use this knowledge to read, spell and understand words. It includes decoding, spelling, word meanings, phonemic awareness and handwriting. You can learn more about PhOrMeS at: www.phormes.com.

Kirsty Hill, Daniel Castle & Lia Jordan



Coming Events

WEEK 2

Friday, 10 May

Walk to School Day
Cross Country

WEEK 3

Thursday, 16 May

Basketball clinics

WEEK 4

Wednesday, 22 May

Basketball clinics

WEEK 5

Reconciliation Week

Monday, 27 May

Governing Council
meeting

WEEK 6

Sunday, 2 June

Come & See McPark,
2.00pm

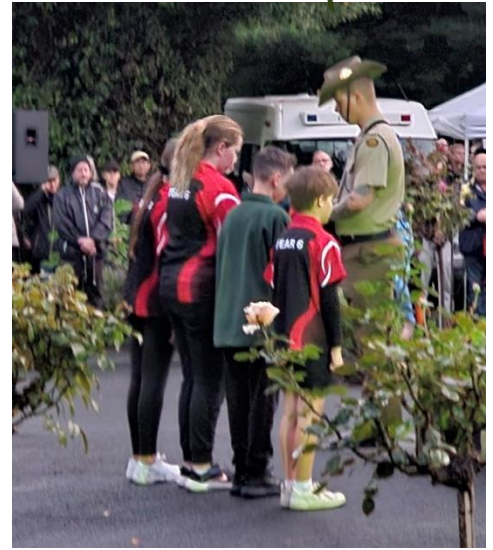
Monday, 3 June

Come & See McPark,
10.00am

ANZAC Day Dawn Service



On ANZAC Day, our ambassadors, Ruby, Harper, Seth and Alfie, attended the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. Our students laid a wreath on behalf of McDonald Park School and learnt about the history of ANZAC Day and the ANZACs. Despite the service being very early in the morning, our students enjoyed the service and valued the opportunity of being able to represent our school on this important occasion. Thank you, Linda Ward who made our wreath that we will continue to use in future years.



come & see
McPark

Enrolment Tours
2025 beginning year intake

Sunday, 2 June
2.00pm

Monday, 3 June
10.00am

8724 9811 to register

Congratulations

Laura, Jake & Van Dempsey
on the safe arrival of

MAC PATRICK

9 April 2024
4.26kg - 53cm

ALL PLEASE FROM

Term 1, Week 11

RESPECT

Presented to	By	For
Annika B	Mrs Bisnov & Mr Bigg	always showing respect to her classmates and to others when in the yard.
Amy J	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	being a positive, respectful and engaged member of the class.
Cheyden R	Miss Eldridge	being a kind, considerate, responsible and respectful member of our class.
Evie W	Miss Eldridge	being a kind and thoughtful member of our class who is always willing to help others.
Bailey R	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	being a kind, caring and respectful class member who willingly helps others.

THRIVING

Presented to	By	For
Amelia G	Ms Huitema	always producing work of a high standard and working collaboratively with others.
Spencer A	Mrs Wilson & Mrs Deppeler	approaching new learning tasks optimistically and trying his best.
Michelle N	Mrs Wilson & Mrs Deppeler	being a kind and generous class member who engages with all her learning.
Jack L	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	growing in resilience and smiling throughout the school day.
Ellie-Mae Mc	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	thriving in Maths when learning about length and clearly recording her discoveries.
Savannah S	Miss Schulz	taking risks within her learning and facing challenges with confidence.
Riley W	Miss Eldridge	making huge improvements to his skills in reading.
Hailie W	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	always asking questions and actively contributing to class discussions, her learning is thriving as a result of this.
Stevie C	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	using the writing wall to move her writing forward.
Isabelle H	Mrs Dew	her use of vocabulary in sentence-a-day tasks.
Will M	Mrs Bisnov & Mr Bigg	developing a very good responsible attitude to all his learning, especially showing a keenness to improve his maths skills.
Blake W	Mrs Bisnov & Mr Bigg	putting a good effort into his work to achieve quality results.
Stella C	Ms Munday & Mrs Bundy	demonstrating growing resilience and confidence in maths.
Sophie W	Mrs McLean	showing substantial growth in all areas of learning and continually seeking feedback.
Jaxon C-F	Mrs McLean	engaging in all areas of the curriculum to a high standard, especially mathematics.
Lily T	Ms Mitchell	her beautiful watercolour artwork that was well planned and completed carefully.
Tia R	Ms Mitchell	the wonderful skill displayed with blending primary colours to create secondary and tertiary colours.

PROBLEM SOLVING

Presented to	By	For
Mia G	Miss Schulz	using strategies to help self-regulate her emotions and bouncing back.
Hannah M	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	using the writing wall success criteria to determine which level she is working in.
Mitchell H	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	embracing the learning pit and thinking deeply to solve mathematical problems.

ENGAGEMENT

Presented to	By	For
Leo C-F	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	showing focus and dedication towards classroom tasks and activities.
Joey D	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Deppeler	engaging in classroom activities with focus and determination to do his best.
Mario M	Ms Huitema	his positive attitude towards all school tasks and his commitment to learning.
Andre V	Miss Eldridge	participating enthusiastically in fluency time and maths lessons.
Brooklyn F	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	showing greater focus on her learning tasks and using a growth mindset.
Tilly S	Mrs Dew	asking relevant and challenging questions of news speakers, during our topic on 'time'.
Ruby D	Mrs Dew	asking relevant and challenging questions of news speakers, during our topic on 'time'.

COLLABORATION

Presented to	By	For
Hemi L	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	working effectively in all areas and encouraging others to do their best and challenge their thinking.
Alex R	Mrs Cooper & Miss Hutchinson	happily working with others and being a strong, patient and kind learning partner with them.
Digby N	Mrs McCracken & Miss Hutchinson	showing great teamwork and care for others on camp and in the classroom.
Paiton P	Mrs Bisnov & Mr Bigg	working co-operatively and respectfully with all members of our class.
Sophia P	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	providing support and leadership to her group when choreographing and rehearsing a dance sequence.
Scarlet W	Mrs McLean	being a kind and inclusive class member who considers the opinions of others when learning, and expresses her ideas respectfully.

BALLARAT

Year 6 Camp



On Monday of week 11 our year six students arrived at school bright and early and headed off to camp. Our destination was the fantastic Log Cabin Campsite at Creswick. Day one included groups rotating through three activities - the zipline, the giant swing and the commando course. All the activities are designed to challenge students in some way, whether it be facing a fear, working with team mates, problem solving, physical endurance or simply trying something new. It was impressive to see students face and meet these challenges!

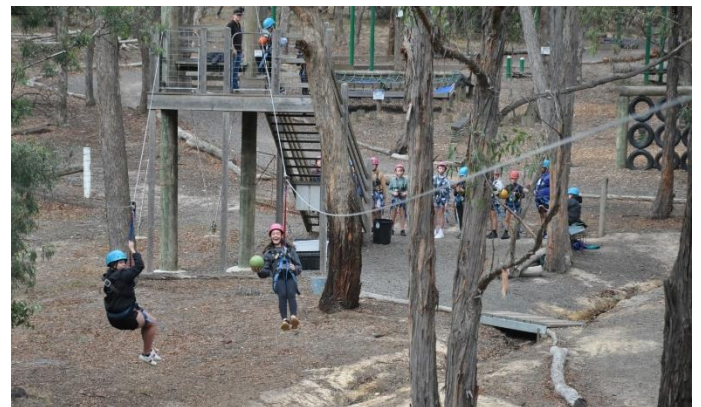


Day two was spent at the living museum of Sovereign Hill and although no one struck it rich panning for gold, the learning experiences of the education session "Put yourself in the Eureka story" gave students an insight into the history of one of Australia's most significant events. We also got to see molten gold form into a gold bar, experience soldiers firing their muskets from the theatre balcony and we went underground to learn about the discovery of the "Welcome Nugget", one of the largest found at Ballarat, on a self-guided Red Hill Mine tour. Students visited the 1850's style shops such as the lolly shop, the candle maker, the blacksmith, the printer and enjoyed some 1850's ten pin bowling. That evening we returned to Sovereign Hill for "Aura" the sound and light show which is presented in three parts and three separate locations within Sovereign Hill, told the story of the creation of gold, the creation story of the local Wadawurrung people and then and the events that led to and conclude in the Eureka Stockade. Our students were commended by several members of the public, who were with us at the sound and light show, on their exemplary behaviour and we were extremely proud of the way they all represented McPark.



Day three began with our last rotation of camp activities, farewells to the fabulous camp staff and recognition of some standout achievements before we headed home.

The year six camp is a great balance of physical challenges, building social skills and learning about important events in Australia's history. We were fortunate again, to be hosted by the Log Cabin Camp which has great accommodation and facilities, wonderful staff and impressive meals.



The staff and volunteers at Sovereign Hill continue to make history come alive and are always willing to answer questions and engage with students.

We also thank David from Mount Gambier Buslines for safely driving us to and from camp and to and from Sovereign Hill.

We also thank SSOs Shane Lewis and Kristy Drage and parents Damien Bickley and Michael Wilson for being part of our camp and supporting all the students.

The 2024 year fives have a great camp to look forward to next year!

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

TABLE TOP GAMES

Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Enjoy all the classics and more! With a selection of games and brainteasers each week – you'll never be bored!

Suitable for ages 8+
Bookings not required.



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

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

STEAM CLUB OCEAN WONDERS

Term 2: Tuesdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm
7 May to 2 July

Join us as we explore the wonders of the ocean by delving into its depths, creatures and future exploration.

Suitable for ages 8+.
Bookings essential.



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MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

WHAT'S AT YOUR LIBRARY FOR FAMILIES?

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

STEAM CLUB 8 - 13 YEAR OLDS

Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics through a series of programs designed to foster a love of learning.
Bookings essential.



TABLE TOP GAMES 8+ YEAR OLDS

Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Enjoy all the classics and more! With a selection of games and brainteasers each week – you'll never be bored!
Bookings not required.



CAVE CLUB - UNDER 5'S

Fostering a strong connection to community and a sense of belonging for our littles visitors, our Cave Club runs simultaneously with our **Storytime** and **Move & Groove** programs held weekly. Join the Cave Club and start collecting stamps in your Cave Club passport today.

Baby Bounce:
Tuesday & Thursday
at 10:00am
Storytime:
Tuesday at 10:30am
Move & Groove:
Thursday at 10:30am



FREE ONLINE RESOURCES USING YOUR LIBRARY CARD



Libby
Thousands of titles for South Australian borrowers with up to 10 loans at a time.



Borrow Box
Library members can borrow up to 10 eBooks and 10 eAudiobooks.



StoryBox Library
Australian stories for primary school aged children read by some of Australia's finest storytellers with additional learning resources.



hoopla
Enjoy Audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV episodes, music and magazines



LOTE4Kids
Learn a language through the magic of storytelling. Thousands of audio-picture books in 50+ languages.



Encyclopedia Britannica
Research and complete homework assignments with age appropriate material on a child-friendly site with credible and accurate information.



Studiosity
Study help, online, anywhere! Connect in real-time with live experts or get feedback in less than 24 hours.

Scan the QR code to go to our eResources online:



Mount Gambier Library
6 Watson Terrace,
Mount Gambier SA 5290
Phone (08) 8721 2540



MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL - TERM 2 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Events subject to change at school's discretion if need arises.)



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	29/04 Pupil free day Zones of regulation	30/04	01/05	02/05 Rugby clinics	03/05
WEEK 2	06/05	07/05	08/05	09/05 Newsletter	10/05 Assembly 9.15am Walk 2 school day Cross country
WEEK 3	13/05	14/05	15/05	16/05 Basketball clinics	17/05
WEEK 4	20/05	21/05	22/05 National Simultaneous Storytime	23/05 Basketball clinics Newsletter	24/05 Assembly 9.15am
WEEK 5	27/05 Reconciliation week Governing Council meeting	28/05	29/05	30/05	31/05 Sunday 02/06/24 Come and See McPark 2.00pm
WEEK 6	03/06 Reconciliation Week Come and See McPark 10.00am	04/06	05/06	06/06 Newsletter	07/06 Assembly 9.15am
WEEK 7	10/06 Public holiday King's birthday	11/06	12/06	13/06	14/06 Casual day
WEEK 8	17/06	18/06	19/06 Art Show	20/06 Newsletter	21/06 Assembly 9.15am
WEEK 9	24/06 Governing Council mtg Swimming lessons rms 1, 2, yr 3s rms 5 & 6	25/06	26/06 Transition term 3 enrolment	27/06 Transition term 3 enrolment	28/06
WEEK 10	01/07	02/07	03/07	04/07 Newsletter	05/07 Assembly 9.15am 2.15pm early dismissal