McDonald Park School community will work collaboratively to develop respectful, thriving and engaged problem solvers.



Principal – Kisty Hill Chairperson Governing Council – Talia Birks 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.mcparkr7.sa.edu.au

Issue No 1, 30/1/25 - Week 1, Term 1

Government of South Australia

Department for Education

Welcome to the 2025 school year

We extend a warm welcome to the families who have just joined our McDonald Park School community and wish them a wonderful learning journey with us. Welcome back to continuing families and students, it is lovely to see your smiling faces again.

The start to the year has been smooth and students have settled to learning routines well. Thank you to all who have worked behind the scenes to ensure this is the case – parents and staff alike.

Changes to the day structure and routine are new and will take a little time to adjust, but we believe learning opportunities will be maximised. Research and experience shows that the most focused learning occurs in the morning and that children learn best when the day is broken up with scheduled movement breaks and opportunities for refuelling the brain with food and water.

The day timetable is now as follows:

8:50am - 10:00 10:00 - 11:00 11:00 - 11:20 (Morning recess) 11:20 - 12:30 12:30 - 1:00 (Lunch play) 1:00 - 1:10 (Lunch eating)

1:00 - 2:00

2:00 – 2:15 (Afternoon recess)

2:15 - 3:15

Some points to note and consider

- The learning day begins 5 minutes earlier at 8:50am.
- Students have more opportunities to snack, please consider this when packing lunchboxes.
- Lunch eating occurs after the play. This eating time is focused and consistent across classes.
- The canteen is open for over the counter sales at **morning recess** only. Snack items may be ordered through Qkr! for lunch and afternoon recess consumption. Icy poles will be available at morning recess.

The term 1 calendar is already quite full with a variety of learning opportunities, including leadership team building for older students, swimming and camps. Please refer to calendar and contact the school via your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

We hope to see you at our upcoming Acquaintance Night and invite you to join us for the AGM immediately following.

Next week Sue Moelder will retire. We thank her for her dedication and hope to see her often in a volunteer role.

We look forward to another fantastic year of learning in partnership with our school community.

Kirsty Hill, Daniel Castle & Lia Jordan



WEEK 1 Friday 31 Jan Assembly (Gym)

WEEK 3

Monday 10 Feb N1 – Noorla Yo Long Tuesday 11 Feb N3 – Noorla Yo Long Friday 14 Feb Assembly (Gym)

WEEK 4

Monday 17 Feb Student Leaders go to Noorla Yo Long Wednesday 19 Feb ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT 5:30 – 6:30pm Governing Council AGM 6:30pm





all new students and their families, to McDonald Park

RECEPTION: Angel A, Harlow B, Zoe C, Audrey C, Leo C, Lily D, Aleayah D, Emilia E, Mackenzie F, Samata G, Jasmine G, Jak G, Rory K, Ashlyn L, Benjamin M, Lily M, Elijah P, Aryana R, Zahara R, Billie S, Kade T, Alexander T, Kayden T, Malikye T, Sadie T, Liam V, Ollie W-J YEAR ONE: Kobe H, Byron T YEAR TWO: Tyson H, Tim R YEAR THREE: Seth P,

YEAR FOUR: Luka S YEAR FIVE: Hailee R, Denver T



Student Personal Data



Incorrect student personal information eg address, parent / caregiver phone number and work location, emergency contacts names and phone numbers makes it difficult for us to contact you, especially in an

emergency. Unfortunately we are no longer able to send home details for families to check. If you believe any of your child's information has changed in any way, please let us know by emailing <u>dl.1021_info@schools.sa.edu.au</u> so that we can update your information. We are aware that things can change. Updates can be made at any time.

Lesson & Break Times 2025

The day timetable will be as follows:

8:50am - 10:00 10:00 - 11:00 11:00 - 11:20 (Morning recess) 11:20 - 12:30 12:30 - 1:00 (Lunch play) 1:00 - 1:10 (Lunch eating) 1:10 - 2:00 2:00 - 2:15 (Afternoon recess) 2:15 - 3:15

2025 Materials and Services Information

Invoices for 2025 materials and services (school) fees were posted to families in January with a statement showing the total amount owing.

The SA Government has increased the school fee rebate to \$200 per student for all eligible families in 2025. This reduces the 2025 materials and services charge to \$167 per student.

If your family is eligible for school card in 2025 the school card grant will cover your school fees in full and you will not be eligible for the \$200 rebate.

Payment is due in full by 28 February unless you are applying for school card in 2025 or are paying by agreed instalments. A payment option was included with the mail out, or families are welcome to contact our finance officer to make an alternative payment plan.

Payments may be made in person at the front office with cash, cheque or by credit card, over the phone by credit card, online via electronic funds transfer from your financial institution or by using the mobile payment app Qkr!.

The mobile payment app Qkr! Is free to download from either Google Play for your android device of the Apple Store for your Apple device.

McDonald Park School's bank account details for payment via electronic funds transfer are:

Account name: BSB:	McDonald Park School 633-000
Account number:	147553226
Reference:	Please use your family code or
	invoice number as a reference
	when making payments via EFT.

If you have any queries regarding school fees or would like to discuss payment options, please contact our Finance Officer, Julie on 8724 9811 or in person at the front office.

2025 School Card Scheme Information Update

The School Card scheme offers financial assistance with school fees (materials and services charges) for students attending South Australian schools.

Applications need to be completed via an application form at the beginning of each year.

Online application forms are available at <u>www.sa.gov.au</u> by searching school card. Families with students attending multiple schools may find this option of benefit with only one online application required to be completed per family.

Paper application forms are available from the front office for families who prefer to complete their application this way and may be lodged with the school. Eligibility for school card assistance is dependent upon your combined family gross income for the 2023-2024 financial year being within the School Card income limits:

Eligibility income limits for a student attending a government school

Number of dependent children	Combined gross family income limit for 2023/2024 financial year	Gross weekly school card income limit
1 child	\$74,189	\$1,426
2 children	\$75,514	\$1,452
3 children	\$76,839	\$1,478
4 children	\$78,164	\$1,504
5 children	\$79,489	\$1,530
Each additional dependent child	\$1,325	\$26

School Uniforms

We currently have in stock the following uniforms:

٠	Summer dresses(size 4,6 & 8)	\$21.00
٠	Hats	\$8.00
٠	Black shorts	\$12.00
٠	Red/black t-shirt	\$28.50
٠	Green jumper	\$29.50
٠	Pinafore	\$50.00
٠	Black fleecy pant	\$19.00
٠	Girls black leisure pant	\$23.00
٠	School bag	\$74.00



Qkr! App

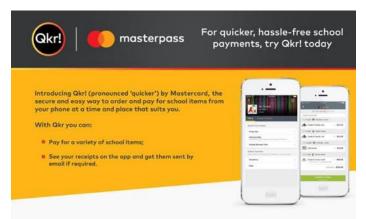


If you use Qkr!, you will need to update your child's details at the beginning of every year to show their new year level and room number.

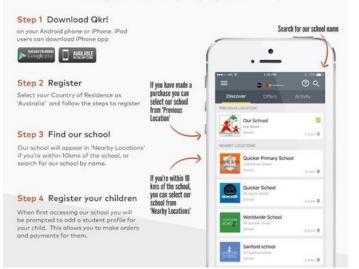
Open the Qkr! app, then select the profiles page to display the manage profiles screen. You will need to enter your password to access this. Select your child,

then change their year level and room number via the drop down options. Click update profile to save changes.

If you would like to get started using Qkr! please refer to the details below for instructions on how to get started.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today



McPark on Facebook

McPark has a page on Facebook. Search for McDonald Park School and 'like' our page to keep up to date with what's happening. We will post information for parents and caregivers on a regular basis. Our newsletter can be accessed online at:

http://www.mcparkr7.sa.edu.au/whats happening.htm

Reminders

Hats and Uniforms – in terms 1, 2 and 4 all students need to wear a broad brimmed or bucket hat in the yard and during outside activities such as fitness and PE. Hats are available from the front office for \$8.00. We have a school dress code and we expect all students to dress accordingly. Most items are available for purchase from the front office. Please label all items of clothing. We have a lost property bin which is located in the main building near room one (under the stairs). Please check this regularly for lost items.

Hot weather – All areas of the school are air-conditioned, which provides students with pleasant learning conditions at all times. For this reason we do not send students home when the forecast is 38 degrees or above. If parents wish to collect their child it is their choice. We also have an extreme weather policy and students are kept inside during break times on wet and very hot days.

Medication – Please remember to ensure your child's medications eg asthma puffers, epi-pens, ADHD medicine are not past their expiry date and that you have supplied the school with the necessary medication and health care plan signed by your doctor.

Materials and Services – Invoices and school card forms were posted out to families last week. Please see front office staff if you didn't receive one.

Nut Allergies - DfE requires schools to promote and construct learning environments that are safe and supportive. Students and staff may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions, that include nut allergies. This means that exposure at school may constitute a risk to the health and wellbeing. It is not possible to guarantee that the environment will be completely free of potential hazards, however, compliance to reasonable guidelines will minimise the potential risks.

Where a parent of a child with an allergy to nuts or nut products has alerted the school to the fact (backed by medical evidence /documentation), the school will manage the situation in the following way: Parents

 Parents and caregivers being asked to take this into consideration when they are packing their child's lunch. Where possible pack an alternative to peanut butter, Nutella or similar, nuts, peanut cooking oil and other foods that may contain nuts.

Students

- Students being encouraged NOT to share or purchase food for other students.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands after eating.
- Students bringing food that contain nuts or nut products being asked to eat that food away from any other students and to wash their hands after eating.

Staff

- Staff supervising eating at lunch time in classrooms or another confined area.
- Staff made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergy.

Academic Award Winners 2024

FOUNDATION:	Mikayla G, Spencer H
YEAR ONE:	Avery T, Lukas H
YEAR TWO:	Abi G, Hemi L
YEAR THREE	Amelia J, Nash M
YEAR FOUR:	Fletcher dV, Blake W
YEAR FIVE:	Alexis R, Logan M

Learner Profile Award Winners 2024

Room A1:	Ella G
Room A2:	Mario M
Room A3:	Michelle N
Room A4:	Willow O
Room A5:	Lacey C
Room 1:	Romeo L
Room 2:	Emilia B
Room 3:	Evie K
Room 5:	Jonti P
Room 6:	Matilda L
Room N2:	Paiton P
Room N3:	Sophia P
Room N4:	Lara B
Room N5:	Cruz C
Room N6:	Benji R

Resource Centre

We look forward to another magical year of reading, learning and library events in the resource centre. Library staff this year are: Suzanne Harding (teacher librarian) Nicole Thompson (SSO)

Courtney de Vos (SSO)

We farewell Sue Moelder and welcome Courtney de Vos to our team. We are always grateful for the support of volunteers whose help assist our resource centre in being organised and progressive, which in turn benefits student learning so please see us if you would like to volunteer.

- students will have a 30 minute borrowing session per week
- we ask that all students bring library bags (cloth or plastic) to protect books
- please encourage your child to return books to the library each week on their library day
- if you find books at home, these can also be returned to school anytime
- we love to see you so if you have questions, please drop in to chat to us



Happy Reading from the resource centre staff

Governing Council AGM

There are many ways in which parents and members of the school community can become involved in our school. Becoming a member of the Governing Council is one way that you can become involved in the school.

In week 4, on **Wednesday**, **19 February at 6.30pm**, we are holding our Annual General Meeting of the Governing Council. This is a great opportunity to hear what has been happening at our school and find out what the Governing Council has been involved in over the past year. It is also the time when we elect and organise our Governing Council for 2025.

What does a Governing Council member do?

You represent the views of members in the school community and encourage their participation. When the entire school community works together to support learning, children succeed, not just in school but throughout their lives.

The Governing Council:

- Provides a forum for parent, staff and student participation and decision making and ensures that the educational, social and cultural needs of the community are addressed.
- Plans for improvement in learning and wellbeing for all students through setting the values, vision, mission, site plan and local policies for our site.
- Allocates all of the resources available to the site to support the improvement of learning and wellbeing outcomes for all students.
- Monitors learning and wellbeing outcomes and reports annually to the site's community and the Minister of Education.
- Works collaboratively in the best interest of the site and its community.

Governing Council Sub-committees:

The Governing Council has the power to establish committees under its constitution.

We have sub-committees that give advice on finance and in the past, sport, buildings and grounds including the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and fundraising.

We welcome new parents to join and any current members that wish to remain involved. It is a great opportunity to be a part of your child's education and influence at the decision making level. It is also a way of finding out more about teaching and learning programs. If you wish to nominate yourself or another parent please fill in the form below and return to school.

MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL

I wish to nominate myself
for Governing Council in 2025.

I have spoken to and wish to nominate them for Governing Council.

Signed

.....

Email address:

	Our	Our Staff 2025	
Principal		Kirsty Hill	
Deputy Principal		Daniel Castle	
student Wellbeing Leader	g Leader	Lia Jordan	
Aboriginal Educo	Aboriginal Education Teacher / Class Teacher	Katherine Bundy	
Teacher Librarian / Class Teacher	n / Class Teacher	Suzanne Harding	
Permanent Relief Teacher	f Teacher	Lorraine Cox	
Room	Year Level	Teacher(s)	
A1	Reception	Deanne Spence	Deanne Spencer & Suzanne Harding
A2	Reception	Amy Pitkin & Suzanne Harding	anne Harding
A4	Reception	Hannah Waters & Laura Day	Laura Day
12	Year 1/2	Michelle Schulz &	Michelle Schulz & Amber Deppeler
ß	Year 1/2	Ashleigh Hutchin	Asnleigh Hutchinson & Amber Deppeler
Rm 3	Year 1/2	Rose Cooper & Amber Deppeler	Amber Deppeler
Rm 4	Year 1/2	Lydia Huitema	
Rm 1	Year 3/4	Paul Bigg	
Rm 2	Year 3/4	Kate Eldridge	
Rm 5	Year 3/4	Melissa McCracken	æn
Rm 6	Year 3/4	Trudi Dew	
IN	Year 5/6	Erin Munday & Katherine Bundy	otherine Bundy
NS	Year 5/6	Helen Widdison & Stacey Tilley	£ Stacey Tilley
N5	Year 5/6	Vanessa MoLean	
Né	Year 5/6	Karen Mitchell	
в	Japanese Rec-Year 4	Adina Hili	
15	Reception/Year 1 Science	Sally Strachan	
16	Health/PE	Sonya Joliy	
Rm 13	Design/Tech/Science	Carrie Bisnov	
School Services Officers (SSOs)	CHicers (SSOs)	0	
Finance Officer	Julie McKinnon	Student Support	Shane Lewis
Administration	Samantha Clarke	Student Support	Jill Lewis
Administration	Evelyn Stratman	Student Support	Anna Dol
Finance Support & Student Support	Sonya Shepherd	Student Support	Connie Nieto
IT Support	Todd Lang	Student Support	Linda Ward
Garden Specialist	Kristen Arbery	Student Support	Shioh Fennell
Grounds	Anthony Ingram	Student Support	Leigh Symons
SWSO	Robyn Howard	Student Support	Courtney de Vos
ACEO	Georgie Hatch	Student Support	Kristy Drage
Resource Centre	Nicole Thompson	Student Support	Cattlyn Gill
Conteen	Michelle Clark	Student Support	Sue Moelder
Conteen	Megan Wilson		

the autism spectrum.

AUTISM INCLUSION TEACHER



Dean Parents and Carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the Autism Inclusion Teacher (AIT) for McDonald Park Primary School. I currently teach Foundation and have taken on this excitting role again in 2025.

Autism halusion Teachers are a, nation-leading, initiative which aims to build teacher understanding and knowledge around supporting children 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 ablities, with an aim in improving the learning outcames for our students on

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 holusion Multidisciplinary (AIIM) 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

MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL - TERM 1, 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEEK 11	WEEK 10	WEEK 9		WEEK 8		WEEK 7	WEEK 6	WEEK 5	WEEK 4	WEEK 3	WEEK 2	WEEK 1)
07/04 Yr 6 Ballarat camp Yr 5 Warnambool camp	31/03	24/03 Swimming Years 3-6 All week		17/03	Adelaide Cup		03/03	24/02	17/02 Student leadership Noorla Yo Long	10/02 Rm N1 Noorla Yo Long	03/02	27/01 Public Holiday Australia Day	MONDAY	MCDONALD
08/04	01/04	25/03		18/03		11/03	04/03	25/02	18/02	11/02 Rm N3 Noorla Yo Long	04/02	28/01	TUESDAY	
09/04	02/04	26/03		19/03		12/03	05/03	26/02	19/02 Acquaintance night Governing Council AGM	12/02	05/02	29/01	WEDNESDAY	PARK SCHOOL - TERM 1, 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS [Events subject to change at school's discretion if need arises]
10/04	03/04	27/03	Rm N6 Noorla Yo Long	20/03		13/03	06/03	27/02	20/02	13/02	06/02	30/01	THURSDAY	IDAR OF EVENTS
11/04 Assembly 2.15pm early dismissal	04/04	28/03 Assembly		21/03	Assembly Casual day	14/03	07/03	28/02 Assembly	21/02 Come and See McPark 12pm	14/02 Assembly	07/02	31/01 Assembly	FRIDAY	e there exists

COMMUNITY NEWS



Suitable for ages 6+. Bookings essential.



McDonald Park School CANTEEN PRICES – 2025

The canteen menu aims to provide healthy and nutritious food and drinks consistent with the DfE 'Right Bite' Healthy Eating Guide for schools and preschools and 'The Australian Dietary Guidelines for Children and Adolescents'. Please write your **CHILD'S NAME** and **ROOM NUMBER** on a large paper lunch bag. Lunch bags are available from the canteen, 10 for 50 cents or alternatively from Coles or Woolworths. Forks required for foods brought from home will be 10 cents each. Foods brought from home will **NOT** be reheated in the canteen due to health regulations. Any price changes or new



Term

each. Foods brought from home will **NOT** be reheated in the canteen due to health regulations. Any price changes or new items will be notified in the fortnightly newsletter. Late lunch orders will be accepted, however they will be given what is available and if there is insufficient money in the bag the order will be reduced. **THERE IS NO CREDIT AVAILABLE FROM THE CANTEEN**

White / Wholemeal	Sandwich	Roll
Vegemite OR cheese	\$3.00	\$3.50
Egg OR ham	\$4.50	\$5.00
Tuna OR chicken	\$4.50	\$5.00
Salad only (lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber) Ham salad	\$5.00 \$6.00	\$5.50 \$6.50
Tuna OR chicken salad	\$6.00	\$6.50

Mayo, tomato, sweet chilli - add \$0.30

SALADS		
Munch & crunch box	crackers, cheese, French onion dip, carrot, cucumber	\$6.00
Wiggly worm	cheese sandwich, mini muffin,	
box	seasonal fruit, carrot,	
	cucumber	\$6.00
Noodle salad	small tub	\$4.00
	large tub	\$5.00
Super salad bowl:	lettuce, carrot, cheese, tomato, cucumber, ½ boiled	
bown.	egg, noodle salad, beetroot	\$8.50
	- add ham, tuna - add sweet chilli chicken	\$1.00
	tender - add crumbed chicken	\$2.00
	tender	\$2.00

THIRST BUSTERS	
Bottle of water	\$2.50
Pure fruit juice	
250ml apple, orange, apple/blackcurrant	\$3.50
Pop Top flavoured milks	
chocolate, strawberry	\$3.70
NIPPYS Milk - Honeycomb	\$3.70
Sanitarium Up and Go –	
chocolate/strawberry/banana	\$3.50

NICE & ICY – counter sales only	
Paddle Pops	\$2.50
Vanilla ice cream dandy cup	\$2.50
Icy Twist	\$2.50
Mini Callipo	\$2.50
Frozen Strawberry Yoghurt	\$2.50
HOT SUB BAR	
Garlic bread plain - add cheese 50c, add Ham 50	c \$3.50
Crumbed chicken with lettuce and mayo	\$6.00
Sweet chilli chicken with lettuce and mayo	\$6.00

HOME MADE PIZZA BAR	
Hawaiian - ham, cheese, pineapple	\$5.00
BBQ chicken – bbq sauce, chicken, cheese	\$5.00
BURGERS all served in a white buttered roll	
Add salad	\$1.00
Cheese burger - beef, cheese, sauce	\$6.75
Chicken burger - crumbed chicken, lettuce, mayo	
	\$6.75

HOT PACKS	
Macaroni cheese	\$5.75
Lasagne	\$5.75
Spaghetti bolognaise	\$5.75
Wedges with sweet chilli and sour cream	\$5.75
Nachos with salsa, cheese and sour cream	\$5.75
Steamed dim sim	\$2.00
- soy sauce	\$0.30

LUNCH PACKS

Jurassic, veggie slice packs include noodle salad, carrot sticks, cucumber

Jurassic:	3 dino nuggets	\$6.50		
	6 dino nuggets	\$7.50		
Veggie slice	Zucchini, bacon and carrot	\$7.00		
Pirate and gluten free nugget packs contain the salad but				
do not have the noodle salad in them.				
Pirate:	1 piece of fish and wedges	\$6.50		
	2 pieces of fish and wedges	\$7.50		
BENTO BOX	4 Potato gems, 2 mini spring	\$6.50		
(Small)	rolls, 2 dim sims, 1 corn cob			
BENTO BOX	6 Potato gems, 3 mini spring	\$7.50		
(Large)	rolls, 3 dim sims, 2 corn cobs			
Gluten free	3 nuggets	\$6.50		
nuggets:	6 nuggets	\$7.50		

DAILY SPECIALS

DAILT SPECIALS	
TUESDAY ONLY – SUSHI	
CAN ONLY BE ORDERED ON Qkr! app, the day before.	
THURSDAY ONLY	
Hot dog in bread	\$3.70
Hot dog in white roll	\$4.70
- cheese	\$0.50
 bbq, sweet chilli, tomato sauce, mustard 	\$0.30
THURSDAY MEAL DEAL	
Hot dog, flavoured milk, cookie	\$9.50
FRIDAY ONLY	
Pie	\$5.50
Pasty	\$5.50
Sausage roll	\$4.50
Party pie / party sausage roll	\$2.00
- sauce	\$0.30
FRIDAY MEAL DEAL	
Pie / pasty and juice	\$8.50
Sausage roll and juice	\$7.50
2 party pies and juice	\$7.00
2 party sausage rolls and juice	\$7.00
1	

SNACK TIME -May be ordered for lunch/afternoon recess Seasonal fruit \$1.50 Red Rock Honey Soy Chicken Chips \$2.00 \$2.00 Popcom Assorted fruit muffins \$1.50 \$1.50 Chocolate chip cookie \$0.50 Bag rice crackers Mixed cereal, Honey Chex cereal, Milo cereal \$0.50