

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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Special Person's Day Morning Tea

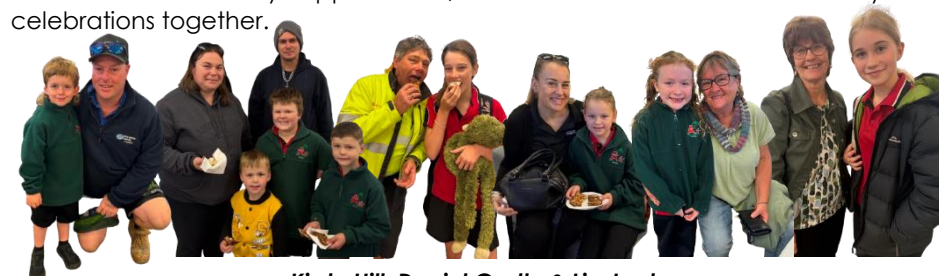


We are delighted to share the success of our recent Special Person's Morning Tea, a heartfelt event dedicated to honouring the wonderful people in our students' lives. This gathering was a perfect opportunity to express our gratitude to the families who continuously support their children and enrich our school community.

A big thank you to Bakers Delight for their generous donation of raisin bread. The delicious scones and muffins cooked were cooked by our kitchen specialist. These treats, paired with tea and coffee, made for a delightful morning.

A special mention must also go to our OSHC team for their creative efforts in decorating the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen. Their hard work added a warm and welcoming atmosphere to the event.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to making this morning tea a memorable occasion. Your support and involvement are truly appreciated, and we look forward to many more celebrations together.



Kirsty Hill, Daniel Castle & Lia Jordan



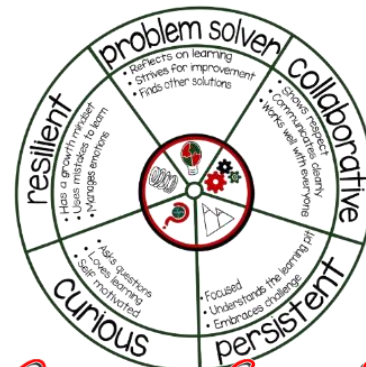
Happy National
Volunteer Week

It's all about celebrating and recognising our incredible volunteers in schools, preschools and children's centres. Whether it's helping in the canteen or volunteering to assist on school camp, being on our school's governing council, coaching sport, or listening to kids read, your hard work means our school communities thrive.

Thank you for all that you do. We appreciate you!

Monday 19 May to
Friday 23 May

**This week is National
Volunteer Week!**



Coming Events

WEEK 4

Wednesday 21 May

National Simultaneous
Story time

Friday 23 May

Assembly 9:15am

WEEK 5

Monday 26 May

Governing Council Meeting

Friday 30 May

CASUAL DAY

WEEK 7

Monday 9 June

KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC
HOLIDAY

WEEK 8

Friday 20 June

PUPIL FREE DAY

TEAM COLOURS

Casual Day

Friday ~ Week 5
30 May 2025

GOLD COIN DONATION
If wearing sleeveless jersey/ guernsey - must have long sleeve top underneath
Funds raised will be donated to Four Reasons Why

Four Reasons Why



On Friday, week 2, we had the absolute pleasure to host the sensational author, Mem Fox in our school. Classes prepared artworks prior to her visit which are on display in the library. Mem is an accomplished public speaker and entertained us greatly during her performance. We listened to her read her own books and heard about her childhood, including learning about how she learnt to read and write using a slate as a child in Africa. Signing of books took place in the library and the line of children snaked out of the door and around the corner! Mem adores spending time talking to children so particularly enjoyed her chats with our students. Mem feasted on 'Possum Magic' morning tea with staff before returning to the library to finish signing, chatting and looking at our displays. She was very impressed with our students and their knowledge and enthusiasm about her work. The most magical part of the event was the pure excitement and joy people felt about meeting Mem Fox. Her books are part of most households and this connection sent ripples of anticipation throughout our school community. Even visiting adults were quivering and starstruck at the honour! Mem Fox is an ambassador of the Premier's leading Challenge and our school was one of four local schools chosen as we participate so well in the challenge. She specifically said "I would like to go to Mount Gambier!". We hope our students will always remember this day.



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE



During the last Vacation Care, we visited Blue Lake Gymnastics – and what a fantastic time the children had!

The children were guided by experienced coaches and rotated through a variety of exciting stations. They explored the balance beam, bars, rings, floor work, vault, trampoline, and climbing ropes, developing coordination, strength, and confidence along the way.

It was a joy-filled day full of energy, laughter, and skill-building, and we've already had requests to return in future programs!

Keep an eye out – our next Vacation Care program will go live in Week 6.

Chloe Payne – OSHC Director



WARRNAMBOOL

Year 5 Camp

This year's Year 5 camp was in Warrnambool. Students travelled together by bus to the camp site ready for three busy days of activities. After arriving and having a quick lunch, the group went to the historic village Flagstaff Hill, which is a recreation of a colonial era whaling village. Here the children were able to experience what a classroom environment would have been like for Australian children in the 1800s as well as hearing tales of famous shipwrecks from the local area.

The second day students split into groups to participate in kayaking, surfing, lawn bowls, geocaching and an Amazing Race. Surfing was a big hit, with many of the campers being able to stand up on their boards. While kayaking was also new to many the group were quick learners and worked well together to traverse the river.

On the final day, the group visited Worn Gundidj. Here they were treated to a cultural tour and presentation. Artefacts and special items were shared as well as cultural knowledge about plant usage and traditional land care. As a bonus they were able to see a number of koalas and emus inside the park lands.



Cross Country



On Friday May 9, 40 students from our school travelled to Naracoorte to compete in the 39th South East Cross Country Championships. 35 schools from across the Limestone Coast were represented with 816 students participating. We were lucky with the weather, and we had clear skies and the sun was shining for the whole day. The first two races got underway by 10:30am. We had 3, 8-year-olds who competed in their first Cross Country, all of whom embraced the challenge of the course. Throughout the rest of the day, there was a mixture of nerves, determination, excitement, and pride. There were many races where the 1st, 2nd and 3rd were very close. A special well done to Benji and Zahalia for coming second in their races and the students who achieved a place and are invited to compete in Adelaide. Thank you to all the parents who transported their children to the event and congratulations to all students who participated.



SAPSASA TRACK & FIELD



Congratulations to the following McPark students who have been selected to represent both our school and the Lower South East region in SAPSASA Track and Field. **Amelia J, Benji R, Charlotte B** and **Cruz C**. They will be competing in Adelaide on Monday 22 September. Well done and best of luck to you all.

SAPSASA NETBALL



Congratulations to **Lara B** and **Sailor A**, who have gained selection to represent McPark and the Lower South East in SAPSASA Netball. The girls will be competing in Adelaide from Monday 23 June to Wednesday 25 June. Well done girls and best of luck.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Art-Ability
The Hangar Gallery
Mount Gambier Regional Airport

Call For Artists

Art-Ability is an exhibition opening soon to highlight and celebrate the diverse talents of people living with disabilities in the community.

The District Council of Grant is calling for artists living with a disability and residing or working within Limestone Coast region to feature in the exhibition.

Complete an entry form for the opportunity to have your artwork displayed in The Hangar Gallery at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport between September 2025 and February 2026.



Entries close:
5:00pm Monday 28 July 2025

Find out more and apply online:
yoursaydgc.com.au/art-ability-exhibition

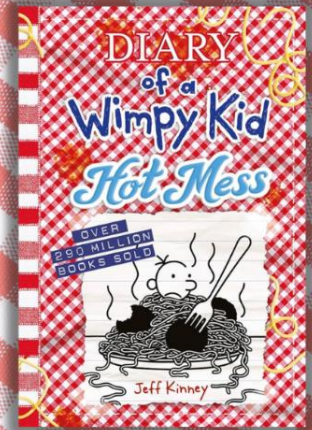
District Council of
Grant

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL LIVE STREAM: 22 - 25 MAY 2025

THE HOT MESS SHOW WITH JEFF KINNEY

SUNDAY 25 MAY AT 11:30AM



City of
Mount Gambier

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