



# McDonald Park School NEWSLETTER



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

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**Issue No 10, 18/06/15 – Week 8, Term 2**

## COMING EVENTS

WEEK 9	WEEK 10	TERM 3 WEEK 1	WEEK 2
Artist in residence	30/06 School photos 1/07 School photos 03/07 Assembly 1.55pm <b>3/07 Early dismissal 2.15pm</b>		

## FOCUS ON LEARNING, NOT JUST GRADES

Teachers are currently busy writing individual reports for students in their class. The written report that is distributed twice a year, at the end of term two and four, is only one component of the reporting process that is used at McDonald Park to communicate student learning with parents. Reports provide a balance of achievement and effort grades, combined with specific comments about the content which has been covered, individual achievements and future learning goals.

The grades provide a 'snapshot' of achievement compared to what is expected in accordance with the Australian Curriculum. Teachers gather the information from a variety of sources in order to make this assessment and consider a student's capacity to apply their learning in new situations, as well as their understanding and skills. A 'C' grade demonstrates that a student has satisfactorily achieved what is expected. It is therefore realistic to expect that a majority of students will be achieving at this level. The comments provide an additional layer of information, whereby the teachers propose learning goals and explain in more depth the learning that has been covered and achieved. This is valuable information which adds to the 'big picture' of how your child learns.

In addition to written reports, McDonald Park School conduct three way interviews and send home student portfolios. The interviews involve students, parents and staff in the process of setting goals, focussing on the learning attributes and aspects requiring focus. Research has shown that this is a very effective way to report and supports students to take responsibility for their own learning. Portfolios contain a variety of work samples from the different curriculum areas and provide parents with an insight into the expectations of the task and the personal response / learning of the student. This provides another opportunity for students to discuss their learning in depth with parents/carers which in turn strengthens their understanding as they explain the learning to another.

As highlighted in previous newsletters, the work that is currently being conducted in classrooms in regards to developing a growth mindset, clearly identifying with the students what the learning intentions are, the success criteria and providing specific feedback to improve learning is extremely powerful. We believe that by focussing on the learning, not just the grades we are empowering our students, at all levels and ages, to be intrinsically motivated by learning, take charge of their learning by setting learning goals and targets and be prepared for the future.

**Kirsty Trahar**  
Deputy Principal

## WHOOPING COUGH

We have had a case of identified whooping cough in our school. Whooping cough may begin with 'cold like symptoms' which progress to a cough or a person may simply begin coughing. After several days, severe coughing bouts may cause vomiting or breathlessness. Sometimes a high pitched crowing (the whoop) is heard when inhaling. The coughing can last between one and three months. Diagnosis is made by a blood test. It is particularly serious in children under two years of age. Transmission is by direct contact with droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person.

**Highly contagious in the early stages.** The person is no longer infectious to others five days after starting antibiotic treatment.

Parents, friends and contacts of the infected person should be notified of their exposure and advised to watch for symptoms.

**If any symptoms develop, a doctor should be contacted immediately.**

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE - DEBORAH ROGERS

The theme for this year's Art Show is "Let's do the Time Warp". This will see the children learning about significant artists throughout history and learning about art techniques to create their own art work in the style of these artists.



Deborah Rogers is a local artist. She is a mixed media artist working with design, drawing, painting, textiles and sculpture. She has recently opened her studio "The Colour Wheel" with local artist Joann Fife, selling and teaching art.



*Deborah is a compassionate artist with lots of amazing ideas some of her art work looks like the real Hundertwasser art that we've been learning about. We enjoy having Deborah in the class teaching us new skills about painting.*

**Maddy S & Hayley DN**



*Deborah is everyone's artist in residence and helps our school prepare for the art show sale! In our class, room seven, we are working on Hundertwasser, one of her favourite artists. Deborah teaches us all kinds of art. She is teaching us how to paint, shade, draw and colour professionally. Shannon M, Alannah C & Chloe M*

A reminder for those who haven't yet paid \$7.00 which covers workshops with Deborah and art materials, to please do so as soon as possible.

Our 2013 Art Show was a huge success. We are hopeful that our 4<sup>th</sup> biannual Art Show will be even bigger and better and well supported by parents.

## GRANT HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 7 PARENT TOUR

An additional **YEAR 7 PARENT TOUR** of Grant High School will be held on **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June**, commencing at the front office at **5.00pm**. Visitors will be given a guided tour of the school and have the opportunity to ask questions.

All interested are most welcome to attend this session.  
**RSVP Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June to Paula Foote on 8726 3100**

## WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 15 July and Tuesday 8 September 2015. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.



Simply pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it's completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woollies. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program and we'd like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for mathematics, English, science, art & crafts, through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at school.

## LIONS MAD MINUTE PUBLIC SPEAKING



Each year the Mount Gambier Lions Club visits our school to judge the Lions Mad Minute public speaking competition. Year five students are eligible for this event. McPark students will perform on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June in the gym from 11.30am to 12.30pm. Three year five students will be selected to perform in the Lions Mad Minute Grand Challenge. This will be held at the Mount Gambier High School Gary Costello Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday afternoon, 30<sup>th</sup> June. Students pull a topic out of the hat and have it announced, and then speak for one minute on that topic. They are awarded marks for posture, interesting opening and closing, gestures, vocabulary and voice. There is a challenge bucket of questions with topics and a super challenge bucket with statements that they can choose to agree or disagree with. We look forward to this exciting competition and thank the Lions Club for their work.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Zara B** on being selected to be a part of the School Sport Australia Hockey Championships being held in Perth in August.

## SAPSASA CROSS COUNTRY

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of June, I went to Oakbank to run in SAPSASA cross country. It was a horrible day, freezing cold and pouring rain. I was in the 11 year old girl's race. I had to run three kilometres and there were 150 girls in my group. I ran the three kilometres in about 18 minutes. It was my first time running at SAPSASA. There were four students from our school that participated. It was a good experience.

**Madison C**



I raced at SAPSASA cross country in Adelaide. I came 104<sup>th</sup> out of 300. It was very hard because it was raining and the track was very muddy in places. Right at the start of the race everyone was elbowing and there was a bit of push and shove. Griffith from Glenburnie and I raced most of the way together. He came 97<sup>th</sup>. When we were half way through the race it started to pour down with rain. When we finished the race we had to wait for 20 minutes in the rain. My time was 12 minutes and 30 seconds. I think it was a great experience. Next year I'm definitely going to do it again. So if you are into running you should give it a go. I had to run three kilometres.

**Bodey H**



I was one of four people from our school that was chosen to participate in Adelaide for cross country. I had to run three kilometres in the twelve year old age group, came 58<sup>th</sup> out of over 150 and first for the Lower South East. My name got placed on a whiteboard which is where they put the names of the first 60 kids. I had heaps of fun and would definitely recommend it to other students.

**Brooke T**

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS AWARDS

Term 2, Week 6

Presented to	By	For
Josh H	Mrs Cooper	Excellent work in spelling.
Allara-Jayne C	Mrs Cooper	An excellent exposition on 'playing sport is better than playing computer games'.
Madden M	Mrs Bisnov & Mrs Schleuniger	Your excellent participation and detailed recording in science.
Jace M	Mrs Bisnov & Mrs Schleuniger	An excellent effort in reading – your increased practice has resulted in a marked improvement.
Sasha M	Mrs Pudney	Improved focus in all learning areas. Sasha I'm happy you like the 'learning pit'.
Summer W	Mrs Pudney	Caring for our learning environment and always thinking of others.
Phoenix O	Ms Bundy	Writing a persuasion, using paragraphs and improving on his last piece of work.
Jordy D	Ms Bundy	Creating mind maps, showing his understanding of texts and topics.
Lucy D	Mr Bigg	Always having a positive and caring attitude and super work ethic.
Caleb A	Mr Bigg	Showing a mathematical mind and solid work in maths lessons.
Shawn K	Mrs Aston	Accepting feedback and improving his creative writing.
Hollie G	Mrs Aston	Working hard in math at school and home.
Caitlin C	Mr Bird	Working well in a group to produce a quality project showing the design steps in making a model on the Globe Theatre.
Paige A	Mr Bird	Working well in a group to produce a quality project showing the design steps in making a model on the Globe Theatre.
Dane H	Mrs McLean	The conscientious attitude he displays towards his learning. He offers insight during class discussions and aims to produce quality work samples.
Georgina N	Mrs McLean	Ongoing commitment towards her learning. Her work samples are always to a high standard and meet set criteria.
Cooper H	Ms Munday & Mrs Tilley	Demonstrating solid group skills and supporting his class mates.
Tayla W	Ms Munday & Mrs Tilley	Consistently accepting challenges and showing excellent insight into our class novel.
Guylaine I	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	Consistently working with 100% effort and showing a growth mindset.
Hugh W	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	Being willing to work to improve his work, particularly in English.

## Art Show

29 July 2015

5.00pm to 7.00pm

McPark gym

## CANTEEN HELPERS

Phone Michelle 87254221

Week Beginning	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> June
Monday	Jo	Jo
Tuesday	Lyn	Lyn
Wed	Jo	Krystal
Thursday	Deb	Deb
Friday	Deb, Bec	Deb, Jo

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### DOUBLE HELIX SCIENCE CLUB

#### Balancing Acts

Learn how to amaze your friends by balancing forks and coins on the edge of a glass. Practice walking across a thin plank of wood. See if you can make a clown to balance on a piece of string without falling over.

**When:** Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June at 6.45pm to 7.45pm

**Where:** Tenison Woods College science lab

**Age:** 5+

**Cost:** \$2.00 each child and \$5.00 for a family. Parents are encouraged to stay and assist their children (and to have fun too).

To book your place email [courv@tenison.catholic.edu.au](mailto:courv@tenison.catholic.edu.au)



**Blue Light Movie Night**  
Presents  
**minions**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June @ 6.00pm (for a 6.30pm start)  
\$7 per ticket. Canteen will be open for purchase of food/drinks  
Fully supervised drug, smoke & alcohol free event For ages 9 - 13  
Adults to be in foyer at 8.20pm ready to collect kids No pass outs  
CARTMILL CINEMA Tickets available from the Mount Gambier Police Station

## SCHOOL NETBALL

School netball for years 3, 4 and 5 students will be held in term three 2015 on Saturday mornings at various schools who have courts available in Mount Gambier. There will be two grades running if numbers allow. These will be group A, year 5 and experienced year 4's and group B for year 3 and inexperienced year 4's. If there is not enough numbers the two groups will combine. If you have a child interested in playing school netball please fill in the reply slip below and return to the front office by Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> June. We will need a coach, manager and umpire for each team. Please note if we don't get volunteers for these positions the teams will not go ahead. The cost will be \$10.00 per player.

### School Netball 2015

My child/children is/are interested in playing school netball during term 3, 2015 and enclose \$10.00 per player.

Name of interested netballer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Experienced: Yes / No

Name of interested netballer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Experienced: Yes / No

I am able to help coach  I am able to help umpire

I am able to help manage

Parent/Caregiver's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL FOOTBALL

School football for years 3, 4 and 5 students will be held in term 3, 2015. School football is held on Saturday mornings at various schools around Mount Gambier. There are two competitions - a nine a side competition for year 3's and a 15 a side competition for year 4/5's. If there is not enough numbers to run separate competitions we will combine 3, 4, 5's and play a 15 a side. If you are interested in your child/children playing school football please fill in the reply slip below and return to the front office by Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> June. Each team will need a coach, manager and umpire. Please note if we do not get volunteers for these roles the teams will not go ahead. Cost will be \$10.00 per player.

### School Football 2015

My child/children is/are interested in playing school football during term 3, 2015 and enclose \$10.00.

Name of interested footballer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of interested footballer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr Level: \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to help coach  I am able to help umpire

I am able to help manage

Parent/Caregiver's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## School Holiday Workshop



PAINTING MEGAFUNA  
RAINBOW SERPENTS  
@ THE GALLERY



2 SESSIONS

10 AM - 12 PM OR 1 PM - 3 PM

THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY

LIMITED SPACES - PLEASE BOOK EARLY

ALL CHILDREN WELCOME -

COST \$20 PER CHILD - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

PHONE 0478 609 868