

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School



Principal – Kirsty Hill

Chairperson Governing Council – Talia Birks

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Issue No 15, 11/9/25 - Week 8, Term 3

KITCHEN GARDEN

McDonald Park is very fortunate to have our amazing kitchen garden program led by Kristen Arbery. All students have access to our wonderful garden and kitchen spaces, with skills being taught progressively throughout their schooling.



"Picking fresh food off the bush/tree tasted yummy and better than the shop" **Jasper**

I tried new foods from the garden and was surprised that I liked cabbage/chow mien. I tried figs which I didn't think I would like but I did." **Lukas**

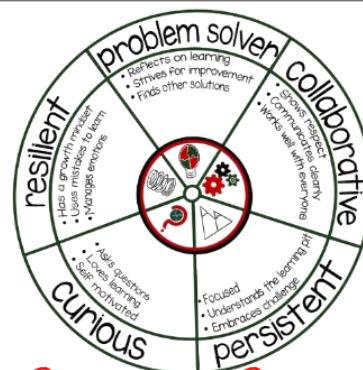
"I like helping Kristen plant seedlings." **Alice**

"I found that when we mixed foods that I didn't like together it was nice." **Luke**

"I tried onion and I really liked it." **Gabriella**

"I liked when Kristen gave us lemon brownies. I like trying new food." **Saxon**

"I like weeding because it helps Kristen." **Lara**



Coming Events

WEEK 8

Friday 12 September

Assembly 9:10 am

WEEK 9

Monday 15 September

Governing Council Meeting
7:30pm

Wednesday 17 September

Musical rehearsal in gym

Thursday 18 September

Musical rehearsal in gym

WEEK 10

Monday 22 September

Musical Performance at
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre

Tuesday 23 September

Musical Performance at
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre

Friday 26 September

Assembly 9:10 am

Last day of term 3

EARLY DISMISSAL 2:15pm

VISION AWARDS

Term 3, Week 8 – Friday 12 September



RESPECT		
Presented to	By	For
Layla B	Mrs Wilson & Miss Day	working hard to always be one of the first students to follow instructions and work independently.
Owen G	Mrs Wilson & Miss Day	always striving to do his best in his learning and for his generous and kind approach to others.
Lara F	Miss Schulz & Mrs Deppeler	always showing kindness towards her peers and being a respectful class member.

THRIVING		
Presented to	By	For
Robbie P	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	settling into school routines and trying his best with handwriting lessons.
Leo C-F	Mrs Cooper & Mrs Deppeler	displaying a more positive attitude towards his learning and attempting learning with an increased growth mindset.
Hudson C	Ms Huitema	writing a brilliant narrative using onomatopoeia words.
Evie A-C	Ms Huitema	writing an interesting narrative about a talking dog.

COLLABORATION		
Presented to	By	For
Joel M	Ms Hutchinson & Mrs Deppeler	working with peers during geography and math lessons.
Ella G	Mrs Cooper & Mrs Deppeler	happily working with others and being a strong, patient and kind learning partner with them.
Chase M	Mrs Cooper & Mrs Deppeler	working with his peers on a variety of maths fluency games and activities.

PROBLEM SOLVING		
Presented to	By	For
Ellie-Mae M	Mrs Cooper & Mrs Deppeler	showing curiosity and interest in her learning by solving problems and questioning processes.

ENGAGEMENT		
Presented to	By	For
Samata G	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Harding	engaging well in all areas of learning and trying her best.
Liam V	Mrs Spencer & Mrs Harding	improved confidence when participating in handwriting lessons.
Lux J	Mrs Pitkin & Mrs Harding	being an enthusiastic participant in all areas of his learning.
Raven T	Miss Schulz & Mrs Deppeler	being an engaged learner and always asking questions to extend her understanding.
Abel F	Ms Hutchinson & Mrs Deppeler	strong engagement during PhOrMeS and S.C.O.R.E. lessons.

Award Winners from Week 6



2026 ENROLMENTS

During term four we will begin the process of setting up classes for the following year. It is essential that we know as soon as possible of any changes in future enrolments. If you know of any new children who will be starting at McDonald Park School in 2026 or of families leaving McDonald Park School would you please contact us as soon as possible. The allocation of teachers and number of classes at each year level is dependent on accurate information, so we appreciate your support in notifying any changes to the front office.

GUIDELINES FOR CLASS PLACEMENT

- Class composition is based on expected numbers for each year level and where possible to provide flexibility to allow for the placement of new enrolments.
- This school appreciates that sometimes, because of special circumstances, parents would like to have input into the class selection for their child.
- Whether a student remains with a teacher for more than one year is at the discretion of the school.
- Students need to be distributed evenly across classes within the school in accordance with Department for Education guidelines.
- At the end of third term, a note will be placed in the newsletter advising parents that the process is about to begin and requesting that parents put information in writing regarding their child's needs. All requests to be submitted by Friday, week one of term four. This information needs to be completed annually, requests will not be carried over for future years.
- Requests must be child focussed and on the basis of a welfare issue - medical or social / emotional need. (Not a request for a specific teacher)
- Recommendations from pre-school teachers will be taken into consideration when allocating reception students.
- Late submissions will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- Prior to class selection, students will be given the opportunity to list the names of five preferred learning partners, to be acknowledged by parents.
- While all requests will be considered, allocation of students to classes will ultimately be at the discretion of staff.
- The process takes six to seven weeks to complete and is completed as part of the staff meeting schedule.

Next term we will begin organising classes for 2026. If parents have information which will help with their child's placement, ***please put this information in a letter addressed to the principal, marked 'confidential' by October 17, 2025, the end of week one of next term.*** We cannot promise that we will be able to meet every request. However, the information will be taken into consideration.



SAPSASA BASKETBALL



McDonald Park nominated 2 teams for the local competition. The girl's team won 4 out of their 6 games, playing well together as a team. The boys won all their games and went through to the final against Reidy Park. The boys won and are through to the next round against other winning schools in the region.

All the best boys!

A big thankyou goes to Kurt Russell for coaching the boys and to Sam Patterson for assisting with scoring.

Zander M: SAPSASA Basketball was fun and I hope we can win in Adelaide.

Judd C: First we played in the Mount Gambier tournament and won every game. Then we went to the next event in Naracoorte and again went through undefeated. Our toughest competition was Millicent North, with our score in this game being a 23 to 17 victory.

Dom A: Basketball SAPSASA was fun we had lots of good games we won all of them, so we went undefeated. There was one really tough team, which was Millicent. We didn't play normal games in the first tournament we played 10-minute games and in the second tournament we played 20-minute games.

Oliver E: Both rounds of Basketball SAPSASA so far have been fun. We have gone through undefeated and with solid wins.

Caleb P: Basketball SAPSASA was very fun and challenging, every single game we played was a challenge. The first tournament was at the Ice house, there was Pool A and Pool B we were in Pool B. The teams in our pool were Tenison Team 2, Mulga Street, Moorak Team 2, North Primary School Team 2 and Melaleuca (we didn't play an actual game with Melaleuca because not enough players showed up for a whole team.) We won every game then it was the finals which we won too. Then the regional tournament we had to verse Tenison, Naracoorte, St Anthony's, Bordertown and Millicent North. We won every game in regionals as well that brings us to Adelaide for our next competition.

Benji R: On Friday week 6, I went to SAPSASA basketball. My team was victorious in all its games and we then qualified for the regional finals. At the regional finals our team won every game, including one close game against Millicent North, but we still beat them by six. Now we are going to Adelaide to play there on October 17th.

Charlotte G: On Friday week 6, I went to SAPSASA basketball. My team was not victorious but we got four wins out of six games and we did really well. My team thought we were going to make the finals but we didn't. We did well either way and we were happy and had good sportsmanship.



CHOOSE INCLUSION KICKOUT HATE

Men's, Women's, Mixed teams all welcome!

Friday 3rd Oct, 9am - 3pm
• Casadio Park, Mount Gambier

Friday 10th Oct, 9am - 3pm
• Futsal Park, Lionel Ave, Blair Athol

Team Entry FREE. Register TODAY!
Registrations close Friday 27th Sept

This tournament is the result of collaboration between One Culture Football, the Department of Human Services, the Australian Federal Police and Adelaide United Football Club, working to bring together youth, discourage anti-social behaviour and encourage harmony in the community. Come along, introduce our players to your services and meet our esteemed guests!

REGISTER HERE!
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www.oneculturefootball.org

Connected and Active Communities | Limestone Coast | Adelaide United FC | ONE CULTURE FOOTBALL | Government of South Australia | human services



Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.


To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops

saverplus
1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au



Guide for eligible savings goals



Education items that **are eligible**:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Textbooks ✓ Uniform mandatory for education (sports uniform included for children only) ✓ Computers and tablets (new or purchased second hand from a registered business with an ABN) ✓ Stationery ✓ Furniture for studying (desk, chair, bookshelves, desk lamp) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tutoring specific to study ✓ TAFE/VET fees ✓ Computer Accessories (antivirus software, the Microsoft Office suite, monitor, modem, printer, external hard drives, other hardware etc.) ✓ Bulk transport passes (monthly, 6 monthly and yearly passes) to school, university, or TAFE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equipment and industry specific clothing mandatory for vocational training. Please note that evidence must be provided to show that the equipment and/or clothing is a requirement for the course being undertaken ✓ Short courses and conferences that complement the vocational training being undertaken.
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For children only the following educational items are also eligible:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Children's Primary and Secondary School items that are eligible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excursions, trips, and camps - School bag, lunch box, drink bottle - School materials - Laptop Hire Scheme - School materials for specialist subject costs - School photos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Children's club or community activity items (e.g., sport, music, dance, scouts/girl guides, cadets, art): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership fees and lesson fees such as swimming or piano lessons - Equipment and uniform - Excursions, trips, and camps
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Could Saver Plus help with your education costs?

Saver Plus Information Sessions

We are running Information sessions for anyone thinking about joining the program and wants to learn more about how Saver Plus works.

Eligibility, income and participation criteria. To find out more head to <https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/>.

To Register please use the QR Code or Zoom Link Below.



[Click here to Register](#)

saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355


saverplus

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation Care | 29 Sept – 10 Oct

<div> <div>  IRISH-H </div> <div> FULL FEE </div> </div>	\$67.80	<div> <div>  CCS REDUCED FEE* </div> <div> </div> </div>	\$9.75 – \$35.75
<div> <div>  IRISH-H </div> <div> FULL FEE </div> </div>	\$88.70	<div> <div>  CCS REDUCED FEE* </div> <div> </div> </div>	\$12.75 – \$46.75

*Estimation of fees after subsidy is applied

WEEK 1

Monday
29 September

Incursion
Camp Out



Pitch a tent, build an epic fort, and get survival-savvy with a special visit from the Scouts! We will be making trail mix, crafting nature journals, and teaming up for a tent relay! Scouts start 1:00pm

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4

Tuesday
30 September

In-House
Wheels Day



Grab anything with wheels (just no remotes!) and race your friends on our outdoor track. Don't forget your helmet. We'll also be running a bubbly car wash station, and riding challenges for all speeds!

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Wednesday
1 October

Excursion
Mini Golf



We're off to Blue Lake Golf Club for a fun-filled afternoon of mini golf! At OSHC we will be doing target practice and golf art. Depart: 12:40pm Return: 2:15pm Transport: Private Bus

Outcomes: 2, 3, 4, 5

Thursday
2 October

In-House
Make It Shed



It's time to get hands-on in our favourite construction zone! Dive into recycled art, take on mini build challenges, and present your masterpiece at our afternoon Build and Brag showcase.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Friday
3 October

Excursion
Valley Lakes Bonanza



We're off to the playground, to have a sausage sizzle! Back at OSHC, we'll have bubble play, kite-making and nature games. Depart: 9:45am Return: 12:30pm Transport: Private Bus

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

WEEK 2

Monday
6 October



Tuesday
7 October

Excursion
Movie and Painting Day



Sit back and relax at the Oatmil Cinema, then return to OSHC to unleash your inner Picasso to create a canvas masterpiece! Depart: 9:45am Return: 12:30pm Transport: Private Bus

Outcomes: 2, 3, 4

Wednesday
8 October

Incursion
Careers Expo



What do you want to be when you grow up? Today, we're bringing real-life trades together for live demos, Q&As, and hands-on fun! Start: 1:00pm Finish: 2:00pm

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Thursday
9 October

Excursion
Port Macdonnell Escape



We're off to the bay! We'll start at one playground and walk to the next, enjoying ocean views, and plenty of fresh air on our adventure. Depart: 9:30am Return: 12:30pm Transport: Private Bus

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4

Friday
10 October

In-House
Slumber Squad



Roll into OSHC in your PJs for a chill-out day of movies, DIY face masks, slime creations, wool crafts, and all things cozy.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5



Book your session via the Xplor Home App

Visit sa.ymca.org.au/OSHC for more information

McDonald Park OSHC
50-55 North Terrace, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290
Chloe Payne
0428 401 962

OSHC Support Team
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