

NEWSLETTER

McDonald Park School



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LGU Literacy Tier 1 and 2

This year, our school has been working closely with the Department for Education's Literacy Guarantee Unit to continue to strengthen how we support children to learn to read. This work is especially focused on our Reception to Year 2 students, when strong early literacy skills are most important, while also benefiting learners across all year levels.



In classrooms, teachers are continuing to implement PhOrMeS at a whole-class level (tier 1) so that every child has access to clear, structured lessons each day. This includes explicit teaching of sounds and letters, reading common words, building vocabulary, and understanding what we read. By strengthening these core practices, we are ensuring that all students develop confident reading foundations that support success as learning becomes more complex in the later years.

For children who need a little extra help, we are also providing small group targeted support (tier 2). These sessions are closely connected to what students are learning in class and are designed to give them extra practice and confidence at the right time. Progress is carefully checked so support can be adjusted as children grow and improve.



We look forward to continuing to work with the Literacy Guarantee Unit for the remainder of the year. Reading is one of the most important skills that our students learn while at school and it is always exciting to see them improve and feel proud of their achievements.



Coming Events

WEEK 3

Friday, 15 May

Assembly 9:10am Gym

WEEK 5

Monday, 25 May

Governing Council Meeting

Wednesday, 27 May

National Simultaneous
Storytime

Wednesday, 27 May till

Wednesday 3 June

Reconciliation Week

Thursday, 28 May to

Friday 29 May

YELP Camp

WEEK 6

Monday, 1 June

Come & See McPark Tour

Wednesday, 3 June

ART SHOW

Friday, 5 June

Assembly 9:10am Gym

VISION AWARDS

term 2 week 3

RESPECT		
Presented to	By	For
Srijay C	Mrs Dew	promoting respect for other cultures by sharing his Indian culture to inform other students in their learning.
Albert N	Mrs McCracken	showing respect to classmates and generosity by helping others.
Destinee B	Mr Bigg	showing respect to her classmates in class and others out in the yard.
Logan W	Mrs McLean	always being respectful towards learning and people within our school community.

THRIVING		
Presented to	By	For
Haari C	Mrs Dew	his progress with number fluency.
Nevika B	Mrs McCracken	completing tasks accurately and efficiently with a high level of independence.
Blake P	Mr Bigg	showing improvements and skill with his general knowledge in the class quizzes.
Bailey R	Miss Eldridge	making pleasing progress with his reading fluency.
Harmony P	Ms Bundy & Mrs Dempsey	consistent growth in her learning and persisting through challenges.
Dhriya P	Ms Bundy & Mrs Dempsey	engaging in all learning tasks with consistent effort and to a high standard.
Finn R	Ms Bundy & Mrs Dempsey	continual growth and participation in learning and upholding school values.
Emilia B	Mrs McLean	being an excellent learner who applies herself in every subject.
Jonathan A	Mrs McLean	meeting his learning goals and working with improved focus.
Imogen S-W	Ms Mitchell & Ms Jordan	her active engagement in all aspects of her learning and class sharing. She has a great understanding of what's covered in class and conveys this well during discussions and when completing tasks.

COLLABORATION		
Presented to	By	For
Isla W	Mrs McCracken	working with kindness and co-operating with others.

PROBLEM SOLVING		
Presented to	By	For
Isaac D	Mr Bigg	showing big improvements with his problem solving, both in class and in the yard.
Mia W	Miss Eldridge	applying effective strategies to calculate perimeter and area.
Andre V	Miss Eldridge	consistently improving his maths fluency in addition and subtraction.
Flynn R	Mrs McLean	growth shown when met with learning challenges, he uses his assets to work through it.

ENGAGEMENT		
Presented to	By	For
Tyson H	Mrs Dew	his positive attitude towards competing in the Naracoorte Cross Country, improving his finishing position from last year and looking forward to improving more next year.
Charlotte R	Mrs McCracken	engaging with all tasks, displaying a positive attitude.
Harper S	Mr Bigg	engaging well in all lesson areas and striving to do her best.
Aubrey H	Miss Eldridge	consistently striving to do her best.
Tessie L	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	showing a growing understanding of parts of speech.
Alissa H	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	working hard to improve her knowledge of multiplication.
Sophie D	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	working hard to improve her knowledge of multiplication.
Sam P	Mrs Widdison & Mrs Tilley	demonstrating a good understanding of the significance of Anzac Day.
Tilly S	Ms Bundy & Mrs Dempsey	always being respectful of others and giving her full attention to her learning.
Luka S	Ms Mitchell & Ms Jordan	the way she always tries her best, asks questions when she needs to and is proud of her achievements.

OSHC @ McPARK

INCLUSIVE SUPPORT FOR EVERY CHILD

At YMCA OSHC, **every child** deserves to feel **included, supported and empowered** to thrive. We work closely with families and educators to create **welcoming environments** where children of all abilities can learn, play and belong.



Children's History Walk Launch



The launch of the new Children's History Walk, created by Danni Reade and Bianca Richardson in conjunction with the Mount Gambier Library, was held on Sunday, May 3rd. You may remember that Rooms 7 and 8 were part of a trial for this history walk last term.

Our school was given a certificate of appreciation for our commitment to the fabulous programs the Mount Gambier Library offers. Their local history knowledge is outstanding and we have learnt so much from them over the years.

Thank you to the families and staff members who were able to attend the launch and to Rooms 7 and 8 for their work in Term 1.

It was an honour for our school to be recognised. We strongly recommend that you pop into the library and pick up a brochure to complete the short history walk with your family. It centres around the Cave Gardens/Thugi precinct, and you may be surprised as to what you may learn!



SAPSASA FOOTBALL



Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent our school and the Lower South East at SAPSASA football. Finn R, Jax S, Dominic A and Van A.

The boys will be competing in Adelaide at the State Football Carnival from Monday 25 May till Wednesday 27 May. Well done and best of luck for the competition.

SAPSASA GIRLS & BOYS NETBALL

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent our school and the Lower South East at SAPSASA girls and boys netball netball. Ariella W and Hannah M, Dominic A, Oliver E and Caleb P. They will be competing in Adelaide at the State Netball Carnival from Monday 22 June till Wednesday 24 June. Well done and best of luck for the competition.



2026 ART SHOW



You're Invited to Our Spectacular Biannual Art Show *The Story of Art*

Step into a world where imagination leaps from the pages of books and onto the canvas! We are thrilled to invite our families and wider community to attend our upcoming biannual art show, *The Story of Art* — a vibrant celebration of creativity, storytelling, and artistic expression. Every student at McDonald Park School has created a polished artwork inspired by books and storytelling, transforming favourite stories into incredible visual masterpieces. This year's exhibition is even more special, as we proudly showcase artworks created by children from across our community, including Akuna Kindergarten, Gladigau Park Kindergarten, First Choice Early Education Centre, OHSC children, and Berrin Goodstart Early Learning. Our school gym will be transformed into a breathtaking gallery filled with colour, imagination, and wonder — a magical space where stories truly come to life through art.

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, 3rd June

Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Location: McDonald Park School Gym

Families are warmly encouraged to attend and celebrate the incredible creativity of our young artists. Come and wander through the gallery, admire the amazing talent on display, and enjoy an inspiring evening of community and creativity. We can't wait to share this unforgettable experience with you!

Donations needed for Art Show Raffle

If you are able to donate any items please send them to the front office by Monday 21st June. All businesses that donate items will be recognised in the program and newsletter.



Qkr! Hints & Tips

Did you know....you are able to cancel your child's lunch order on the Qkr app before 8:30am if they're unexpectedly away...

TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. How do I cancel food orders that have already been paid for?

A. To cancel a food order from your itemized eReceipt:

1. Open Qkr! and tap Activity.
2. Scroll down to 'Order History' and sign in with your password.
3. Tap the red circle with a minus symbol on the order to be cancelled. Select the entire order or individual items to cancel and tap 'OK'.
4. If your eReceipt contains food orders for more than one child, you will need to cancel one by one. OR

To cancel a food order from the calendar view:

1. Open Qkr! and select the relevant menu.
2. Tap on the tick icon on the date for which you want to cancel the order.
3. Tap the red circle with a minus symbol on the order to be cancelled. Select the entire order or individual items to cancel and tap 'OK'.

Cancelled items are shown in red on your eReceipt confirming they have been cancelled and a credit is available for future food orders. The value of any credits will be automatically deducted from your next Qkr! food order.

Please contact your school office to cancel any other (non-food) school payments according to school policy.

Cross Country



The annual South East Cross Country event was held on Friday, 8 May. This fantastic regional event brought together 35 schools and an impressive 862 student participants, creating a vibrant atmosphere filled with encouragement, perseverance, and school spirit.

McDonald Park School was well represented by 57 enthusiastic runners, who all demonstrated outstanding effort and determination throughout the day. Whether competing for a personal best or simply giving it their all, our students showed great resilience and positive sportsmanship. Special congratulations to Ivy B who came in first place with a time of 6.04 minutes, in the 9 year old girls' race.

Events like this not only promote physical fitness and wellbeing, but also provide valuable opportunities for students to connect with peers from across the region and build confidence through participation. We congratulate all of our runners for their efforts and thank the organisers, staff, and volunteers who made the day such a memorable experience.

Special Person's

MORNING TEA



Our school recently hosted a wonderful *Special Person Breakfast*, and it was a truly heart-warming event for everyone involved. The morning was filled with smiles, laughter, and the delicious smell of freshly made pancakes.

Students were excited to welcome a range of special guests in their lives, including parents, grandparents, and other important people who mean so much to them. It was lovely to see families and friends coming together to share such a meaningful experience.

Guests enjoyed a tasty breakfast of fluffy pancakes served with maple syrup, sugar, and fresh lemons for those who like a zesty twist. There was also plenty of juice to refresh everyone as they sat together and enjoyed each other's company.

The event provided a special opportunity for students to spend quality time with their loved ones in a relaxed and friendly school setting. It was wonderful to see the strong connections between our students and the people who support and care for them.

A big thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the morning so special. We look forward to hosting more events like this in the future!

