DATE CLAIMERS

Date Claimers updated in future ‘Tartan Times’ as received.

FEBRUARY 2014
18  P&C Assoc Executive Meeting 7pm Staffroom.
19  Commonwealth Banking Officer – Tuckshop from 8am
   “Hearing Children Read” Meeting K Block 2pm
20  P&C Assoc Committee & Working Party Reports due at
    School Administration for publishing
24  Student Leaders Badge Presentation Assembly 8.55am
24-28 Years 2-7 Parent / Teacher Interviews
25  P&C Assoc Annual General Meeting 7pm K Block
26  P&C Assoc General Meeting 7.30pm K Block
28  School Fees & Contributions due at School Admin
28-07 Book Fair – School Library

MARCH 2014
03  School Evacuation Drill
05  Active School Travel Launch
10  School Lockdown Drill
11  School Health & Safety Meeting 7.45am
   Tartan Network Meeting (Time to be advised)
   OSH Sub-Committee Meeting 6.30pm
13  Class Photos
17-21 Bike Week
   P-1 Parent / Teacher Interviews
19  National Ride Your Bike To School Day
21  Student Leaders LEAP Day at Albany Hills SS
25  P&C Assoc Disco
24-26 Choral Honours Programme for Advanced Yrs 6-7.
25  P&C Association General Meeting 7pm K Block
31  P&C Assoc Easter Colouring In Competition

APRIL 2014
01  School Council Meeting 7pm Staffroom
03  Student Casual Dress Day $1 to Student Council
    RED Food Day
04  Inter-House Swimming Carnival Yrs 4-7

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

YEARS 3-7:  Monday 8.55am – 9.30am. Parents welcome.
PREP-YR 2:  Wednesday 9.00am-9.30am. Parents welcome.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS: Monday & Thursday between 8.15am & 9.30am.

SCHOOL UNIFORM DAYS

Daily  Tartan Uniform or Red Polo Shirt Uniform
Tartan Day  Tartan Uniform only
        At school.
Friday  House Shirt Uniform
        Specified day or excursion.
        (Preferred) At school.
Friday  Red Polo Shirt Uniform
        (Required) Interschool Team.
Other  As formally advised.
        Eg Specific sports, activities.

• Black leather or jogger shoes are school uniform wear.
• Bottle green socks are worn with the Tartan Uniform and
  Preparatory Year variation.
• White (red/bottle green bands) socks are worn with the Sports
  (polo shirt) Uniform specific purpose variation.
• Bottle green jacket or jumper is to be worn. Tracksuit available.
• Please mark all items with the child’s name.

TARTAN TUCKERBOX ROSTER

Cannot help on your rostered day? PLEASE call Anelle on 3872 5304

FEBRUARY 2014
18  Allison S, Tracey H
19  Judy M, Joy M
20  Suzanne D, Gail A, Dianne B-S
21  Leah M, Carolyn McC, Carla K
25  Shirley E, Esther D
26  Andrea S, Michelle R, Leah C
27  Angela A, Christine B, Julie F
28  Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C

MARCH 2014
03  Shaleen Y, Joanne T
05  Natalie P, Jessica R
06  Julie F, Jodie C, Lee P
07  Lara J, Carla T, Julie F
11  Felica C, Michelle B
12  Stacey D, Jessica R
13  Ashleigh S, Belinda I
14  Michelle M, Enza M, Susan P
18  Allison S, Tracey H
19  Judy M, Joy M
20  Suzanne D, Gail A, Dianne B-S
21  Leah M, Carolyn McC, Carla K
25  Shirley E, Esther D
26  Andrea S, Michelle R, Leah C
27  Angela A, Christine B, Julie F
28  Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C
From the Principal

WELCOME TO McDOWALL STATE SCHOOL

Our Great State School delivers excellence in quality co-educational preparatory and primary education services. We maintain a well deserved reputation for high academic achievement, attention to the learning needs of students and the provision of quality extra-curricular programmes. Eq. Performing Arts and Sport. The "McDowall State School Standard" exists due to the diligence, commitment and perseverance of staff, parents and students.

In seeking to achieve the best learning outcomes for all our students, we continuously professionally reflect on past achievements and invest future focus and energy on achieving even heightened levels of excellence. The school website provides a wealth of information to parents about these past achievements, school policies and procedures; and our collective vision for the future.  www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au Website documents are reviewed and updated each school year.

We are proud of our State School. We are proud of our students. We know that the purpose of the McDowall State School is to implement the Australian preparatory and primary curriculum and deliver effective professional teaching services within a supportive school learning environment facilitating achievement of personal excellence. Our vision is for all students to experience success and to assume increasing levels of self-responsibility in the achievement of pre-determined learning outcomes within a supportive learning context strengthened by partnerships.

We value: (1) A focus on the child. Our collective decision-making, goodwill and endeavour is to benefit enrolled children. (2) Quality curriculum. Teachers being able to interpret, construct, implement and review the best curriculum possible. (3) Effective teaching resulting in learning. Supporting highly skilled teaching practitioners to achieve the best outcomes for all students. (4) Partnerships between staff, students, parents and community. Parents and community actively supporting and complementing school operations, investing additional funding, resources, time, facilities and opportunities to make ‘Our Great State School’ even better; and (5) Best outcomes for all students. We aspire to achieve the best learning outcomes for all enrolled students. This will only happen when teacher and parent deliver on the values outlined above. Parents should always access the ‘most appropriate school programme’ at which-ever school location for the specific needs of their child.

The primary school years are a window of opportunity during which students must be taught to be responsible for their things, for work, for their actions, for their talents and potential, for their character and for their choices. The biggest problem with discipline is that same teachers, parents and adults too often just react to what children do, instead of assuming responsibility for their situation, taking control and acting like a teacher, parent or adult. If teachers have no real clear or specific objectives for their teaching, all they can try and do is react properly. But with clear goals in mind in terms of what they want to teach children, they can act, they can take the initiative, they can assume control of their class' destiny. Both teacher and parent must actively support each other in this endeavour. McDowall State School implements a Student Responsibilities Framework.

Responsibility means to become mature in the sense of being responsible to family, to self, to society. To be responsible for all aspects of our lives and our situations: for our talents, for our potential, for our feelings, for our thoughts, for our actions, for our freedom. Responsibility is not the result of maturity but the cause of it. It is expected that all McDowall State School students will be obedient and that parents have taught their children to be obedient before they attend school. Persistent disobedience will likely result in student enrolment suspension from McDowall State School.

A “Student Responsibilities Booklet” was issued to all McDowall State School families at time of student enrolment. Please take quality time to read and understand this summary booklet. If this booklet has been misplaced, a copy can be downloaded from the school website.  www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

Collectively, staff, parents and students exercise an equal balance between ‘rights’ and ‘responsibilities’ to construct both school identity and our personal experience while at this school. There are many opportunities available to parents and students. The old saying, “You get out of it, proportionally against what you are prepared to put in.” is very true. You are encouraged to get involved and meet other parents. Attend the next Parents’ & Citizens’ Association Meeting. Meet other parents new to our school. Volunteer for a few hours in the Tartan Tuckerbox (Tuckshop). Help out in the classroom or in the School Library. Attend Craft Club. Call in at School Administration. We will be delighted to discuss options with you.

School Administration

PRINCIPAL'S GALLERY

Every day, in every classroom, McDowall State School teachers and students achieve high standards. Learning is about the journey travelled with the culmination resulting in excellent samples of student work. Each week, classes are provided the opportunity to showcase some of this work in the “Principal's Gallery”.

KEY TEACHING STAFF 2014

Principal: Mr. Bruce Fogarty  Deputy Principal P-2: Dr. Mary Cavanagh  Deputy Principal Yrs 3-7: Mr. David Pedwell
Head of Curriculum: Ms. Vanessa Crowhurst  Business Services Manager: Ms. Rebecca Fleming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA1</td>
<td>Mrs Brega Sullivan &amp; Mrs Amanda Boubouras</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA2</td>
<td>Mrs Jenny Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>PB1</td>
<td>Mrs Naomi Thistlethwaite</td>
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<tr>
<td>PB2</td>
<td>Mrs Michelle Holland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC1</td>
<td>Ms Deborah Grimshaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC2</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Rohdmann</td>
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<tr>
<td>PG4</td>
<td>Ms Larissa Vogt</td>
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<td>1J1</td>
<td>Ms Raelee Mline</td>
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<td>1J2</td>
<td>Ms Abby Liddiard</td>
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<td>1J3</td>
<td>Mrs Paula Jaques &amp; Mrs Jenny Doyle-Brown</td>
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<td>1J4</td>
<td>Mrs Kathryn Taylor</td>
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<td>1J5</td>
<td>Mrs Helen Moore</td>
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<td>1J6</td>
<td>Ms Emma Pentland</td>
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<tr>
<td>2J7</td>
<td>Mr Hrvoje Margetic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2J8</td>
<td>Mrs Kris Quigg</td>
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<td>2O1</td>
<td>Mrs Kathleen Beever</td>
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<td>2O2</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Howie</td>
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<td>2Q1</td>
<td>Ms Ros Isaac</td>
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<td>2Q2</td>
<td>Ms Jodie Johnston</td>
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<td>3N2</td>
<td>Mrs Laurel Franklin</td>
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<td>3F1</td>
<td>Mrs Kerry Kosiek</td>
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<tr>
<td>3F2</td>
<td>Mrs Judith Frederick</td>
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<td>3F3</td>
<td>Ms Bronwyn Watkins</td>
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<td>3F4</td>
<td>Ms Zoe Taylor</td>
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1J1  Ms Jodie Johnston, Mr Hrvoje Margetic, Mr Ben Mills, Mrs Kathryn Taylor and Ms Larissa Vogt

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4N1</td>
<td>Mrs Lisa Dolan &amp; Mrs Wendy Pedwell</td>
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<td>4E1</td>
<td>Mr Benjamin Mills</td>
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<tr>
<td>4E2</td>
<td>Mrs Debbie Sexton &amp; Mrs Kathy Oldham</td>
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<td>4E3</td>
<td>Mrs Gaynor Kyle</td>
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<td>4E4</td>
<td>Ms Ruth Davies</td>
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<tr>
<td>5G2</td>
<td>Mrs Vicki Cottam</td>
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<td>5G3</td>
<td>Mrs Ann Russell &amp; Mrs Amanda Boubouras</td>
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<td>5D1</td>
<td>Mr Heath McDonald</td>
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<td>5-6D2</td>
<td>Ms Kath Wedmaier</td>
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<td>6C1</td>
<td>Mrs Deb Bowen</td>
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<td>6C2</td>
<td>Ms Gail Blackwell</td>
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<td>6C3</td>
<td>Mr Ashley Proud</td>
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<td>7D3</td>
<td>Mrs Terese Cousar</td>
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<td>7D4</td>
<td>Mrs Jan Meikle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep R</td>
<td>Mrs Ann Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yrs 1-2 R</td>
<td>Mrs Susan Walker</td>
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<td>Yrs 2-3 R</td>
<td>Mrs Therese Rourke</td>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Mrs Jan Saunders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed</td>
<td>Mr Paul Henderson</td>
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<td>Music</td>
<td>Ms Amber Pormroy</td>
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<td>Wind Perc.</td>
<td>Mrs Erin Gyte</td>
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<td>Strings</td>
<td>Mrs Kathryn Payne</td>
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<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Ms Pui Ki Lau</td>
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<td>Support</td>
<td>Mr Steve Simonds &amp; Mrs Janine Wedmaier</td>
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<td>Exten/ESL</td>
<td>Mrs Rita Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special</td>
<td>Mrs Janet Moogridge &amp; Mr David Horton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td>Mr Paul Murphy</td>
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<td>Speech</td>
<td>Ms Phyllis Broughton</td>
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* P&C Association employees.

ENROLMENT WAITING LIST UPDATE

An Enrolment Waiting List applies for students residing outside the McDowall State School’s Catchment Area for P-7. It is unlikely that enrolments will be taken from the Waiting List for student enrolment in 2014.

Enrolment Applications for P-6 in 2015 are now being accepted at School Administration. These are stamped with the date and time received. They are then securely stored until late Term 3 when they are reviewed. The Principal seeks to establish six Preparatory Year classes annually. To do so, Enrolment Applications drawn from outside-the-school-catchment-area are accepted.

The number accepted, depends on the expected number of Enrolment Applications drawn from inside-the-school-catchment-area. It is therefore prudent for all Enrolment Applications for 2015 to be lodged at School Administration as early as possible.
Please note that when Enrolment Applications are reviewed, it is essential that family contact details held at School Administration are up to date. Should a parent not be able to be contacted, a potential enrolment placement may be withdrawn and offered to the next family on the Waiting List. If a family has enrolled their child at another school for 2015, please advise School Administration on either 07 3872 5333 or admin@mcdowallss.eq.edu.au so that the Enrolment Application, made on behalf of your child, can be removed from the Waiting List. You will then not be contacted further by School Administration.

**P-7 TIMETABLEING 2014**

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<tr>
<th>Beeper Sounds</th>
<th>Prep-Yr 2</th>
<th>Yrs 3-7</th>
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<td>8.15am</td>
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Beepers

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<th>Prep-Yr 2</th>
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**14 classes in 2014**

1J5, 1J6, 2J7, 2J8 & 2O1 work to the Years 3-7 Timetable in 2014. All P-1 classes will work to the P-2 Timetable in 2015. It is anticipated that only two Year 2 classes will work to the Yrs 3-7 Timetable in 2015. All P-2 classes will work to the P-2 Timetable from 2016.

McDowall State School does not provide child care for P-2 children between 2.30pm-3pm. It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure that suitable supervisory arrangements are made for their child upon dismissal at 2.30pm. eg. Progress home, Out-of-School-Hours Care or private child care.

In exercising this decision, should parents elect to wait within the school, they, with their child, should sit and wait patiently either under J Block or under the Large Covered Area beside the Uniform Shop. All young children should be supervised by their parents, not running around and not causing unintentional noise or disturbance to classes continuing to operate until 3pm. Should your child be discovered unsupervised within the school, as parent, you will be called to immediately collect your child.

**WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE SCHOOL?**

**Prep-2 Timetable Classes**

Preparatory Year students are requested to arrive from 8.10am and line up beneath the closest large Covered Area outside their classroom. Years 1-2 students are requested to arrive from 8.10am and line up beneath the large Covered Area at the western end of the Curriculum Centre. The school beeper will sound at 8.15am. Class teachers will attend from 8.10am and walk their classes into school.

**Years 3-7 Timetable Classes**

Years 3-7 students (including Years 1-2 students) are to wait patiently under the large Covered Area, at the southern end of the Uniform Shop, under Teacher-Aide supervision. From 8.30am, Years 1-2 students enter the large Covered Area at the western end of the Curriculum Centre to line up, refresh themselves and await their class teacher. From 8.30am, Years 3-5 remain under the large Covered Area beside the Uniform Shop. Years 6-7 may access the Years 6-7 Covered Area. Class teachers attend between 8.30am and 8.45am to walk their classes into school. The school beeper sounds at 8.45am. Class instruction begins at 8.50am.
From 2.30pm

OSH staff collect students from their class. J Block students will be dismissed from the J Block Undercroft. Other P-2 students will be dismissed from their classroom. P-2 Kiss & Ride Facility students will be accompanied by their class teacher to the large Covered Area at the western end of the Curriculum Centre for pick up by the Kiss & Ride Facility Teacher-Aide. P-2 students will be encouraged to walk independently to the nearest gate to depart the school site.

From 3pm

Years 3-7 students (including Years 1-2 classes) will be dismissed from class. Students will progress to OSH, independently to the Kiss & Ride Facility, independently to the Bus Waiting Area or locate their sibling/s and progress directly home.

Parking

Please expect to park a number of residential blocks away and walk the distance between your car and the school. Parking is extremely restricted and regulated around the school. Familiarise yourself with traffic and parking signage. Fines will be issued by traffic enforcement officers. School staff do not regulate nor direct traffic. 

Parent parking is not available within the school grounds. If available, a small car park is available on Rode Road near Pleshette Place. Parents are asked to consider the lifestyle and be courteous to local residents by not blocking driveways or parking on private property.

Child Care

Child care is provided through McDowall SS P&C Association Out-of-School Hours Care located in K Block. Tel: 07 3353 5755. Email: admin@mcdowallosh.org.au. Should child care be required for 2014, it is recommended that contact be made as soon as possible. Child care is not provided by the school. Alternately, a private child care provider should be contacted.

IS INFORMATION HELD AT SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION UP-TO-DATE?

Parents are asked to ensure that all information held at School Administration remains current. Should there be a change to medical condition, family circumstance, parenting order, court documentation affecting a student and/or change made to emergency contacts details ….. please formally advise School Administration.

School staff are not permitted to dispense medication nor implement medical procedures, as a parent may do so. This will only be done, at the discretion of the Principal. Parents must complete documentation (available from School Administration) and provide original written instruction/s either from the doctor or via a chemist label attached to a medication container. All medication must be delivered to School Administration. For some conditions, the family doctor will need to provide a Medication Action Plan. Medication is not to be stored in a student's port without the Principal's knowledge and agreement.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The McDowall State School staff and P&C Association expect that every student attending the school will be wearing school uniform each school day. A Student Dress Code Summary is available on the school website. www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au.

SCHOOL CALENDAR & DRAFT COSTS 2014

Based on information available at the beginning of each school year, the McDowall State School provides parents with a calendar overview of excursions, events and activities. (Forwarded separately next week) Approximate costs are included so that parents can budget their family finances. Changes will be made to this calendar during the year. Ultimately, it is the parent’s decision whether or not, their child will participate in extra-curricular activities. Up-dated information is published in the Tartan Times. Detailed notices to parents are provided to parents as an excursion approaches.

SCHOOL FEES & VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS 2014

The McDowall State School is funded by government to deliver core educational programmes on behalf of students. Parents seek additional school programmes, staff, resources and/or facilities over and above what can be provided through government provision. Students enrolled at a State School are charged for services, materials and consumables not defined as instruction, administration and facilities where, if not provided through the school, the parent would have to purchase in the private market. Additionally, parents are invited to voluntarily contribute toward providing an enhanced educational experience for students. School Fees and Voluntary Contributions for 2014 have already been issued to parents this year. Should a parent want to know how these funds will be used by their child’s class teacher, they should make their inquiry directly with the class teacher concerned. A School Invoice will be issued for School Fees. Voluntary Contributions are paid through School Administration as a lump sum only. School Fees & Voluntary Contributions are due by Friday 28th February, 2014.
RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION 2014

Religious Instruction is generally made available to all Years 1-7 classes by church endorsed volunteers. The class teacher retains general responsibility and supervision for the class during these lessons, but does not participate within the instruction. Religious Instruction is not usually denominationally specific, being ecumenical in nature, although some specific groups do withdraw students for specific instruction. Parents not wanting their children to be involved in Religious Instruction should forward written notice to the class teacher as soon as possible. These students will be provided with consolidation / revision school work and supervised by a teacher in another classroom during the Religious Instruction session. Any parent seeking more information about Religious Instruction should contact School Administration.

CONCERNED? WHO DO I CONTACT?

In such a large and dynamic school community, communication and information sharing is critical. Inevitably, there will be times when someone will be unsure, confused or perhaps displeased. Should anyone be concerned over an issue, it is always best to speak with the person, most closely involved with the decision or incident, in seeking clarification or issue resolution. On most occasions, when this discussion occurs, miscommunication is found to be the issue, and the matter is quickly resolved. **We all want the same thing! We all want the best outcome for students!** We must though work within a framework of rationality and possibility.

1. Speak with the class teacher or staff member involved, first. They know the issue so can best discuss details with you.

2. If your concern could not be resolved in this way, make an appointment to speak with the respective Deputy Principal. We are all busy people and as professional educators, we can’t just ignore our professional responsibilities, in order to immediately respond to your enquiry. Time will be made available as soon as possible. The class teacher or staff member may be invited to also attend the interview. We want to quickly get to the ‘heart of the issue’ and resolve it. As a staff, we work as a team to achieve the highest possible educational service standards for our students.

3. If your concern could not be resolved in these ways or perhaps the matter is of an extremely serious nature, make an appointment with the Principal. Again, he will make time available to speak with you as soon as practically possible. Depending on the nature of the issue, other staff will be invited to attend the interview so that clear, open and honest communication is maintained.

As stated, most issues can easily be resolved through the provision of additional explanation. We are happy to respond in this way. Give us a call. We are keen to resolve any issues that may arise. Additionally, we are always keen to hear compliments and of the good work that staff perform, so that we can pass these on.

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE

If you are ringing the school to notify us of your child’s absence you can now ring our new Student Absence telephone line. The number to ring is 3872 5366. Just leave your child’s name, class and reason for their absence and we will forward this information to your child’s teacher.

Library News

Welcome back everyone to a new year in our Library! Students have been enthusiastic to come in out of the heat for lunch time activities and they are keen to begin borrowing books. Below are the borrowing guidelines for each Year Level.

Prep and Year 1: 1 Fiction and 1 Non-Fiction
Years 3-5: 2 Fiction and 1 Non-Fiction
Years 6-7: 2 Fiction and 2 Non-Fiction

Borrowing periods are for two weeks but students can change their books each week if they choose. Each class has a weekly borrowing lesson with their class teacher. Any student with an overdue book will not be able to borrow until their overdue books are returned.

The School Library is open before school from 8:00am and after school until 3:30pm. Please feel welcome to call in.

It is expected that Preparatory Year and Year One students bring a borrowing bag. It is preferred for Years Two and Three to also have one.
We take this opportunity to urge parents to establish good routines regarding the books that come home after being borrowed. One suggestion is that the books stay in school bags or in a special place in bedrooms while at home. The student can then be given the responsibility for making sure that the book is in their bag for borrowing day. Our books are valuable resources and we would appreciate your assistance in ensuring that they stay in good condition and that they are returned in prompt fashion so we can all enjoy them. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERS**

There is always a huge range of tasks that must be done each week in the School Library. Tasks include shelving and book covering. For those parents who have a little time either after dropping off students or before picking them up, please feel free to come and talk to us about assisting. We would be thrilled to see you!

**UPCOMING BOOK FAIR**

We have our first big event of the year coming up at the end of this month. Our Book Fairs are always a huge hit within our school community and we appreciate the enthusiastic support. Funds from our two annual Book Fairs enable us to purchase an enormous number of new books. This year, we seek to continue purchasing books that are required to support our new Australian Curriculum.

Our first Book Fair starts on Friday 28th February and concludes at 8.45am on Thursday 6th March, 2014. We will open from 8am to 3.30pm. P-2 students may attend before school from 8am. Years 3-7 students may attend before school from 8.30am. The Book Fair will remain open until 3.30pm.

**LIBRARY BORROWING INCENTIVE PROGRAMMES**

**Library Frequent Flyers!**

Every book Years 1-3 students borrow, takes them on a new journey. These students have been issued with a ’Read Around The World’ borrowing passport during their first class borrowing session. Each child receives a stamp or sticker in their passport for every book they borrow. When they earn 16 stamps they pass through Passport Control and receive a special certificate. Upon completing the whole passport, a very special presentation on Assembly is made!

**Sports House Competition**

Years 4-7 students can help their Sport House win points in the School Library. All Years 4-7 students earn a point towards their Sporting House each time they borrow. The Sporting House with the highest number of borrowing points has the Inter-House Reader’s Cup trophy displayed with their colours in the School Library for that week.

At the end of semester, the Captains of the Sporting House that had the most weeks with the highest number of books borrowed, will choose a book for the School Library to purchase. A book plate will be included inside the chosen book to celebrate the achievement of that Sporting House.

**MONITORS**

Interested Years 5-7 students may complete an Application Form (to be endorsed by parents and the class teacher) for involvement as a Library Monitor. Involvement as a Library Monitor gives students opportunities to work in a team, develop leadership skills and practise personal skills such as confidence, initiative, organisation and responsibility. These qualities align with McDowall State School’s YOU CAN DO IT Programme. We’re extremely proud of our wonderful group of Library Monitors and look forward to welcoming new students who want to join the team. Application Forms are available now and should be returned as soon as possible.

**NEW PARENT LIBRARY**

We are excited about the new collection of resources for parents that we are now making available for borrowing. We have a small number of Parent Help Books ranging from assisting your primary child to surviving your teenagers. Parent Help Books will be borrowed under your child’s name. If this service is well used, we hope to build the collection further. The Parent Library Collection is found in the Reference Section of the School Library. Please come in and have a look!

CONTACT: Mrs Jan Saunders, Teacher/Librarian
Great Results Guarantee

Last week, the Queensland Government and Education Queensland released the “Great Results Guarantee” which constitutes additional Federal funding for State Schools from 2014. A summary of the many documents, press releases and EQ advices has been placed on the school website for parent perusal. www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

Briefly, an additional $247,924 is available to McDowall State School in 2014 for the Principal to complement other staffing and funding sources and holistically seek to deliver improved student learning outcomes in the areas of literacy and numeracy across Prep through to Year 2. The belief is that by targeting P-2 students, these students will be better prepared and able to meet / exceed National Benchmarks in Literacy and Numeracy measured by NAPLAN Testing in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9. At McDowall State School, these funds will be used to extend every child as far as possible.

As an Independent Public School, McDowall State School is well prepared and well placed in regard to the Great Results Guarantee. (Note the twin aspects of the Guarantee) McDowall State School has been using IPS Funding to invest in staff development and professionalism. In 2013, McDowall SS employed an additional Learning Support Teacher – 3days/wk and an Extension & ESL Teacher – 4days/wk. Focused Teacher Release (NCT) was implemented across P-2 to reduce fragmentation of curriculum. A Tartan TAPS Programme for P-1 parents and a Tartan TADPOLES Programme for pre-Prep children was funded and established.

The concept of an endorsed “Great Results Guarantee” is to be drafted and endorsed by the Principal and School Council Chairperson before 28th February, 2014 for funding to be made available to the school. This should be quite a simple process as during 2013, McDowall SS worked through a series of formal administration, curriculum, teaching and discipline audits resulting in a School Plan 2014-2017 being approved and placed on the school website. It makes sense that the “Great Results Guarantee” intent and sense of direction build on past achievement and the direction outlined in the School Plan 2014-2017.

Over recent years, the Principal has allocated staffing and resourcing to establish professional teams focusing on quality curriculum and effective teaching of our students but also in delivering better intervention and learning extension. Our School Audits documented the success that these teams are beginning to demonstrate across the school. We have always wanted to do much more, should resource allocations permit. We are keen to further support small learning groups of students based around learning need – directed by Year Level teachers. We now have that opportunity in 2014.

It is anticipated that the stated funding may only be available to the McDowall State School in its current lump sum form in 2014 as a State School Resourcing Review is underway. (?) A new State School Resourcing methodology may apply from 2015 when Year 7 has progressed into Secondary Education. For this reason, employment will be temporary with possibility of extension. So after consulting with School Council, the Principal has already begun to make the following investments across P-2 so that services may be provided as soon as possible.

✓ Three temporary teacher-aide positions have been advertised in local press for establishment at 30hrs per week. ADO time delivers an additional 4-5hrs of service each week. It is expected that applicants will highlight their experience in instructing young children in the areas of literacy and numeracy and where possible, have qualifications in these areas. One teacher-aide will be deployed on each Year Level P-2 and be expected to become part of the professional Year Level Team. This will cost = $141,944.70 in 2014. (Includes all on-costs)

✓ The Principal has been negotiating with Metropolitan Education Region and has received an undertaking for an experienced Speech Language Pathologist to work at McDowall State School for three full days each week. This position is in addition to the Speech Language Pathologist service that Region already provides for assessments regarding delayed language and disability. The additional SLP will focus their work across P-2 to proactively draft speech development, communication & language programmes and initiatives that teachers and teacher-aides will implement to improve student achievement in literacy and numeracy. This is not additional assessment time. This will cost = $63,905.65 in 2014. (Includes all on-costs)

✓ Additional staffing deployment and administration demands due to school-based delegations in recent years have not resulted in a proportional increase in School Administration Officer time at McDowall SS. It is timely to address this imbalance by employing an additional experienced School Administration Officer for up to 4 days/wk. This will cost = $46,568.26 in 2014, exceeding the remaining budget. The difference of $4,494.61 will be assumed by existing School HR Budgeting or a later start date.

The focus of the “Great Results Guarantee” is on P-2. The Principal will ensure that Years 3-7 are adequately supported within continued school grants and staffing allocations based on Day 8 student enrolments.
Welcome to the first Sports Report for 2014. This year presents as a year full of sporting opportunities. All classes are timetabled at least one Specialist PE Lesson each week. On the days scheduled for PE, please ensure that students have a hat and suitable footwear for sports related activities. Many students choose to wear their Sports Uniform (not House Uniform) and I encourage girls to wear their skorts on PE days.

Additional to their weekly PE Lesson, students have the opportunity to be involved in inter-school sports, school sports carnivals, school tournaments (tennis & table tennis), running club, district representative sports, after-school clinics, etc.

**WEEKLY PHYSICAL EDUCATION LESSONS**

Across the Junior School during Term 1, I am running a Perceptual Motor Programme in the Activity Building. Across the Senior School during Term 1, classes will be involved in Netball, Hockey and completing their 1st beep test (fitness testing).

**NORTH DISTRICT SPORTING TRIALS**

McDowall State School is a member of the North District Sports Association. North District comprises 15 schools. The district forms representative teams for a variety of sports and holds a carnival for athletics, cross country and swimming. Trials for other sports are held after school across various venues. Dates for trials will be advertised in the Tartan Times and also posted on the Sports Notice Board located beside the Tuckshop. Most students who make a district team play the sport at club level and are one of their teams better players.

Most teams are for the Under 12 age group. Some sports like Rugby League and Netball have teams for Under 11 and Under 12. Students interested in trialling need to get forms from Mr Henderson, have their parents complete them and then have Mr Pedwell (Deputy Principal) endorse the form acknowledging that the student reflects the McDowall State School standard for student conduct SRL0. The forms are then to be taken to trials.

**UPCOMING TRIALS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>11th and 13th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>25th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>27th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>4th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>5th &amp; 6th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys soccer</td>
<td>10th &amp; 11th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls soccer</td>
<td>12th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td>13th March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Running Club will begin on Thursday 13th February at 8am. Running Club is open to students in Years 4-7. Running Club is primarily used to train and select a school cross country team. It is also a good opportunity for students to improve their fitness in readiness for the athletic season and inter-school sport. Students will train for 10 weeks. A school team will be selected to compete at the North District Cross Country on 5th May 2014.

**DONATIONS**

If you have football boots or running spikes that your child no longer fits into and they are in good condition, please consider donating them to the Sports Department. I can lend them out for interschool sport and athletics.

CONTACT – Mr Paul Henderson Physical Education Teacher

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**P & C Association**

**P & C ASSOCIATION AGM 2014**

The McDowall State School Parents’ and Citizens’ Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th February, 2014 from 7pm in K Block. A Revised Constitution will be tabled for adoption.
All Committee and Sub-Committee endorsed / audited Reports are due at School Administration by 20th February for compilation and publishing. Annual Reports and audited financial statements will be presented during the AGM. Following the endorsement of reports, all P&C Association Executive positions are declared vacant and nominations are called for 2014.

All P&C Association memberships lapse at the AGM. Parents need to annually re-apply for membership.

How do I join the P&C?

Simply complete the annual P&C Association Membership Form (available online at www.mcdowallss.com or hard copy from School Administration). It is advisable to join as a member before the AGM as you can submit an application without being present at this meeting. If you wish to join after the AGM you must be present at the meeting at which the application is considered.

CONSIDER JOINING THE P & C. WHAT YOU DO – MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The McDowall State School P&C Association is an important part of the school community. The members work very closely with the school to help build a strong community and to provide resources that enhance the students’ learning experience.

Actions speak louder than words when it comes to valuing your child’s learning. Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education. Being a member, allows you to provide input on school issues, budgets and policies. Whilst anyone can attend meetings, only members of the P&C Association gain voting rights.

In addition to the many volunteers required for the various events throughout the year, there are a number of roles / positions within the P&C Association that need to be filled each year at the Annual General Meeting (scheduled for Tuesday 25th February, 2014 from 7pm in K Block). These include:

- President …. Current incumbent stepping down in 2014.
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer ….. Current incumbent stepping down in 2014.
- Communications ….. Current incumbent stepping down in 2015. Seeking to support and train someone in 2014.
- Grants Co-Ordinator
- Works Co-ordinator for P&C Association projects (Close collaboration with School BSM)
- Grounds Co-ordinator for P&C Association Working Bees and Grounds Projects (Close collaboration with School BSM)
- Fundraising Co-ordinators x 2 ….. Assistance required in 2014.
- Tartan Network Co-ordinator
- Active School Travel Co-ordinator ….. Assistance required in 2014.
- OSH Sub-Committee.
- Shops Sub-Committee.
- Health & Safety Representative on School Committee.
- P&C Qld Representative ….. Assistance required in 2014.

The problem that many larger schools encounter is that parents think that someone else will do the work, however, when too many people think this way, the P&C Association roles are left to just a few people. These dedicated people have to fill many roles to ensure that the P&C Association can function. It is unreasonable to let this occur. Without you, and your contribution, the P&C Association will not exist and that would be a huge loss for the students.

To parents considering an active role within the P&C Association in 2014, please refer to the information on the P&C Qld website. www.qcpca.org.au Please discuss your interest with a standing P&C Association member or attend School Administration. We’ll pass your contact details on.

CONTACT: Mrs Tracey Wilson, P&C Association President (president@mcdowallss.com)

P&C ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

For information on the McDowall SS P&C Association visit the website – www.mcdowallss.com

P&C ASSOCIATION ON FACEBOOK

The McDowall SS P & C Association is on facebook “Friend” us now – search: McdowallStateSchoolPandC

CONTACT: Mr Allan Browning, P&C Communications Officer
**GAMBLING COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND GRANT**

During 2013 the McDowall State School P&C Association was fortunate to be awarded $27,023.28 from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF). The GCBF is Queensland’s largest one-off grants programme, distributing approximately $41 million per year. Established in 1994 under the Gaming Machine Act 1991, the fund returns to the community a percentage of state revenue raised through gambling taxes.

Grant funds received have been well used to perform upgrades to the Tartan Tuckerbox & purchase some much needed new equipment. Final works were performed over the Christmas holidays. Here is a summary of the great use we made of these funds: **Upgrades**

- Major repairs to Cold Room including an environmental upgrade.
- Electrical works
- Plumbing works
- Vinyl Flooring repairs
- Security Screen Door
- Cabinet Works (under sink & new rolling table)
- UV Insect Killer
- Caged Trolley
- Hot plates

**Equipment**

- 2 x Turbofan ovens & stack kit
- Oven Trays
- Commercial Dishwasher
- Pie Warmer
- 8 Slice Grill Station
- Thermomix

At the Tuckerbox we are committed to providing healthy, nutritious & fun food for our students. We aim to replace pre-packaged, reheated & processed foods with freshly made alternatives that are prepared on-site from scratch using fresh, nutritious ingredients. Thanks to the funds received from the GCBF we now have the equipment & environment to assist us with our goal of preparing 80% of our entire menu on-site.

Special mention to the following contractors who did provide excellent service & gave that “extra effort” to ensure the renovations went smoothly:

- Wilson Air Con Services (cold room repairs)
- Innovative Cabinet Solutions (cabinet works)
- Wire-not Electrical (electrical)

Also, very special thanks to Mark from Global Tapware a local (Everton Hills) Manufacturer of quality Tapware who kindly donated a Fisher Pre-Rinse Tap (valued over $500) to be installed at the Tuckerbox. This tap was installed as part of the renovations and is great. Thank-you.

CONTACT: Mrs Jodi Browning, Parent Volunteer

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

Student Banking commenced on Wednesday 5th February, 2014.

On Wednesday 19th February our CBA rep is coming along to the school for an exclusive account opening morning and to talk to the students about the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Programme (including all the exciting rewards for 2014).

The 2014 School Banking Programme includes an exciting Rewards Schedule that encourages students to get into the habit of saving regularly. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. This year, the Dollarmites team are off on a voyage to the Lost City of Savings. The School Library has a display of all the Lost City rewards.


Our School Banking day is every WEDNESDAY of the school term except the first and last weeks of the school year.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy Wright, Parent Volunteer.
TARTAN NETWORK

The Tartan Network is a P&C Association Sub-Committee formed to enable parents not able to regularly attend P&C Association Meetings to engage in support of P&C Association business and initiatives. Annually, it is hoped to have at least one parent volunteer from each class as a representative on Tartan Network. Through a Class Parent Contact List, this parent volunteer works in close support of the class teacher to deliver supportive, productive and improved partnerships between class teacher and parents, resulting in educational benefits to students. Effective Tartan Network representatives assist both the P&C Association and class teacher in keeping parents informed of school events, policies and procedures. They also encourage and assist parents in ways that they can better support their child’s class teacher or be involved within the school generally. This focus often results in out-of-school informal social activities being held and friendships being established between families.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS TO REGULARLY HEAR CHILDREN READ

Year Level teachers are seeking as many parent and grandparent volunteers as possible to regularly hear students read. As with most skills in life, the more you practise, the better you become in mastering the skill. Our students delight in sharing their achievements. Year Level teachers will highlight two blocks of time each week for teams of parent and grandparent volunteers to have students read to them. It you can read, then you can do this! We are seeking parents and grandparents from P-7 to be involved for at least once, preferably twice weekly.

Interested? Parents and grandparents who can commit to weekly attendance at Year Level Reading Sessions are invited to attend an Information Meeting in K Block (OSH) at 2pm on Wednesday 19th February, 2014. A brief programme overview will be provided and Expressions of Interest Forms will be available for completion. Monthly training sessions will be provided by Mr Steve Simonds (Learning Support Teacher). It is anticipated that Tartan Network will take a lead role in supporting and encouraging parent and grandparent volunteers in 2014. Eg. Networking, morning teas, guest speakers, etc.

CONTACT: Mr Bruce Fogarty Principal.

Tartan Tuckerbox News

WELCOME FOR 2014

The Tartan Tuckerbox is looking forward to a great year preparing and serving tasty/nutritious meals & snacks for our students. The Tuckerbox is open Tuesday to Friday’s (closed Monday’s). Please note this is a change from 2013.

ON-LINE ORDERING

Tuckshop can only be ordered online using Flexischools. Please note from 2014 the cutoff time for orders will be 8.15am. You can access Flexischools via the School website or directly at www.flexischools.com.au. A detailed Flexischools “How To” is available on the P&C website (www.mcdowallss.com) or grab a hard copy from the Tartan Tuckerbox.

PREP ORDERING

Tuckshop is not available to Prep students in Term 1. This allows our Prep students time to settle. By Term 2 they will be very keen to participate.

GREAT FOOD OPTIONS

The Tartan Tuckerbox has many great menu options. Many items are “home made” in the Tuckerbox. Consider these great options:

Morning Tea – ABC Muffins, Banana Bread, Hot Cross Buns, Pikelet Sandwich, Sandwiches, Wraps
Lunch – Garlic Bread, Home Made Lasagne, Chicken & Vege Pies, Vegetarian sausage rolls.

VOLUNTEERS

The Tartan Tuckerbox cannot operate without volunteers. We currently need volunteers for Wednesday’s, Thursday’s & Friday’s. Roster is usually one day every four weeks. Even if you can spare a few hours that would be a great help.
The Principal has advised that the school is awaiting the installation of a solar-powered boom gate to the Metro Street car park. The boom gate will be operated by code which will regularly change. The boom gate will automatically operate between 7.45am and 3.15pm. Up to seven Tuckshop volunteers at a time will be issued with a code for a defined period.

CONTACT: Mrs Anelle Moller – Tuckerbox Manager(tuckshop@mcdowallss.com).

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Hours: Monday & Thursday - 8.15am to 9.30am
Avoid the Queue’s use Flexischools:
Don’t forget most uniform shop items can be ordered via Flexischools (www.flexischools.com.au) & delivered to your child’s classroom (on Monday & Thursday).

CONTACT: Mrs Di O’Rourke, Uniform Shop Convenor (uniformshop@mcdowallss.com)

School Access

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Special thank you to RACQ. Two instructors have delivered the “Streets Ahead Road Safety Programme” to all McDowall SS classes this past week in the School Hall.

Traffic congestion and extremely limited parking around the McDowall State School have been issues for decades and continue into the present. Parents are strongly urged to pre-plan their arrival and departure from McDowall State School. Study local area maps, get to know other families who reside in your local area and make enquiries with agencies such as Translink to research better ways in safely accessing the school.

✔ If you reside within walking distance to McDowall State School, then this is the most preferred way for you to access the school. Depending on the age of your child, and whether or not your child has an elder sibling, an adult may need to walk with children until they become confident with the route and use of traffic lights, etc. Note child departure and arrival times. Expect that children will walk directly to school and directly home. Teach children about how to interact with others while walking.

✔ If you reside in a location where a bicycle can safely be used on quiet suburban streets, bike paths, etc to access McDowall State School, then this is the most preferred way for you to access the school. A bike cage is located beside the School Hall. It is not recommended that children use bicycles on busy main roads. It is also not recommended that children under the age of 9 years ride their bike to school, without adult supervision. The perception and vision of young children have not developed enough to safely and independently ride a bicycle on busy streets.

✔ If you reside in a street or area from where other families are also attempting to safely access McDowall State School by car, why not co-ordinate your travel and share the expense through car pooling?

✔ Our local area is well served by bus routes. Contact Translink for the latest bus route information and bus times. Students using bus services departing the McDowall State School between 3pm and 3.30pm are supervised by a Teacher-Aide. Details are available from School Administration.

✔ For many reasons, many parents simply must access the McDowall State School by car. Ultimately, parents chose to enrol their child at McDowall State School and the means of transport to and from McDowall State School is a parent choice. When parents drive, when other options are available, the traffic congestion and parking issues around the McDowall State School are more challenging than they need be. It is all about making the most appropriate decision. Government and Council have indicated that there will not be any further major works regarding parking anytime in the foreseeable future. Both Police and Council Officers will regularly patrol roads, streets and parking areas.

✔ It is strongly recommended that parents accessing the McDowall State School by car, “Park and Stride”. This involves parking a few blocks away from the McDowall State School and walking the distance between the parked car and the McDowall State School.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy Wright Active School Travel, Parent Volunteer.
METRO STREET ONE WAY

To improve the flow of traffic in Metro, Goldwyn and Mayer Streets at school start and finish times it is recommended that the following parking measures be used:

- ‘No Stopping’ zones on the inside of each corner
- A ‘No Stopping’ zone adjacent to the school’s rear entrance
- ‘No Parking’ zones on the inside of the Metro, Goldwyn, Mayer Streets circuit.

In addition to these changes it is recommended that traffic flows in a clockwise direction (as indicated by the arrows on the image below)

Benefits

- Reducing traffic congestion levels during peak times.
- Reducing the time taken to collect students after school.
- Making the school’s access point safer for students and parents.

With the support of the school community and local residents, the traffic conditions and associated safety for students and parents can be greatly improved through these strategies. Thank you in advance for your assistance and contribution in making your school’s environment safer.

CONTACT: Cr Norm Wyndham, Councillor for McDowall Ward.

KISS-AND-RIDE USE

The safest and most efficient way to drop your child off at school and pick them up after school is by using the “Kiss & Ride Facility”. This facility, owned and maintained by Brisbane City Council provides both a “Kiss & Ride Set-down / Pick-up Lane and short-term parking for parents and visitors. School staff do not direct traffic but attend each school dismissal period to supervise students using the “Kiss & Ride Facility”.

- Students are instructed not to walk along the Rode Road footpath. At no time will it be considered safe for a child to walk along the Rode Road footpath past the Kiss & Ride Facility where vehicles will enter and depart from this facility. Students are to walk across the School Oval and use the provided gate on the western side of the tennis courts.
Students are instructed to promptly attend the Kiss & Ride Facility after dismissal from class. Students assemble under the Shade Structure located beside the tennis courts. This will be the only location where student supervision is provided. This will be the only location from where Kiss-and-Ride vehicles will be accessed by Years 1-2 students from 2:30pm-2:55pm and Years 3-7 students from 3pm-3:20pm.

As marked pedestrian crossings will be unsupervised, the pathway from School Administration should not be used. As thought necessary, this gate will be locked while the Kiss-and-Ride Facility is in operation.

It is recommended that the car parking bays located beside the tennis courts be left vacant for Tennis Coaches and After-school Soccer instructors, etc.

Parents using the short-term car park, waiting to collect their child while the Kiss-and-Ride Facility is in operation, will need to walk to the supervised shade structure area to collect their child and then supervise their safe arrival at the parked vehicle. Staff will not allow any student to walk unsupervised from the Shade Shelter into the car park area. Staff responsibility will begin and end with the Shade Shelter and the Kiss-and-Ride Facility footpath located beside the School Oval fence.

It will continue to remain a student's responsibility to identify their vehicle in the queue and alert staff to this fact. Parents need to delay their arrival within the Kiss-and-Ride Facility queue until a time when they know that their child will be located at the Facility. Students take 5-10mins to arrive from their classroom.

Only Years 1-2 Parents .... are to queue along the Rode Road school kerb and enter into the Kiss-and-Ride Facility for student for student pick up between 2.30pm and 2.55pm. The queue must flow continuously with pick up occurring from the concrete area beside the School Oval fence. If other members of your family pick up children, please inform them.

Only Years 3-7 Parents .... are to queue along the Rode Road school kerb and enter the Kiss-and-Ride Facility for student pick up between 2.55pm and 3.20pm. The queue must flow continuously with pick up occurring from the concrete area beside the school Oval fence. If other members of your family pick up children, please inform them.

Permanent Kiss-and-Ride Vehicle Queue / Set down & Pick up Location

Kiss-and-Ride Student Assembly Area. Student pick up from concrete apron. No path pedestrian access to Car Park area while Kiss & Ride in operation.