DATE CLAIMERS

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

MARCH 2014

10 School Evacuation Drill
11 Tartan Network Meeting (Chair will email time)
   OSH Sub-Committee Meeting 6.30pm
   School Council Meeting 7pm Staffroom
12 Reading Flying Gang Meeting 2pm K Block
   Strings Teacher absent.
13 Class Photos
17 School Lock Down Drill
17-21 Bike Week
   P-1 Parent / Teacher Interviews
18 School Health & Safety Meeting 7.45am
19 National Ride Your Bike To School Day
   Bunyaville EEC – 3F1-2
21 Student Leaders LEAP Day at Albany Hills SS
   P&C Assoc Disco
24-26 Choral Honours Programme for Advanced Yrs 6-7.
25 North Pine Dam – Year 7.
   P&C Association General Meeting 7pm K Block
26 Bunyaville EEC – 3F3-4.
27 St Helena Island – Year 5.
31 P&C Assoc Easter Colouring In Competition

APRIL 2014

01 School Council Meeting 7pm Staffroom
02 Bunyaville EEC – 3N2.
03 Student Casual Dress Day $1 to Student Council
   RED Food Day
04 Inter-House Swimming Carnival Yrs 4-7

SCHOOL UNIFORM DAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Uniform Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Tartan Uniform or Red Polo Shirt Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tartan Day</td>
<td>Tartan Uniform only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>House Shirt only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Red Polo Shirt Uniform (Preferred) At school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Red Polo Shirt Uniform (Required) Interschool Team.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>As formally advised</td>
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- 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

MARCH 2014

7 Lara J, Carla T, Sheralee H
11 Michelle B, HELPERS NEEDED
12 Stacey D, Kim S
13 Ashleigh S, Belinda I, Danel S
14 Michelle M, Enza M, Susan P
18 Tracey H, HELPERS NEEDED
19 Judy M, Joy M, Tania W
20 Suzanne D, Gail A, Dianne B-S
21 Garry L, 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

APRIL 2014

1 Shaleen Y, Joanne T
2 Natalie P, Jessica R
3 Julie F, Jodie C, Lee P
4 Lara J, Carla T, Sheralee H
22 Michelle B, HELPERS NEEDED
23 Stacey D, Kim S
24 Ashleigh S, Belinda I, Danel S
29 Tracey H, HELPERS NEEDED
30 Judy M, Joy M, Tania W
From the Principal

The first half of Term 1, every school year is an extra-ordinarily busy time both within schools, ensuring that all essential staffing and programmes are in place for students; and within the Education Queensland organisation, ensuring that senior leaders and staff are abreast of changes to legislation and policy for the new year. It is now regularly acknowledged, that change is now not only a consistent feature of life but the rate of change is increasing. Recent weeks have been full of meetings, briefings, reports and online confirmations and accountabilities regarding how the school has been established for 2014. From next week, the diary begins to return to a school-based focus in delivering the best possible learning outcomes for all our students. It is an absolute pleasure to spend quality, affirming time with McDowall SS students and staff in both celebrating and acknowledging the work that they do and their repeated achievements.

BUT YOU TOO CAN MAKE A REAL AND LASTING DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN.

In addition to parental voluntary assistance being provided directly into their child’s class programme, YOU are invited to join one of McDowall State School’s Flying Gangs for 2014. Whether parent or grandparent, if you can read, then you can be involved. We want you to commit to either one or two, hour long sessions each week to hear children read to you. You will be provided with an honorary badge to wear within the school. Within your assigned team, you will be designated a Year Level at pre-arranged times. Every 15 minutes you may work with up to three children. Refer to the attached “Reading Flying Gang” information sheet attached to this ‘Tartan Times’. Teachers have specified times for Flying Gang visits. Seven parents have expressed interest in joining our Flying Gang. I am seeking many, many more! Please complete the Reading Flying Gang form and return it to School Administration by Tuesday 11th March, 2014. Invite your friends and encourage your extended family to become involved. This is a great social event for parents while experiencing satisfaction in helping children.

Reading Flying Gang members are requested to meet in K Block from 2pm to 2.30pm on Wednesday 12th March, 2014 for their mission briefing and pre-flight training. Mr Steve Simonds will offer some simple but effective strategies and approaches that Flying Gang members can use when hearing children read.

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” located within the School Administration Foyer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Beginning:</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>4E3</th>
<th>Week Beginning:</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>4E2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>1J3</td>
<td>17th</td>
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<td>1J3</td>
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GREAT RESULTS GUARANTEE

In accessing this new funding, McDowall State School leadership has acted quickly in establishing improved multi-disciplined professional teams in support of P-2 students. From 3rd March, Ms Phyllis Broughton (Speech Language Pathologist) will work closely with P-2 class teachers and teacher-aides in better identifying barriers to student learning and implementing language / communication development programmes. In addition to these three days with P-2, Ms Broughton will continue to undertake her Regional Speech Language Pathologist responsibilities at McDowall State School for half a day each week. An additional full-time Teacher-Aide has been appointed to each P-2 Year Level: Mrs Farlie Thorne (Preparatory Year), Mrs Kylie Rogers (Year 1) and Mr Robert Askew (Year 2). Our school is focused and committed on delivering ever heightened student achievement in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Strong achievement across P-2 will better prepare our students for the academic challenges to be encountered during their later primary school years.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Notices advising parents that Silver Rose Photography will take class / school groups photos on Thursday 13th March, 2014 have been issued. A very tight and well co-ordinated photograph schedule will be implemented on the day. Please ensure that your child is dressed in TARTAN UNIFORM with BLACK SHOES.
Library News

BOOKFAIR

Thank you for your support of our Book Fair over the last week! Through your visits to the Fair, your encouragement of your children’s interest in books and your willingness to financially contribute to this project, we have been able to hold a very successful event. Sales at this Book Fair were $9,393.60. The sales commission we earned from this was used to acquire $164.00 worth of books as well as provide the School Library with a cash sum of $1,785.01 for further acquisitions. We’re thrilled with this result. Thanks again!

Book Fair revenue will be spent on resources to support our curriculum, to build our literature collection (including developing our ebook collection) and to further renovate our library space. This has only been possible with your help.

Our next Book Fair will be during Book Week in August.

BOOK CLUB

Our first Book Club brochures will go home with students on Friday 7th March, 2014. Orders will need to be back at school by 9:00am on Friday 14th March, 2014. Orders can be put into either the box located at the Preparatory Year or the box in the School Library.

NEW PARENT LIBRARY

Don’t forget to come in and check the titles in our new parent library. These are available for parents to borrow over a two week period. Let us know if there is a good title that you would like us to consider adding to the parent library collection.

CONTACT: Mrs Jan Saunders, Teacher/Librarian.

PHOTO DAY

Thursday 13th March 2014

Important Information
Silver Rose Photography will be at the school on the above date to photograph groups and student portraits.

To ensure you have no problems with your order please read your school photo envelope carefully.

• Your child must return their envelope on PHOTO DAY.
• Depending on your school requirements, if your child does not hand in an envelope to the photographer, they may not be photographed for individual portraits. You are welcome to place a late order with Silver Rose but usually only for group photos.
• You can make your payment by cash, credit card (Visa or Mastercard), cheque or money order.
• If you have any questions about Photo Day please call Silver Rose on (07) 32625788

Sports and Special Groups
Do not order Sports or Special Groups on your envelope.
Order forms will be available to download from our website approximately one week after photo day.
Username: Groups
Password: 285023

Music

All those singers out there listen up!! The McDowall State School Senior and Junior Choirs have started up this week! The school choirs rehearse one recess time each week to prepare for performances during School Concerts, Open Day, assemblies and regional competitions. If you love to sing, would like to improve your singing or perhaps you just want to try something new, come and join the choir!

Junior Choir is for students in Years 3 and 4, held on Thursday 1st break in the Music Room with Miss Pomroy. Senior Choir is for students in Years 5, 6 and 7, held on Friday 1st break in the Music Room with Miss Pomroy.

Congratulations to those students who auditioned and were accepted into Honours Choir this year with Miss Crowhurst. Don’t be disappointed if you didn’t make it in. Whether you are in Honours Choir or not, you can still join the Senior Choir, which is often involved in combined rehearsals and performances with the Honours Choir throughout the year. We are looking forward to an exciting year for all our choirs!

Instrumental Music is in full swing in 2014. All our senior ensembles are rehearsing weekly. Please ensure your child arrives promptly to morning rehearsals. Thank you to those parents making the effort to have your child at school for these morning rehearsals. Rehearsals can only be truly effective with the entire ensemble present so please endeavour to have your child at school punctually for these rehearsals. Allow time for your children to set up and warm up their instruments before the commencement of our 7.50am rehearsals.

Our new instrumental students are all progressing well. It’s always a very exciting time of the year to witness the enthusiasm of our new musicians within the McDowall State School programme. Keep up the great practice and remember to fill in your practice chart each week.
This year, the String Ensemble and the Wind Ensemble have nominated to compete in the state music competition, Fanfare. It is necessary for each child involved in these ensembles to complete and return the Project Consent Form to participate in this event. Please return the form directly to Ms Pomroy in the Music Block.

Every student in the Instrumental Music Programme has been invoiced $40.00. This is the Instrumental Music Programme Fee. This finances the purchase of new music, entry fees for competitions and festivals, covers regional fees and many other resources that keep our programme effectively operating. A further $80.00 is invoiced to those students hiring school instruments. This fee finances the ongoing maintenance and if necessary replacement of our school instruments. Book packs purchased from independent music stores for children to commence/continue learning are separate from these fees.

We are looking forward with much anticipation to a year filled with many fine performances from our McDowall SS musicians.

CONTACT: Miss Amber Pomroy, Music Teacher

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**Year 6/7 Camp**

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**CAMP RECOUNT**

A mixture of excitement and a lot of nervousness swirlled inside of me. It was the day of Year 7 camp. Mum waved goodbye and then the bus took off.

Two hours later everyone hopped off the bus looking excited. We settled into our cabins and went to our first activity. It was awesome! We hiked up Burleigh Mountain and at the top of it we could see all the way down to the big ocean and a little city.

We did lots of activities like tobogganing, body boarding, GPS navigation, beach challenges, circus art, canoeing and surf awareness. But my favourite, by far, was tobogganing. It was super duper fun! Getting dragged by a boat, the salt spray in your face and it feels like you’re holding on for dear life! My second favourite activity was GPS navigation. I loved running around the camp trying to find an answer from a GPS.

The food was great! Some of my favourites were: meatballs, pancakes, pizza, waffles and ice-cream and a burger and wedges. YUM!

I shared a cabin with Jasmine, Emily, Laura, Zoe, Rebecca and Carly. It was really nice meeting new people and making friends with them.

I had a really fun time and it was one of the best weeks of my life! I would definitely do it again, do all the activities again, make new friends, eat the food and enjoy myself at Tallebudgera Beach Camp School. By Isabel T 7D4

CONTACT: Ms Jan Meikle, Year 7 Teacher
Year 7 News

LEARNING HOW WE LEARN

Year 7 students spent time during the first week of school investigating how they learn. Time was spent looking at the different areas of the brain, how to keep the brain in top learning fitness as well as the different styles of learning students may favour.

The week culminated in a hands on activity dissecting a lamb's brain, where students were able to locate the main sections of the brain.

CONTACT: Ms Terese Cousar, Year 7 Teacher

Sport

AMART ALL SPORTS PROMOTION

Our school receives credit to use at Amart All sports when you mention our school name when purchasing sports equipment and footwear. So far we have received over $1,000 as part of this programme. Amart has stores at Mitchelton (Osborne Road, Mitchelton) and Stafford (Stafford Road).

RUNNING CLUB

Get fit and have a chance to represent the school at the District Cross Country carnival. Running Club is every Monday and Friday mornings at 8.00am on the school oval. Running Club continues for 30mins.

BEEP TESTS

We did fitness testing in our PE lessons last week. Congratulations to Kyra E (10.3) and Reeve A (11.6) who reached the highest levels for boys and girls.

REGIONAL SWIMMING

Congratulations to these students who earned a place on the North District swimming team. They will be competing next week at the regionals. Neasher M, Jack L, Hayley F, Rebecca J, Luke M, Jess M and Jonah M.

CONTACT: Mr Paul Henderson Physical Education Teacher

Defence Family News

This Term is well under way, and we have begun our lunch time activities with gusto! 'Little Heroes' remains popular, with children making "Belonging Leaves" for our Belonging Tree project in the School Library. Each Defence Student will be making a leaf for our tree...they will have a special memento to take with them on their next move.

Thank you to those families who have returned their Defence Questionnaire. This information is used by me, to assist your child throughout the year with their transitions and parental absences. As the saying goes...forewarned is forearmed!

Please do not hesitate to contact me throughout the year, at cjone404@eq.edu.au or via School Administration. I look forward to catching up with our parents at our next gathering on Tuesday, 11th March. Keep your eye out for a note in your child's bag!

CONTACT: Christine Jones – Defence School Transition Aide
P & C Association

P&C ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE TEAM 2014

Congratulations to the new executive team members that were voted in at the P&C Association AGM held on Tuesday 25th February, 2014.

President - Debbie Robertson-Stainsby
Vice Presidents - Kathy Wright & Amra Alibegovic-Memisevic
Secretary - Ian McCaskill
Treasurer - Svend Villsen

Other Role and Subcommittee chairs are listed on the P&C Association website (http://www.mcdowallss.com/pc-executive/)

P&C ASSOCIATION ON FACEBOOK

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

CONTACT: Mr Allan Browning - Parent Volunteer

P&C ASSOCIATION DISCO - NEON LIGHTS

On the 21st March, 2014 there will be a P&C Association Disco in the School Hall. The theme is ‘fluro’ – Neon nights.

Entry: $5
Meal Deal $5 (Sausage on Roll, Drink, Sumo Cookies)
Extra sausage on roll - $2.50

Payment for entry and Meal Deals must be pre ordered via Flexischools (http://www.flexischools.com.au). Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase on the night.

Information on how to use flexischools can be found on the P&C website at http://www.mcdowallss.com/services/tuckshop/

CONTACT: Mrs Kylie Andrews - Parent Volunteer

P&C INFORMATION MORNING TEA

The P&C Association Information Morning Tea was held on Tuesday 4th March, 2014. Thank you to those who volunteered and ensured that this event happened. If you would like further information about the roles and services of the P&C Association, please check out the P&C website (http://www.mcdowallss.com)

SCHOOL BANKING

Thank you to the Commonwealth Bank for coming along to Student Assembly and presenting our commission cheque for 2013.

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Our first Active School Travel event will be held on National Ride your Bike to School Day - Wednesday 19th March, 2014. Meet the Active School Travel team at the bike cage between 8am & 8.30am for a prize.

NRMA ROAD SAFETY GRANT

Thank you to the NRMA Road Safety Grants for funding to enable us to put up road safety signs in our Kiss-and-Ride facility.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy Wright - Parent Volunteer
Tartan Tuckerbox News

Tartan Tuckerbox is open Tuesday to Friday. We have some great yummy healthy options available. Order online using the flexischools website by 8:15am. Don’t forget you can order up to 2 weeks in advance.

We are still in need of volunteers. Please pop-in to the Tuckshop or email tuckshop@mcdowallss.com for more information.

CONTACT: Mrs Anelle Moller - Tuckshop Manager

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform shop is open Monday and Thursday at 8:15am - 9:00am and is located next to the Tuckshop.

There will be some slight price increases to some items. Check Flexischools for latest prices.

Music Folders will now be $15.00

CONTACT: Mrs Di O’Rouke - Uniform Shop Convenor

READING FLYING GANG

Of all the skills that children must learn, READING is the most important. To be able to read, more specifically, understand what you read, means that you have the ability to not only broaden and deepen learning in other areas throughout life but you are given “the key” to productively engage in modern life. We expect that ALL McDowall State School students will excel as competent readers, reading for pleasure, purpose and understanding. As with any skill, it is only mastered through practise.

YOU CAN MAKE A REAL AND LASTING DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN

Whether parent or grandparent, if you can read, then you can be involved. We want you to commit to either one or two, hour long sessions each week to join our “Reading Flying Gang”. You will be provided with an honorary badge to wear within the school. Should you sign up as a “Reading Flying Gang” member, within your assigned team, you will attend a designated Year Level at pre-agreed times to hear children read to you. Every 15minutes you may work with up to three children. Children delight in sharing their learning achievements. Children will look forward to your next attendance. Teachers plan for and value your regular involvement. It is therefore essential, that an attendance commitment be required of those seeking to join our “Reading Flying Gang”.

TRAINING & SUPPORT

Mr Steve Simonds (Learning Support Teacher) will provide new “Reading Flying Gang” members with a swag of easy to use techniques to use when enjoying the reading by our students. These introductory insights will be shared during a “Welcome to New Members Afternoon Tea” to be held in K Block on Wednesday 12th March, 2014 from 1.45pm. For those members continuing their “Reading Flying Gang” weekly involvement, further insights, techniques and strategies will be shared during a “Celebratory Afternoon Tea” to be held monthly. These events socially bring all teams together, while providing a fantastic opportunity to share their experiences. When involved, we are sure that “Reading Flying Gang” members will be keen to encourage other parents and grandparents to join too.
WANT TO JOIN THE “READING FLYING GANG”?  
ABSOLUTELY

Please complete the information below and deliver this form to School Administration by 11th March, 2014. It is that easy!

YOUR NAME:  
CONTACT PHONE NO: 

ARE YOU AN ENROLLED CHILD’S PARENT?  Yes / No  
GRANDPARENT?  Yes / No

ENROLLED CHILD’S NAME: 

ENROLLED CHILD’S CLASS:  
CONTACT EMAIL: 

Number of Sessions you are able to attend each week: One or Two?  (Please Circle One)

Preferred Week Day/s: 

Preferred Session/s: Morning or Middle, Afternoon Session or Any Session?  (Please Circle One)

Thank you for completing this form. Please understand that involvement within this programme is at Principal’s discretion. We may not be able to accommodate all preferences. The Programme will be outlined on Wednesday 12th March, 2014. Look forward to seeing you there!