**SCHOOL WATCH**

**Tel: 13 1788**

**LOOK ….. LISTEN …. REPORT**

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Tartan Uniform or Red Polo Shirt Uniform At school.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tartan Day</td>
<td>Tartan Uniform only Specified day or excursion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>House Shirt Uniform (Preferred) At school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Red Polo Shirt Uniform (Required) Interschool Team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>As formally advised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eg Specific sports, activities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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**

| 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, Sheralene 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

WHAT IS READING?

Reading is to observe and apprehend the meaning of written or printed words. It is the process of identifying and comprehending the meaning of characters and words in written or printed material. Reading is usually an individual, silent activity, although when learning to read, a child will read out aloud. Reading is a complex cognitive process of decoding symbols in order to construct or derive meaning. It is a means of language acquisition, of communication, and of sharing information and ideas. It is a complex interaction between text and the reader, shaped by the reader’s prior knowledge, experiences, attitude and social community. Mastery of reading requires continuous practice, development and refinement.

WHY IS READING SO IMPORTANT?

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 regular practice.

WHAT IS THE READING FLYING GANG?

The “Reading Flying Gang” is a group of parents and grandparents, who volunteer their time, to hear P-7 students read and assist students master skills relating to reading and reading comprehension. Early in the school year, this may involve reading to Preparatory Year students.

“Reading Flying Gang” members work as a team, attending a designated Year Level together, at teacher pre-agreed times to hear children read. It is therefore essential that the “Reading Flying Gang” is made up of as many members as possible, each time it engages with a Year Level. This is what makes this initiative worthwhile, beneficial and effective. Every 15 minutes members of the “Reading Flying Gang” may work with up to three children as selected by a Class Teacher. The more “Reading Flying Gang” members we have, the more frequently students can practise their reading with members. “Reading Flying Gang” members are provided with an honorary badge to wear within the school.

Parents and grandparents should not become involved with the “Reading Flying Gang” initiative if what they are primarily seeking to do is to support their child or their child’s class. Parents and grandparents wanting to spend their valuable voluntary time in this way, (This is an appropriate choice), need to instead, offer their voluntary time directly to their child’s class teacher. In this context, the “Reading Flying Gang” is not an initiative that suits the intent.

WHAT IS THE ‘READING FLYING GANG’ COMMITMENT?

Whether parent or grandparent, if you can read, then you can be involved. “Reading Flying Gang” members are requested to commit to either one or two, hour long sessions each week. 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”. Modern life is busy and demanding. If you can’t commit, then please don’t join.

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

HOW ARE ‘READING FLYING GANG’ MEMBERS SUPPORTED?

“Reading Flying Gang” members are requested to attend a monthly afternoon tea meeting in K Block from 1.45pm to 2.30pm. During each meeting, “Reading Flying Gang” members are invited to informally share their experiences from within the initiative. Mr Steve Simonds (Learning Support Teacher) will provide “Reading Flying Gang” members with a swag of easy to use techniques able to be used when enjoying student reading. Further insights, techniques and strategies will be shared during future monthly afternoon tea meetings. These events socially bring all “Gangs” together. Additionally, from time to time, a “Reading Flying Gang Newsletter” will be published.

MEETING DATES:     12.03.14,     07.05.14,     04.06.14,     06.08.14,     03.09.14,     19.11.14.
It is anticipated that "Reading Flying Gangs" will be well patronised with high membership, to deliver the best possible support to student reading. Small membership makes the initiative unviable. It is anticipated that "Tartan Network" will regularly promote and support this initiative, actively networking across parent and grandparent groups, to deliver high membership within "Reading Flying Gangs". We are sure that members themselves, will be keen to encourage other parents and grandparents to join.

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>24th March</th>
<th>1J3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>21st April</td>
<td>1J2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>5th May</td>
<td>2J8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>19th May</td>
<td>2Q1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>2nd June</td>
<td>3F3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>16th June</td>
<td>PB1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>31st March</td>
<td>7D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>28th April</td>
<td>4N1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>12th May</td>
<td>3N2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>26th May</td>
<td>6C2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>9th June</td>
<td>1J6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Beginning:</td>
<td>23rd June</td>
<td>PB2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PARENT VOLUNTEERS – RECESS ACTIVITIES

First Recess – For Years 3 & 4. Second Recess – For Years 5 to 7. Monday through Friday.

During recess play time, teachers are endeavouring to involve students in organised play and general interest activities. This year, teachers are organising a range of activities including skipping, ball games, board games and dance within which students can choose to engage during recess time. One additional teacher has been rostered during recess to implement this strategy. We feel that so much more could be achieved if parent or grandparent volunteers were also engaged.

- Do you have a talent or passion that you would be able to share with a group of students? Perhaps you are involved in activities like yoga, Tai Chi, arts and crafts, origami, chess or dance. Would you be available to attend during a recess period and teach students this skill or activity? You would work collaboratively with one of our Activity Teachers. The time commitment would be either 10.30am-11.05am for Years 3-4 or 12.45pm-1.20pm for Years 5-7 on any school day. (15mins set up and then a 20min lesson.) We would be keen for the activity to extend over a number of weeks up to a maximum of five weeks in duration. If you have a hidden talent or skill that you are prepared to share with our students, please contact Mr David Pedwell DP on 07 3872 5333 or dpedw1@eq.edu.au.

- We are also planning to establish a room within the school so that students can elect to play board games. Should parents have any games that they would donate to the school because they are no longer being used, we would be very grateful. We are seeking games such as: Connect Four, Scrabble, Checkers, Guess Who, Trivial Pursuit, Yahtzee, UNO, etc. Please have your child bring items to 7D4 or School Administration.

CONTACT: Mr David Pedwell  Deputy Principal.
SCHOOL CAR PARK – METRO STREET

A solar-powered electronic boom gate has been installed at the entrance to the School Metro Street Car Park. Presently, we are awaiting software to operate the boom gate. Upon receipt, programming will commence. Formal signage will be updated from this time. The School Metro Street Car Park is used by OSH parents to access K Block both before and after school hours. Locked school gate closure has applied all Term 1. Signage clearly indicates closure between 7.45am and 3.15pm. These times will continue to apply but from 7.45am, the boom gate will soon automatically lower to secure this car park until 3.15pm.

Metro Street Car Park access and exit will be by code only between 7.45am and 3.15pm. OSH parents need to be out of the Metro Street Car Park before 7.45am.

The electronic boom gate has a built in counter so that even if a code is used for want of entry into the car park, it will not open if all parking bays are full.

The Principal has advised the P&C Association that priority Metro Street parking will be made available for Tartan Tuckerbox (Tuckshop and Book Shop) volunteers. Parent volunteers who regularly have the nine highest weekly accumulated hours assisting within the school will be considered for issue of an access and departure code to the Metro Street car park. Access and departure codes will change each month.

- Vehicle access into the McDowall State School Metro Street Car Park or school grounds is a ‘privilege’ that is provided at the sole discretion of the Principal, for only as long as drivers comply with school policy and school community accepted norms relating to expected conduct. A limited number of stopping bays are available. Should student safety be compromised, vehicle access may be terminated.
- A 10km/hr speed restriction applies within the school grounds.
- Passengers must only enter / alight from a car when it is parked in a marked bay.
- A parent must accompany all children when walking to/from vehicles within the car park. All other pedestrians are expected to use the designated fenced walkway.
- Pedestrians have ‘Right of Way’ at all times.
- Vehicles exiting the McDowall State School Metro Street Car Park must ‘Give Way’ to vehicles entering the car park and to pedestrians using the footpath.
- One McDowall State School Metro Street Car Park bay will be used by the OSH Co-ordinator. (They will open and lock the car park gates daily.)

SCHOOL CAR PARKS – RODE ROAD

Parents are not permitted to use the Staff Car Park from Rode Road. This area is used by school staff, visiting / itinerant staff and OSH staff. Signage is very clear. Should parent vehicle entry into this car park continue, the Principal is likely to secure this area. If collecting a student from School Administration after 3.15pm, a parent may briefly use the School Administration Car Park.

CONDITIONAL ACCESS

The Principal manages all vehicle access into the McDowall State School grounds and reserves the right to direct, refuse or cancel access at any time. Neither Education Queensland nor the Principal, accept any responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, personal property (including vehicles) of staff, parents, visitors or children brought onto school premises. Vehicles brought into the school grounds are at the owner’s risk and responsibility.

STUDENT EARLY DEPARTURES

Parents seeking to collect their child/ren before the end of the school day are to advise their class teacher on the day in writing, or, by contacting School Administration before the end of second recess, 1.25pm. While we understand sometimes early departures are unexpected, we have been receiving a high volume of phone calls after 2pm from parents needing to collect their child early for appointments. This is causing disruption to classes. If you are aware your child/ren needs to be collected early, please ensure you send a note with your child on the day. All students must be collected from School Administration and signed out by a parent/guardian.
A reminder that recess breaks have also changed this year.

First Break: 10.30am – 11.10am  
Second Break: 12.45pm – 1.25pm

CONTACT: Ms Rebecca Fleming BSM.

Music

Last Wednesday, several Strings Programme students from McDowall State School attended the Northside Celtic Strings Workshop held at Windsor State School. The day was led by Emma Nixon who is highly regarded in the Celtic Music world in Brisbane and within Australia. It was a fantastic day, when students learnt a great deal about Celtic music and the different techniques involved in playing such music. The day concluded with a concert for parents.

NATIONAL BANK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Are you looking for something to do over Easter? The National Band Championships are being hosted in Brisbane from the 17th – 21st April at St. Laurence’s College, South Brisbane. Seventy-six of the best concert and brass bands from across Australia, Hong Kong and Japan will be performing from daylight til dark. Students may also be interested in watching the Street March on Saturday 19th April. Bands will march from the Treasury Casino to City Hall. It will be a true spectacle! Check out the website at www.nationalbandchampionships.com for more information.

REGIONAL HONOURS CHORAL CAMP

Congratulations to ten of our very talented Honours Choir members who were recently accepted into the Regional Honours Choral Camp that will be held in Bardon and The Old Museum from the 24th–26th March. The three day camp is designed to cater for advanced choral students.

Students attending the camp will have the opportunity to work with renowned choral director Julie Christianson as well as a range of other musicians and accompanists. This is a fantastic opportunity for our talented students to further enrich their musical experience. We wish them all the very best!


PIZZICATO STRINGS CONCERT

A Pizzicato Strings Workshop will be taking place on Thursday, 3rd April in the School Hall. It will showcase our beginner string students and the progress they have made over the past term. There will be a special performance by our String Quartet. Notes and emails have been sent home to parents with relevant information.

CONTACT: Miss Amber Pomroy, Music Teacher.

Sport

LEAGUE CLINICS

Over the past few weeks, Years 1 & 2 students have enjoyed some lessons on Rugby League. Sarah from the NRL has visited classes during PE to teach the children some basic rules and skills. Thank-you Sarah, we have all enjoyed your lessons.
RUNNING CLUB

During the last week of this term, the School Cross Country Team will be selected. We are able to nominate 6 boys and 6 girls for each age group. Age groups are students born 2004, 2003, 2002 & 2001. Selection is based on their best time over two morning runs - Monday 31st March and Wednesday 2nd April. The North District Cross Country will be held on Monday 5th May, 2014.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The McDowall State School Inter-House Swimming Carnival will be held at Wavell State High School pool on Friday 4th April, 2014. The emphasis of the carnival is on participation and enjoyment. Every student who wants to swim can participate regardless of ability. There will be 25m races and 15m races of various strokes. Spectators are welcome but space is limited. Students will be transported to and from the venue by seat-belt fitted buses.

GALA DAYS

Teams have been organised for the Term 2 North District Gala Days. Students have been notified. Training will begin this Friday. Students not travelling away for sport will be involved in a sports programme at school.

(Principal advice) Schools are formally instructed annually not to schedule excursions and events during NAPLAN which affects Years 3, 5 & 7. As highlighted within the Front Page Date Claimers, North District has scheduled Gala Day No. 2 on the NAPLAN Catch-Up Day during which students who have missed one or more tests, not all, can complete them while under the protocols of NAPLAN Testing. This was brought to the attention of North District in January. Being a National Assessment, all eligible students are expected to participate in NAPLAN. It is therefore critical that Years 3, 5, 7 students complete their NAPLAN Testing over 13th – 15th May, (eg. No absenteeism = Catch Up not required.) if McDowall SS is to participate within North District Gala Day No. 2.

SOCCER BOOTS

If your child has grown out of their football boots and they are still in good condition, please consider donating them to the PE Dept. I will lend them out to students for Gala Day Sport.

CONTACT: Mr Paul Henderson, Physical Education Teacher.

REAR SCHOOL PLAY FIELDS CLOSURE

It has been many, many months since our last decent rain. High student recess and OSH Programme usage has worn grass through to bare earth or to exposed root stock. Loss of root stock means that grass will not regrow even if it does rain. Significant expense and re-closure is then required to top dress and returf these areas so needs to be avoided. Both Years 1 and 2 play fields are now closed for use. All Years 1-2 wanting to run around are attending the school oval. The groundsman is doing what he can to keep remaining play field grass alive. An inspection of the school oval also highlights its poor condition due to lack of rain. We will closely monitor the school oval area through into Term 2.

CONTACT: Mr Bruce Fogarty  Principal.

Year 2

HANDS ON EDUCATION

On Friday 21st February, Year 2 classes enjoyed a Hands-on Education - Early Years Workshop which was held in the School Hall. Workshop leader, Barbara, had many items on show and lots of stories to tell. The children liked being able to have a close-up view of many things that we had been talking about in History lessons. The dress-up section was very popular!
BUGS EDUCATION

On the 12th and 13th of February, Year 2 classes attended a small workshop on the life stages of insects. The workshop was run by Kathy from Bugs Ed. Students experienced a multimodal presentation detailing different stages of life and how insects change.

Each student took home an activity pack (featuring stick insect eggs) and classrooms received a poster and magnifying glass. 2J7 was so inspired, they created their own 'Bug Wall'.

CONTACT: Mr Herv Margetic, Year 2 Class Teacher.

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Student News

Maya C in 6C2 recently competed in the 2014 Australian National Yoga Asana Championships in Melbourne. Maya successfully attained 3rd Place in the Youth Division. Maya is a lovely girl and is very modest about her achievement.

Performing at these championships is no easy feat. You are completely alone on stage in front of a large audience and judges. You have no script or direction from your teacher and the room is completely silent. Then there are the hours of committed and disciplined practice that the championships demand of you in terms of preparation. Intimidating stuff for some, and, a big achievement for such a young girl.

CONTACT: Ms Deborah Grimshaw, Class Teacher

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2014 Brisbane Camp Show Nominations

Nominations for the Brisbane Show Camp are now open for Year 6 & 7 Queensland State School Students. The Show Camp is a programme run by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre, a department of Education Queensland, for 20 students to live in at the Brisbane Show for a literacy and multimedia camp. The Brisbane Show Camp runs during the Brisbane EKKA from 8th to 15th August 2014.

The camp aims to -
• develop skills (eg. researching, interviewing, writing, editing, technology use) which will enhance their ability to communicate through a variety of genres within the setting and experiences of the Brisbane Exhibition;
• develop students technology skills through the use of digital video, digital photography and podcasting productions;
• bring together selected students with similar abilities and interests from the whole of Queensland;
• develop friendships;
• enable students to gain a greater appreciation of the importance of the Exhibition to the rural community of the State.

Further information on the camp and how to nominate can be found on www.urbaneeec.eq.edu.au and follow the links to the Show Camp website or by either emailing the centre at showcamp@eq.edu.au or by telephoning the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre on 3552 7111.

The Nomination Form can be downloaded from the website. Nominations for this year’s camp close on 30th May 2014.

CONTACT: Ross Cuthbert, Administration Officer, Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre E rcuth3@eq.edu.au P 3552 7111 F 35527100
Defence Family News

Hello again! It was lovely to see so many happy faces at our March morning tea. Little Heroes has been extremely popular this term. Children have been making crafty items, playing board games, meeting new people, all while having FUN! There is still so much to do before the holidays begin. Don’t forget to log on and have your say in the Defence Childcare Survey. Find the survey at [www.defence.gov.au/dco](http://www.defence.gov.au/dco).

Community Connections
Need to know more about local resources? Want to meet other like-minded Defence partners? Come along and meet local DCO staff. Meeting monthly at:

McLeod Court Park - McDowall 09.30am - 11.00am.
Off Trouts Rd & Margret St
Date: Thursday 27 March, 2014

Defence Special Needs Support Group (DSNSG)
The Brisbane DSNSG regularly holds coffee mornings and lunches.
For further information contact Kim Collins on 0435 933 289 or email kimcollins@dsnsg.org.au

The Salvation Army – Red Shield Defence Services
Offering Homework Club on Thursdays from 3.30pm – 6pm, in partnership with the Sallyman. Afternoon tea is provided.
Please contact: The Salvation Army, 32-54 Hayward St, Stafford (Near Stafford City & Elixir) Phone 3352 6577 http://salvos.org.au/stafford/

Defence Family Helpline
Need advice, support or connection with your local community? Call the DCO Defence Family Helpline on: 1800 624 608
The Defence Family Helpline operates 24-7 and is the best way to access support services or gain referral to your local Defence Community Organisation office.

Please do not hesitate to contact me throughout the year, at cjone404@eq.edu.au or through School Administration. I look forward to catching up with our parents at our next gathering in April.

CONTACT: Mrs Christine Jones – Defence School Transition Aide.

P & C Association

GET READY TO DISCO!!!!

When: Friday 21st March
Where: School Hall
Theme: Neon Nights (wear your brightest fluro colours)
Time: Prep to Year 2 - 5.30 to 7.00pm.
Year 3 to 7 - 7pm to 8.30pm. There will be two distinct discos.
Cost: $5 entry

A $5 Meal Deal is available for pick up at any time before 8pm. (BBQ sausage on a roll, a LOL or similar drink and packet of cookies) Meal Deal orders closed in Flexi-schools on Wednesday.

Wrist bands for those who have ordered them, will be sent home Friday with your child. Students will receive a wristband for entry and a different coloured wristband if they have ordered a meal deal.

Snacks and drinks, crazy hair and glow products will be available for purchase on the night.

Parents, we ask that you stay while your child is attending the disco and if younger siblings are present, they are to stay with parents (Our insurance does not cover non-McDowall State School students).

CONTACT: Mrs Kylie Andrews - Parent Volunteer
ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are currently running an Entertainment Book fundraiser with a percentage of the sale of books going to the P&C Association to raise important funds for our students. Entertainment Books are great as they contain hundreds of 50% or 2-for-1 offers to the best local restaurants, cafes, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and much more!

You can purchase your Entertainment Books online by following the link:

Entertainment Books will also be available outside the Tuckshop on each Wednesday morning (approx 8am to 8.45am) until end of Term 1. Entertainment Books are $65 for up to $20,000 of valuable offers.

If you order on-line before 31st March you will receive an additional $255 in offers.

CONTACT: Mrs Sybil Bentley, Parent Volunteer

SCHOOL BANKING

Up until Wednesday 2nd April, any student who makes a school banking deposit will go into the draw for the Easter Basket competition.

Thanks to the Everton Park Branch of the Commonwealth Bank, we have a wonderful Easter basket jammed packed with loads of Easter goodies! Only two weeks left to make a deposit to be part of the prize draw.

Look out Year 6 & 7's for a Seniors Only competition coming up in Term 2. Students who are currently not school bankers, best sign up now before the holidays so you can participate in our Term 2 Seniors Only competition. Application forms available at School Administration or online at the Commonwealth Bank - Youthsaver Accounts.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy Wright - Student Banking Co-ordinator

Tartan Tuckerbox News

EASTER MEAL DEAL

To celebrate the end of term the Tartan Tuckerbox will be open on Casual Dress day – Thursday 3rd April 2014. This is a Red Food Day. Special Meal Deal options will be available to all students (Prep to Yr 7). What a great introduction to the Tartan Tuckerbox for our Preparatory Year students who can access the Tuckerbox every day from the start of Term 2! If you can volunteer to assist with tuckshop food on this day please contact Mrs Moller at tuckshop@mcdowallss.com or phone (07) 3872 5304.

1st Break - $5.50
- Beef Snack Pie
- Small Chips
- Freddo Chocolate Cookies
- Juice Drink

2nd Break Meal Deals come with a Chocolate Easter Treat!!

2nd Break - $3.00
- Hot Cross Bun (Choice Of Traditional Or Fruitless)
- Mini Calippo Ice Block
- Chocolate Easter Treat

Meal Deals can ONLY be pre-ordered via Flexi Schools – www.flexischools.com.au Orders MUST be placed by 12:00 midday on Monday 31st March, 2014. A computer is available for use at the front counter of the Tartan Tuckerbox if you do not have a computer at home. There is a “How To” use flexischools sheet on the P&C website – www.mcdowallss.com

PLEASE NOTE: Tuckerbox will be closed on last day of Term - Friday 4th April.

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'Rourke, Uniform Shop Convenor

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**Tartan Network News**

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.

In the most recent Tartan Network Meeting Minutes, it was stated that the following classes are yet to have a Tartan Network representative: PA2, PC2, PG4, 1J1, 2O2, 2Q1, 3F2, 4N1, 5G2, 6C2. Please contact Mrs Heather Crabb should you be interested in assuming this role.

CONTACT: Mrs Heather Crabb   Parent Volunteer   Email: tartannetwork@mcdowallss.com

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**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 to promptly attend the Kiss & Ride Facility after dismissal from class. Students assemble under the Shade Structure located beside the tennis courts. This is the only location where student supervision is provided. This is 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.
- 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.
HAVE YOU READ THE SIGNS?

Police and Council Parking Officers can issue hefty fines for illegal parking at Kiss-and-Ride!

WHAT IS REALLY HAPPENING?  

One Recent Afternoon.

2.40pm … Student arrive.  
2.45pm … Most students departed.  
2.50pm … Who owns all these cars?

2.55pm … Any same cars still here?  
3.00pm … Sole P-2 student being accompanied to School Administration.

IS IT REALLY NECESSARY TO BE AT KISS-AND-RIDE RIGHT ON 3PM?  

Same Day.

3.00pm … Queued back past bus stop.  
3.05pm … End of queue moving well.  
3.10pm … End of queue in the distance.

When students arrive at the Kiss-and-Ride Facility from 3.05pm, the vehicle queue moves steadily away. As Yrs 3-7 supervision is provided until at least 3.20pm, there is no reason for Yrs 3-7 vehicles to be accessing this facility, standing stationary with engines and air conditioners running, preventing P-2 vehicle legitimate access between 2.30pm-2.55pm.

Should all parents use this facility as requested, all experience a convenient experience in collecting students from school. If not, parent complaints result in police and parking officers enforcing time limits.

B. T. Fogarty  Principal.
WANT TO JOIN THE “READING FLYING GANG”?  
Please complete the information below and deliver this form to School Administration. 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. Look forward to meeting you!