**Date Claimers**

**June 2014**

- 3 ➢ Tartan Network Meeting 8.30am School Hall
- 4 ➢ Reading Volunteers Afternoon Tea 1.45pm
- 5 ➢ Yr 4 Picasso Art Show & Breakfast 8am-8.45am
- 9 ➢ Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- 10 ➢ 1J – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’
- 11 ➢ 1J5 - Home for Hermit Crab’
- 10-12 ➢ Junior Instrumental Music Camp
- 16-25 ➢ Parent & Teacher Interviews
- 23 ➢ School Art Competition Assembly
- 24 ➢ IJ2 – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’
- 25 ➢ School Art Competition Assembly
- 26 ➢ Student Casual Dress Day $1 fee
- 27 ➢ Inter-House Athletics Field Events – Years 5-7

**General Information**

**SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES**

YEARS 3-7: Monday 8:55am – 9:30am

PREP-YR 2: Wednesday 9:00am – 9:30am

**Key dates for Term 2 Athletics**
- School Cross Country: Friday 20th June
- Inter-House Field Events: Thursday 26th June
- Inter-House Sports Day: Friday 27th June
- Gala Day (Final): Friday 30th May

**School Uniform Shop**

OPEN: Monday and Thursday from 8.15am to 9.30am.

- 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 Uniform (polo shirt) 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Shirley E, Esther D</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Andrea S, Michelle R, Reiko M</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Julie F, Christine B, Stephanie H</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Carla K, Garry L, HELPERS NEED</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Shaleen Y, Joanne T</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Natalie P, Jessica R</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Julie F, Jodie C, Lee P, Angela A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C</td>
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From the Principal

Being a Parent

In the corporate and business world, potential employees present themselves on the basis of their educational achievements and previous experience. The best applicant is selected and the employer inducts and trains their new employee to ensure that they are best prepared to do their new job well. Yet, if we accept, and we should, that childhood, made up of all its experiences, is the foundation on which our children base their future successful engagement within Australian society, we must all highlight the critical role that parents have as the loving, influential, responsible adult in a child’s life. For many years now, I have publicly expressed my concern that in our modern society, we undervalue the significant influence that ‘good parenting’ has on the preparation and continued support for child achievement within formal education. We have this misguided view that the child is just a miniature adult, that they can be treated that way and that over time (perhaps by accidental experience), they will learn responsibility, be mature and successfully make their own way in life. We seem to believe that parents know what to do, when to do it and know how. All these modern beliefs are fanciful and ridiculous. Such beliefs result in parents feeling undervalued, unsupported and increasingly isolated. Such beliefs result in a lack of government funded initiatives and community agencies / organisations capable of either preparing and/or supporting adults as parents. We have seen the modern family unit change and be redefined. We are driven by commercialism and consumerism. Yet, we are most happy when we know that we are loved, when we spend quality time with those whom we love; and when we feel safe and secure. We feel safe and secure when we know what is expected of us, we experience predictable routine, we have behavioural boundaries and understand the consequences for crossing these, we are encouraged and supported, we are treated in a consistent and fair way; and through love, we are developmentally taught, led, guided and encouraged through childhood. We then have a high probability of becoming a productive, happy, responsible adult.

Being an ‘effective’ parent is hard work. Financial means has little relevance. It is not about money nor gifts. Being an ‘effective’ parent is both a challenge and personal investment, giving of oneself, drawing from the very being of the adult (their knowledge, experiences, beliefs, values and time). Why is it that the most important role that any adult can undertake, that of parent, is the role that adults are both least prepared and supported for in our modern society?

Just because through the eyes of a child, we experienced (in whatever form) ‘parenting’ in family and ‘teaching’ at school does not mean that we automatically know how to become ‘effective’ parents nor ‘good’ teachers. Sadly, many misguided people think this is so! Building upon a biological base, we are the sum of our life’s experiences. Both biology and experience result in a unique identity, meaning that there can be ‘no such thing’ as ‘common knowledge’ because, ‘what is truly common’?

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 predetermined learning outcomes within a supportive learning context strengthened by partnerships.

Principal and staff strive to value ‘childhood’ as a special developmental life experience that is all too soon lost. We deliver professional educational teaching services that build on and attempt to complement the personal investment made by parents in the upbringing of their child. Both parent and teacher need to work in ‘partnership’, actively in support and complementing each other.
**School Administration**

**QSchools app**

*Easier access to school information*

The QSchools smartphone app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information and makes staying in touch and up to date a little easier for your family. The QSchools app is integrated with the McDowall State School website and allows users to receive real-time notifications about school events. Simply download from iTunes, Google Play or Window’s store.

**Important alerts**

Receive real-time notifications about State School closures and natural disasters.

**News, events and newsletters**

Access the latest information from McDowall State School.

**School details**

View school details including contact numbers, web address and other related information.

Visit the department’s apps page for more information and all the features: [http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/](http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/)

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**Late Arrivals**

All students who arrive more than 5 minutes late to school must sign in at School Administration. It is a requirement that the student attends School Administration and is either signed in by a parent or guardian; or has a note from their parent explaining the reason for the late arrival. If a student is not accompanied by a parent or guardian; and a note is not received, parents will either be contacted or advised in writing of the student’s late arrival at school.

**Early Departure**

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 the School Administration before the end of second recess, 1:25pm. All students must be collected from School Administration and signed out by a parent/guardian.

**Metro Street School Car Park**

We highly value and seek to support parent volunteers who regularly and consistently support the range of services and activities overseen by the McDowall State School Parents’ and Citizens’ Association. Boom gate access codes have been provided to the managers of the Tartan Tuckerbox and Uniform Shop. It is also available to managers of Book Club, School Banking and Craft Club. It is then up to these managers to distribute the access code to parent volunteers who regularly (not intermittently) and consistently attend the school site in support of these activities. Special events and activities may be supported, noting that only nine parking bays are available at any one time. Enquiries should be directed to the Business Services Manager. Access codes will change on a regular basis.

*P-7 students are invited to enter the Queensland Day Competition. Great book prizes to be won.*
McDowall SS Students Help Launch Jamie Oliver’s Food Revolution

Last Friday, five of our McDowall SS students were invited by Woolworths North-West Plaza to help launch their Jamie Oliver Food Revolution Promotion.

Friday, the 16th May was Food Revolution Day. The focus, was to celebrate the importance of cooking good food from scratch and to raise awareness of how it impacts on our health and happiness.

Students participated in food preparation. They made very healthy Rainbow Wraps using a Jamie Oliver Recipe. They loved making their own wraps using shredded beetroot, pear, cabbage and carrot, feta cheese, mint and parsley, and the secret ingredient – Jamie Oliver’s Yoghurt dressing! Yum!

Jayden E. won a prize for the best wrap and each student received a small gift bag of healthy fruit snacks from Woolworths. A big thank you is extended to Woolworths North-West Plaza for hosting the event. The students really enjoyed preparing and eating their Rainbow Wraps.

Well done to our Year 4 representatives, Jayden E., Morgan B., Rayan A., Dennis S., and Kahli A.
National Simultaneous Story Time

On Wednesday, 21st May students from Prep – Year Three participated in the annual National Simultaneous Story Time. This year’s book was ‘Too Many Elephants in This House’ by Ursula Dubosarsky, a shortlisted book in the Children’s Book Council Book Week awards last year. Each class decorated an elephant before the event and these were displayed across the stage in the School Hall. They looked great! The book was very capably read by Year Five student, Adam C. Adam’s clear voice, great expression and confident presentation was very entertaining. Adam was assisted by his classmate, Charles C. The boys made a great team on the stage. Following the story, the raffle was drawn and won by Reuben C. in 1J5. Reuben won a $20 voucher to spend at a local bookstore. Congratulations Reuben.

NAIDOC Week Book Swap – We need your help!

Just a reminder – in July we are holding our Book Swap and we seek your help. To prepare for the Book Swap, we need donations of books that are no longer needed, from McDowall homes, or at least books that students are prepared to give away for a good cause. Donated books can be brought to the School Library. We’ve already started our Book Swap collection for this year but we need many, many more books!

During NAIDOC Week we will display all donated books and everyone can come in and purchase a book for a gold coin. Money raised through the Book Swap goes toward supporting indigenous literacy.

Book Jackets

Thank you for the book jackets that have been sent in for our feature wall! We are still seeking many more. They need to be in good condition and of children’s fiction titles. Thank you for your help.

CONTACT: Mrs Jan Saunders - Teacher Librarian

Music

Junior Music Camp

Junior Music Camp notes and payment were due on Friday, 16th May, 2014. Parents, please ensure you read all information provided carefully and if you are unsure about anything, please ask Mrs Gyte, Mrs Payne or Miss Pomroy for clarification. Students who did not return notes and payment by this date are unfortunately unable to attend the camp this year.

Please note: The Junior Music Camp will run from Tuesday 10th June to Thursday 12th June, 2014.

(NOT 11-13 June, as previously indicated in the Tartan Times.)
Fanfare

Congratulations to our String Ensemble and Wind Ensemble. Both competed in the state-wide Fanfare competition on Friday 23rd May at Craigslea State High School. Both ensembles performed extremely well, with the Wind Ensemble receiving silver, and the String Ensemble receiving gold. Well Done!

Celebration Concert

It is only 4 weeks until our Term 2 McDowall State School Celebration Concert. It will be held on Wednesday 25th June, 2014 from 6:30pm in the School Hall. A note containing all information and the ticket order form will be sent home with students this week.

Parents that are able to assist with ticket sorting and allocation from 16th June, with raffle sales or set up on the night of the concert, please contact Ms Pomroy. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Second-hand Instrumental Music Uniforms

If you have an Instrumental Music uniform that you no longer need or if you are looking to acquire a second hand uniform, please contact Julie Beardmore on 0413 440 126, and she will assist you with organising to sell or purchase your uniform.

Honours Choir News

McDowall State School’s Honours Choir will be performing as part of the Queensland Youth Music Awards on the evening of Thursday 29 May. The performance will take place at The Gap State High School. Honours Choir has been busily rehearsing for this competition and they are very excited. Not only is this an opportunity to perform. It is also a fantastic opportunity for our students to listen to choirs from across Brisbane. We wish the Honours Choir all the very best for this upcoming event.

CONTACT: Ms Amber Pomroy - Music Teacher

Sports News

Athletics Trials

The Inter-House Athletics Carnival will be held in the last week of this term. To work out who makes the finals and 'A' division races we will be holding athletics trials. Students who are born in 2004, 2003, 2002 and 2001 are eligible to trial. The trials will take place during middle session and afternoon session on Friday, 6th June and Friday, 13th June, 2014.

AFL Gala Day Report

After two North District Gala Days, the senior team is undefeated and the junior team has won 3 and lost 3. Best players for the senior team have been Noah B, Lachlan SC, Cooper B, Siaosi T. Best players for the junior team have been Tory B, Ben S, Jack L, Jet H and Anders M.

CONTACT: Mr Paul Henderson – PE Teacher
Celebration of Childhood Open Morning

The McDowall State School “Celebration of Childhood Open Morning” will be held on Friday 24th October, 2014.

This year we have the Qld Police Pipes and Drums performing under the large Covered Area as well as the Jolly Bops Science Show performing, Moove and Grove with Energy for P-2 and Natural Phenomena and Energy for Years 3-7.

Each year, we invite community organisations and groups who actively support families and children, to join us, setting up shop front information displays. Should your organisation be interested in participating within the Open Morning, please contact Mrs Sandra Christopher, School Administration on 07 3872 5333 or via email on: admin@mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

CONTACT: Mrs Sandra Christopher

Queensland Day Competition for P-7

Queensland Day will be acknowledged on Friday, 6th June, 2014. To celebrate our Great State, the Principal acquired a selection of quality reading books to be awarded as student prizes. Let’s have fun while learning!

P-7 students are invited to enter the Queensland Day Competition by clearly writing their name and class onto one A4 sheet of paper and providing the information sought below. Students may seek teacher and parent assistance if they wish to do so. Each entry must be placed, along with a $1 entry fee, within a secure envelope, into the box located at School Administration. Entries close at 9am on Tuesday 10th June, 2014.
The Principal and Student Councillors will **draw** the required number of student entries from a box for each of Years 4-7. The Principal and School Captains will **draw** the required number of student entries from a box for each of Prep to Year 3. Should a drawn student entry not contain the required written information, it will be discarded and a further student entry will be drawn until all allocated books are awarded. Presentations will be made at Junior Assembly P-2 and during Recess Debriefing Yrs 3-7.

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**What to clearly write on your A4 sheet entry:** 
1. Your name.  
2. Your class.  
3. Respond to:
   - List five famous Queenslanders and state why they should be acknowledged.  
   - List five significant historical Queensland events and state why they should be remembered.

**How should I enter the Queensland Day Competition:** 
Place your A4 sheet entry + $1 into a well sealed envelope. 
Place your envelope into the large box located in the foyer of School Administration by 9am, Monday 10th June.

**CONTACT:** Mr Bruce Fogarty  Principal.

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**P & C Association**

**McDowall State School is turning the big 4 0 !**

Next year, McDowall State School will celebrate it's 40th birthday. We need your help to celebrate it with a big bang! The McDowall State School P&C Association is putting on a FETE and needs many parents to participate in the organisation of this event. Dads, Granddads and Uncles - your help will be particularly appreciated.

The Fete 2015 subcommittee would like to invite you to join us at their next meeting on 29th May 2014 at 3 Blake Close, McDowall from 7:30 pm. In return for your great ideas and a helping hand, we offer light snacks and drinks.

If you are not sure, please come and see – no obligation!

**CONTACT:** Fete 2015 Subcommittee
Avoid the Queue's use Flexischools

Don’t forget most Uniform Shop items can be ordered via Flexischools [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and delivered to your child’s classroom on Mondays and Thursdays.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone for your patience during the weeks when the EFTPOS facility was unavailable. All systems are working again now!

Thanks to our wonderful Mum Vicki W, who volunteered to iron all the band vests after they had been washed.

CONTACT: Mrs Di O'Rourke, Uniform Shop Convenor
uniformshop@mcdowallss.com

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**Uniform Opening Hours**

Monday and Thursday mornings 8:15 to 9:30am

**Winter Uniforms are in stock!**

- Micro fibre jackets $47.00
- Green fleece pants $23.00
- Green fleece jackets $23.00

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**Tartan Tuckerbox News**

Tuckshop Food is Yummy & Healthy!

Did you know that we make many of our hot food items in the Tuckshop, using fresh veggies, low fat meat and reduced salt options where possible. We now offer vegetarian options every day!

**Yummy Winter Warmers!**

**Tuesdays:** Pasta Bolognese made with at least 3 types of veggies and low fat mince. Try Pasta Neapolitan (V) made with tomato pasta sauce, fresh onion, zucchini and carrot.

**Wednesdays:** Delicious Beef Burgundy Casserole on rice with heaps of hidden vegetables, made in the Tuckshop. Try our kids fish shapes or the very popular Potato Gems (V). Don’t forget the sauce - BBQ or Tomato!

**Thursdays:** Gourmet Beef Sausage Roll - made in the Tuckshop with reduced fat/ reduced salt pastry, onion, spinach, zucchini, carrot and 5 star beef mince. Try a Vegetarian Sausage Roll with ricotta, spinach, potato and onion.

**Fridays:** Creamy Chicken Carbonara or Macaroni Cheese (V) with hidden veggies!
On-line Ordering – Flexi Schools:

Tuckshop can only be ordered online using flexischools. Orders are prepared in the Tartan Tuckerbox & sent to individual classrooms.

Flexischools is very easy to use. A detailed “How To” is available on the P&C website www.mcdowalss.com. Alternatively, paper copies are available at the Tartan Tuckerbox. You can access flexischools via the school website or directly at www.flexischools.com.au.

Birthday’s:

If your child is celebrating their Birthday, consider saving yourself the effort of baking or shopping for a cake by purchasing their class ice-blocks or cupcakes from the Tartan Tuckerbox. You will find this option on the flexischools menu.

Volunteering for Tuckshop:

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to volunteer at the Tartan Tuckerbox. If you can spare the whole day or perhaps just a few hours, please contact Mrs Anelle Moller, Tuckshop Manager by email, telephone or pop by the Tuckerbox.

CONTACT: Phone: (07) 3872 5304, tuckshop@mcdowalss.com

Defence Family News

Defence Families of Australia has launched a family survey to provide concrete data on the efficacy of existing support services and to identify needs not being met. The survey is unique in an increasingly family-aware Defence space in seeking family views independent of the ADF/Permanent or Reserve members and with anonymity and confidentiality guaranteed.

“The opinions of families matters,” said DFA National Convenor Robyn Ritchie. “This data, combined with discussions at DFA consultation meetings around the country over the coming months can be used to assist decision-makers as to where and how to allocate its Defence community resources. As government tightens the belt, it is important that we give the Department and Minister the vital information needed about your needs as a Defence family when making tough decisions about resourcing.”

Previous DFA annual survey feedback has been used by DFA to advocate for and achieve improvements in housing standards, base access, health, education, child care and deployment support services. Each Defence family should complete one survey response. Respondents may be partners, parents, children and ADF members, permanent or Reserve, responding on behalf of their family. It should be noted that most questions are directed to the family members living with an ADF member.

Running late in the mornings or the kids have morning sport?

We have raisin toast and delicious fruity yoghurt crunch (muesli, fruit and yoghurt) for breakfast or the first break menu.
Any personal information collected is for statistical purposes only. The survey is anonymous and voluntary and you can stop participating at any time. If you have not yet signed up to receive DFA’s newsletters, there is an opportunity to do so at the end of the survey.

The survey will run until 30th June, and can be shared via this link: http://www.dfa.org.au/survey

Yours Sincerely,

CONTACT: Ms Caetlin Watch, National Delegate – Southern Queensland, Defence Families of Australia

Partner Employment and Education Program (PEEP)

PEEP may be of assistance to you, if... you are looking for employment or considering study .... you are a Defence Recognised Partner .... your partner has over four years of service in the ADF and you have relocated on posting within the last two years. Come along to find out more!

Where: DCO Brisbane, 71 Osborne Road, MITCHELTON. When: Monday 16th June, 2014.

Two sessions: 10.30am to 11.30am or 7pm to 8pm (Both sessions will provide the same information).
For more info or to RSVP: (07) 3354 0500
(Please Note: Ex-Serving Members, APS employees are generally not eligible and post-graduate education will not be funded.)

CONTACT: Mrs Chris Jones - DSTA  cjone404@eq.edu.au

Walk Safely To School Day 2014

BT Fogarty  Principal.