Picasso at McDowall State School

On the morning of 5th June, you could have been forgiven for thinking there was a Pablo Picasso exhibition in E block here at McDowall State School. As part of the school’s annual art competition, artwork from Year 4 students was on display for all to enjoy, along with a tasty assortment of treats for breakfast.

The morning was an outstanding success, with many parents, grandparents, siblings and friends coming along to admire the amazing creative talents of our Year 4 students.

Year 4 teachers would like to thank everyone who joined us on the day, especially those who kindly brought along a plate of food to share. We would also like to congratulate the following students for being selected as our Year 4 semi-finalists. They will now go through to the final round of the McDowall State School Art Competition 2014, to be announced on Monday 23rd June (Prep to Year 2) and Wednesday 25th June (Years 3 to 7).

Class 4E1 – Mr Mills
Aohang D – Sienna M – Maria S – Hunter G

Class 4E2 – Ms Sexton / Ms Oldham
Abbie B – Sophie C –
Taghizadeh Moghaddam M – Stokes J

Class 4E3 – Ms Kyle
Kahli A – Lucas H – Connor Z – Elisha R

Class 4E4 – Ms Hurst
Ella F – Charlotte F – Jacinta H – Levi A

Class 4N1 – Ms Dolan / Ms Pedwell
Theodore A – Jacob T – Ella B – Jorja S
PRINCIPAL’S GALLERY

Every day, in every classroom, McDowall State School teachers and students achieve high standards.

Each week, the ‘Principal’s Gallery’ in the School Administration foyer, showcases some of their work. Upcoming classes to be featured:

16 – 20 June PB1
23 – 27 June PB2

For those of you unable to see this work first-hand, here are some highlights from the last fortnight from classes 3F3 and 1J6:

Principal’s Post

We Must Teach Self-Responsibility

From the time that an adult becomes a parent, their life dramatically changes. After the euphoria of a new birth, the new parent begins to feel the weight of societal expectations, beliefs and values that appear to define what a ‘good’ parent is and does. A new parent must learn to accept that it is no longer just about ‘them’ but about ‘us’. The term self-responsibility is redefined. New parents read widely, perhaps search the internet and are often supported by close family. Everybody seems to have an opinion, will tell stories of their experiences and offer advice. In time, this ‘celebratory response’ offered to the new parent from those around them, evolves into expectation, observation, critique and at times, judgement measured against a personal or peer group view of what a ‘good’ parent should do in both educating the child in social norms and in responding to child behaviour. These parenting pressures escalate depending on the number of children within the family. These pressures are often unfair and unjust.

As previously stated in the “Tartan Times”, collectively we undervalue the significant influence that ‘good parenting’ has on the preparation and continued support for child achievement and eventual success in adult life. This relationship cannot be ‘outsourced’. Both the parent and the child are individuals, from birth, both biologically and in terms of how their life journey has shaped their knowledge, beliefs, values and decision-making capability. Every parent brings a unique aspect into the parent / child relationship and every child (even within the same family) will respond differently to how they are brought up by their parent. It is therefore, unhelpful for another parent to expect that their parenting experiences will be the same as the new parent and very improbable that should such parenting occur, the same outcome in child upbringing will result. We are all unique individuals separated physically and by who we are as people. Society is but a collective of different individuals brought together by a majority historical, administrative, cultural and behavioural point of view that best delivers quality of life. Society evolves by valuing both difference and endorsing ‘beneficial’ change. A stable society is maintained by both solid basal expectations that ensure that the essential needs of citizens (including children) are met. Eg. Love, shelter, food, protection, clothing, education, etc and yet provides for parental flexibility in how they may best bring up their child, in responding to individual needs. Therefore, there will always be a tension between the views of the many and how a parent exercises their responsibility towards their child. This is responsible freedom. So it is not so much about ‘how’ parenting occurs, should it meet basal expectations, but whether or not the child has learnt critical lessons within life to best prepare them for a productive, happy, responsible adult life.
Being an ‘effective’ parent is hard work. The worst thing that any parent can do, is to disengage. It is a relationship based experience for which there is no ‘Guide Book’. If anyone tells you that they know all the ‘answers’, avoid them. At best, you can establish a framework or a plan, against which you may reflect and review your actions as a parent. Life is a ‘learning’ experience, child by child. This will shape and redefine your future approach. No matter how skilled a parent is, children are full of surprises. Having a framework or plan, better prepares parents for these surprises, ensures that the parent has planned quality ‘time out’, decreases emotional reactive responsiveness; and provides the parent with ‘peace of mind’ that their parenting strategy is purposeful. There are no guarantees but you’ve given it your best shot! The greatest gift that a parent can give is ‘love’ and ‘time’.

The Birth to 12 years are a window of opportunity during which children can 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 that children have is that the adults in their life simply too often react to what children do, instead of assuming responsibility for the situation, taking control and acting like mature adults. If the parent (or teacher) has no real clear plan for their teaching of ‘self-responsibility’ all that a child can do is attempt to react properly. This is a ‘hit and miss’ strategy that may or may not, result in child learning and increased self-independence. With clear goals in terms of what children are to learn and achievement benchmarks in mind, parents can act, take the initiative and better prepare their child for an exciting destiny.

Responsibility means to become mature in the sense of being responsible to family, to self and to society. Responsibility means 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; and for our freedom. Responsibility is not the result of maturity but the cause of it.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Student Progress Reports will be issued to students on Monday 23rd June, 2014. Parent / Teacher Interviews are scheduled to be held from Monday 16th June through to Friday 27th June, although class teachers will issue notices indicating their personal availability. Parents are requested to book a time and the class teacher will confirm this mutual agreement to meet. Mid-Year Parent / Teacher Interviews are for a maximum time period of 15mins.

The purpose of any Parent / Teacher Interview is to “focus on the child”, reflect on student progress to date, celebrate achievements, identify barriers to further improvement; and then to work in partnership to deliver sought achievement within the shortest possible time frame. It is the parent’s choice whether or not they wish to attend a formal Parent / Teacher Interview. If parents have already been in contact with the class teacher during the semester, there may not be a need to attend Parent / Teacher Interview at this time.

School policy requires “truth in reporting” and that there is a general expectation that there should be “no surprises” within a Student Progress Report for either a parent or student. Realistically, as a child progresses through Year Levels, the work expectations, standards and complexity of work will increase in order to achieve all Student Progress Report ratings. This may result in rating variation from one year to the next. These variations may require discussion. The Australian Curriculum is constantly under review and refinement.

The Parent / Teacher Interview should reinforce the relationship between teacher and parent. Parent / Teacher Interviews should focus on how the parent and teacher will in partnership, effect further student achievement within the next reporting period.

TIPS FOR PARENTS ATTENDING INTERVIEW

Parent / Teacher Interviews are scheduled for 15-20 minutes duration. 5 minutes is afforded for social greeting and farewell. This means that both the teacher and parent must be prepared and organised for the interview. Prepare discussion points to ensure the productive use of time.

The parent must be punctual to the interview or their time at Parent / Teacher Interview will either be shortened or forfeit. There is no guarantee that rescheduling can occur. Parent / Teacher Interviews consume valuable out-of-work hours family time for both parent and teacher.
Interviews are held because both parent and teacher seek to improve student learning outcomes. Should a parent not be able to attend a booked Parent / Teacher Interview, it is courteous for the teacher to be advised as soon as possible. Parent / Teacher Interviews must run to time so when time is up, the interview must end. Teachers will use a range of methods to monitor interview length. Often there is another parent waiting to attend their interview. It is not appropriate to extend time into another parent’s interview. Teachers are not permitted to extend Parent Teacher Interviews into student instruction / supervision time.

The teacher may expect that an interview will need longer than 15 minutes and will plan for this within the schedule. If this did not occur, and both parent and teacher believe that further productive discussion is required, a second mutually agreed meeting may be arranged for a future date and time. A planned extended interview may involve a review of an Individual Education Plan or Individual Learning Support Plan.

The teacher must always be prepared to give an accurate and honest appraisal of the child’s work and progress. The teacher needs the parent to provide an accurate and honest appraisal of home issues that may affect student progress at school. Without judgement, in partnership, both parent and teacher then plan how they will build from present achievements and together, better support the child to achieve best possible student learning outcomes.

**Official School Website**

The McDowall State School maintains one on-line official presence and that is the school website: [www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au](http://www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au) linked to the Q Schools app. This website is formatted and hosted by the Department of Education, Training and Employment. It is authorised by the Principal and is maintained by School Administration staff.

The McDowall State School Parents’ and Citizens’ Association conducts their own separate on-line presence at: [www.mcdowallss.com](http://www.mcdowallss.com) and through FaceBook. This website is authorised by the P&C Association and is maintained by a P&C Association nominated parent volunteer. McDowall State School Parents’ and Citizens’ Association authorised correspondence, notices and communications are required to clearly identify the source as being the P&C Association. All official correspondence requires the endorsement of a constituted P&C Association General Meeting before it can be issued.

It is fairly easy to establish an on-line site whether it be a website or Facebook presence. Often such a presence is established out of good intention, but parents need to be very cautious. No on-line presence, correspondence, information statement nor notice can be made that portends, pretends, imitates or leads people to believe that any such communication originates from the McDowall State School, when it does not. Additionally, any such presence that may tarnish, defame, slander or bring the McDowall State School’s reputation into disrepute, will be referred to the Department of Education, Training and Employment for formal intervention and resolution. The Queensland Government retains copyright ownership over the School Name and Emblem.
School Council Elections 2014

The McDowall State School Council meets five to six times annually to guide the broad strategic direction of the school. The School Council (a) monitors the school strategic direction (b) approves plans and policies of the school that are strategic in nature (c) monitors the implementation of these plans and policies; and (d) provides advice to the Principal about strategic matters. The McDowall State School Council does not interfere with school management undertaken by the Principal, make operational decisions, control funds or establish sub-committees.

The McDowall State School Council meets at School Administration on a scheduled Tuesday from 7pm to 8pm.

The McDowall State School Council membership is constituted as:
- Principal – Official Member
- P&C Association President – Official Member
- Four Elected Staff Members – Two Teachers and Two Non-teaching Staff
- Four Elected Parent Members

Elected Members have a tenure of two years. From the eight Elected Members, two Staff Members and two Parent Members retire annually. A School Council Election is therefore held annually. Retiring members may renominate for a further two year tenure should they wish to do so. Both Principal and P&C Association President wish to sincerely thank the following retiring members for their commitment and resolve in establishing a fully constituted School Council during the past 12 months.

- Kathleen Beevers
- Soraya Bews
- Sally-Ann Summers
- Paul Johnson

To be eligible for election as an Elected Member of Staff, a person must:
- Not be an Official Member.
- Not have been convicted of an indictable offence.
- Attend a meeting called for the purpose of electing Staff Members.
- Be a member of staff at McDowall State School.
- Lodge a Nomination Form with the Returning Officer.

To be eligible for election as an Elected Parent Member, a parent must:
- Not be an Official Member.
- Not have been convicted of an indictable offence.
- Attend a meeting called for the purpose of electing Parent members.
- Be the parent of a child attending the McDowall State School.
- Lodge a Nomination Form with the Returning Officer.

The ballot count will be conducted by the Returning Officer (and two assistants) as soon as possible after casting ballot closure. If the number of received nominations are the same or fewer than the required Elected Members, then the School Council Election will not proceed. The Nominees may be considered elected.
Is Pluto a Planet?

Year 5 – Planetarium Excursion

On Wednesday 21st May, Year 5 went on excursion to the Brisbane Planetarium. It was great fun. When we arrived we went into the foyer and we had to fill in a sheet about our solar system. There was also a gallery from where we found the information. The sun, planets and asteroids each had their own section. We saw a replica of Apollo 11 and of the Saturn V rocket. It showed how small an astronaut would be compared to the spaceship. I was shocked! It was amazing! Who would have thought how small we would be compared to the rocket?

Once we had finished in the gallery, we moved inside the dome. There were really comfy chairs that leaned back and we were told to look up at the ceiling. We could see all the different planets and they were zoomed up really close. My favourite planet is Pluto. Did you know Pluto is only the size of Canada? That is why Pluto is no longer considered a planet. It still is really interesting though because it is so different from the other planets.

Overall I believe all Year 5 enjoyed their day as much as I did.

Emily 5/6D2

Last Wednesday 21st May, Year 5 went on an excursion to the Brisbane Planetarium. We were all very excited. When we arrived we were handed a sheet and we had to complete research, finding information from the gallery walls. Some of the questions were: “What is the name of Jupiter’s volcanic moon?” “When was the first space station launched?” The one I was most fascinated by was, “Which asteroid was visited by a spacecraft called Dawn?”

One of my favourite parts of the excursion was when we went inside the dome. We sat back and looked up at the ceiling and saw many of the wonderful things that are out there in space like the planets, the asteroid belt and even some far away stars.

Another favourite of mine was the replica of Neil Armstrong’s space suit. The suit looked real. It even had dirt rubbed on it just as if it had really been on a trip to the moon.

I thought our trip to the planetarium was fantastic!

Ali 5/6D2
School Library News

NAIDOC Week Book Swap

Thank you so much to all the people who have been so generous in donating books for our book swap for NAIDOC Week. Please keep them coming!

NAIDOC Week is in the second week of the mid-year school holidays so we have decided to hold our book swap in the last week of this term.

Please come into the School Library on either day and for a gold coin donation, you can ‘purchase’ one of the donated books. All money raised will go toward indigenous literacy. Any books left over will be donated to Lifeline.

This is a great opportunity to celebrate NAIDOC Week and to support indigenous literacy. We will be accepting donations of books right up until the book swap. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Reading Hour

Next term is a busy one in the School Library with many of our activities focused around Book Week – Celebrated at school from Monday 18th August to Friday 22nd August, 2014.

We’ll be holding our annual Reading Hour during Book Week on Tuesday, 19th August from 6:00 – 7:00pm. Don’t forget to set this date in your diary! Read about more this year’s Book Week activities in the next newsletter!

CONTACT: Mrs Saunders – Teacher Librarian

Queensland Day Competition Winners

Prep Alicia L (PB1), Samantha W (PA1), Sara B (PA1), Joshua C (PA1), Jayden J (PB1), Caitlin B (PG4)

Year 1 Isaac H (1J1), Zara F (1J3), Meribelle R (1J6), Gustin R (1J3)

Year 3 Kevin L (3F3), Harry B (3F4), Nathan C (3F2)

Year 4 Owen I (4E1), Catherine R (4E4), Aidan R (4E1)

Year 5 Emily C (5G3), Stella F (5G2)

Year 6 Lachlan R (5/6D2), Mahan M (6C3), Maya C (6C2), Finn C (6C2)

Year 7 Molly H (7D4), Isabel T (7D4), Diana Y (7D4), Carly L (7D3)
**Music News**

**Performing Arts Celebration Concert – 25th June, 2014**

A note containing event information and the ticket order form has been sent home with all involved students. Please ensure ticket order forms and money are returned asap to ensure you have a seat at the concert.

A huge “thank you” to all the parents who offered their assistance in support of the concert. It is greatly appreciated by all students and staff at McDowall State School, and really does make the event run much more smoothly.

**Instrumental Music Uniforms**

If you have an instrumental music uniform that you no longer need or if you are looking to purchase 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. All students in the Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Adagio Strings, and String Ensemble are required to wear the instrumental music uniform as outlined within the Celebration Concert note. As stated in the Instrumental Music Policy Document, please note that Junior Strings students are required to wear their usual Tartan School Uniform, NOT the Instrumental Music Uniform.

CONTACT: Ms Pomroy - Music Teacher

**Pitch Perfect**

**Honours Choir News**

A very excited Honours Choir performed in the Queensland Youth Music Awards (QYMA) on Thursday evening, the 29th May, 2014. Students competed against choirs from a number of private and state primary schools across north Brisbane. In a hotly contested heat, our choir was awarded a silver certificate.

The students sang beautifully and were given some lovely feedback about their performance. Some of the adjudicator’s comments included:

“You have a lovely, well-balanced sound, free of tension. Congratulations!”

“I enjoyed your discipline and level of preparation. Impressive work.” Peter Ingram – Adjudicator – QYMA

A hearty “congratulations” to all students in our Honours Choir. They have worked so hard this year. A big “thank-you” to the mums and dads for supporting their child’s choral singing – it is very much appreciated!

A very excited Honours Choir

**Sports News**

**Gala Sports Day Results**

**AFL**
A big “congratulations” to our senior AFL team who won all three games and went through the competition undefeated! Well done to the whole senior team, in particular our players of the day, Alex H, Ben E and Daniel P. Our junior AFL team also did extremely well, winning two of their three games on the final Gala Day. Our junior team players of the day were Tory B, Jet H and Keiren B.

**Netball**
Well done to the senior girls netball team who were overall winners for their competition! In a nail-biting finish, they won their final game by only one goal.

Please return any school jerseys to your coach asap. For students who borrowed football boots, please return these to the Sports Room.

**Running Club**
Continues on Monday and Friday 8am for all students.

**CONTACT:** Mr Henderson – PE Teacher

**Defence Family News**

Great news for our McDowall State School defence families …. We have been successful in receiving funding for the Defence School Transition Aide position for the 2014/2015 financial year. I look forward to continuing to support your children during their time here at McDowall State School.

This term is flying by; soon, news of postings will begin filtering through. Please notify your class teacher and/or myself so that we can support your child through this transition period.

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 Defence Parent Morning Tea on Tuesday 24th June at 8.45am.

Defence Families of Australia has launched a family survey to determine the effectiveness of existing support services and to identify needs not currently being met. In an increasingly family-aware defence space, this survey is unique as it seeks to gain the views of families, independent of the ADF (permanent or reserve members). Survey respondents will remain anonymous and their confidentiality is guaranteed. The survey will run until 30th June. To complete the survey, visit [http://www.dfa.org.au/survey](http://www.dfa.org.au/survey)

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

Active School Travel

Thank you to all who participated in the National Walk Safely to School morning on Friday 23rd May, 2014. We had a great turnout and the children had a brilliant time playing on the oval and tennis courts with the giant and blow up beach balls.

Special thanks to Ms Angela T, Ms Justine F and Ms Julie F for co-ordinating the walk registrations from each of the start points.

The Active School Travel (AST) committee would like to thank Mrs Dolan (4N1) for being our teacher representative and getting the word out there to the teachers. A big thank you to Mr Mills (4E1), Mr Margetic (2J7) and Mr Theodorou (student teacher - 4N1) for coming down to the oval to run the ball game activities. Thanks to Mr Fogarty, Ms Grimshaw (PC1) and Mrs Thistlethwaite (PB1) for taking the time to walk with us and support the AST cause.

Finally, thanks to the wonderful parents who took the time to participate with their children.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy W - AST Coordinator and Parent Volunteer

School Banking News

Incentive Banking Competition

This Years 6-7 competition is now underway. For those students who have not started banking yet, you still have time this term to make the three deposits required for competition entry. Up for grabs is a $50 deposit courtesy of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) - Everton Park branch.

Win a Trip to Sea World!

Would you like to stay at the Sea World Resort for five nights, plus have access to major theme parks on the Gold Coast? All you need to do is make one deposit during Term 2 to be eligible for the draw. The more you deposit, the more chances you have at winning! There are also fantastic runner-up prizes. See the CBA website for more information. See Mrs Wright (in OSH) each Wednesday or collect a CBA Parent Information Envelope from the office.

Trivia Night – Postponed

Due to the Trivia Master’s hectic schedule, we have had to postpone our Trivia Night. Are you a hero? Are you a villain? Trivia Night will be held in October 2014. More information and ticket sales coming up in Term 3.

Save The Date

More Than Words is an accomplished musical group born out of the Queensland Show Choir. They have performed at the Brisbane Festival, in Brisbane Sings and have fronted for La Forza. This is an adult’s only night and our major fundraising event for the year. Please come along and support your school. It will be a spectacular event and one not to be missed!

Register your interest now: kathy.wright@queenslandshowchoir.com.au
P&C Association - continued

Sports Day ‘Meals Deal’ - Friday 27th June, 2014

As a special treat for Sports Day, order your child a Meal Deal, consisting of a BBQ sausage on a roll, pepper, packet of chips & vanilla paddle pop - all for $6.00. Teachers will distribute wristbands to students on Friday morning and they must be worn by the student to collect the Meal Deal.

Normal tuckshop will NOT be available on the day but snacks, drinks, chips etc. can be purchased during the day from a stall on the oval. [Reminder: RED FOOD Day]

Sports Day Volunteers Needed

We need lots of help to make Sports Day a success. We need your help:

- Cooking at the BBQ
- Serving on the Cake Stall
- Selling raffle tickets
- Serving Meal Deals

It is critical that we have enough helpers for these activities. Not only is this a P&C Association fundraiser with funds being invested back into the school; the students love the excitement of a Meal Deal and a Sports Day “Shop”.

We will need to cook approximately 800 sausages on the day and serve almost 600 meal deals. This is NOT possible without YOUR help. If we don’t get enough volunteers, students will not have a BBQ meal.

As the BBQ cooks, cake stall helpers and raffle sellers will be located on the oval, you’ll get the opportunity of seeing your child race!

We also need cakes and other goodies for sale at the cake stall. Please can you help?

Packaging and Dropping Off Home-Made Items

- Please drop home-made items to the Cake Stall (on the oval) on the morning of Friday 27th June, 2014.
- Please ensure all cakes are sliced or made as cupcakes. Please ensure that slices are in serving size pieces.
- Items do not need to be individually wrapped. They can arrive in containers/plastic plates. Please ensure containers are named and collected during the day.
- Please provide a sheet with the item(s) that you are supplying along with an ingredients list (this allows us to inform customers, if they request it). No nuts please.

CONTACT: Ms Jodi B - Parent Volunteer, email: shops@mcdowallss.com

Sports Day Hair Decorations

The Uniform Shop has a lovely selection of Sporting House coloured hair decorations. Get in quick before they sell out!

CONTACT: Mrs Di O - Uniform Shop Convenor, email: shops@mcdowallss.com
**Safe School Access and Departure**

**Safe Kiss and Ride Facility Use**

Children are not to leave the concrete footpath beside the school-fence-line and enter the Kiss and Ride Facility Car Park (walking between cars) unless accompanied by an adult. Student safety is our priority. As a Brisbane City Council Car Park Facility, pedestrians have right of way and all drivers must exercise extreme care and caution. Should the Kiss-and-Ride Facility Lane be full and it is possible for a vehicle to enter the Car Park area, please do so. It just means that the adult will need to safely collect their child from the Kiss-and-Ride Facility Student Waiting Area and return to their vehicle.

A member of school staff provides student supervision with the Kiss and Ride Facility Student Waiting Area for approximately 20mins from time of student dismissal from class. It takes at least 5mins for students to arrive at the Kiss and Ride Facility Student Waiting Area. Many parents plan their arrival time for child collection knowing that this student supervision is in place. This often proves very convenient and stress free for them. School staff will not direct traffic nor accompany children through the Car Park Area. Students should enter vehicles stopped beside the Kiss and Ride Lane kerb from the footpath side only.

Parents must not enter and block the Kiss and Ride Facility Lane knowing that their child will be late or at the wrong time. If a lengthy pick up delay is expected, please relocate your vehicle into a Car Park Bay.

The McDowall State School understands that parking is a premium around the school so does not permit organisations to operate after school events on the oval / tennis courts area before 3.10pm. Parents seeking to attend these after school events must not block the Kiss and Ride Facility Lane. They should not be parking within the Car Park Area before 3.10pm (if BCC signage permits).

**Safe Traffic Light Use and Road Crossing**

P-7 students are instructed and reminded on safe road crossing procedure at School Assembly. They are also instructed on safe use of the Rode Road traffic light facility. As often as possible, the Principal stands near to the traffic lights facility to remind students of this procedure. Recently, an elderly driver reportedly sped through a red traffic light causing adults on the traffic light crossing to promptly ‘get out of the way’. It is therefore timely to remind all of safe, defensive practice.

Press the crossing button and wait safely back from the Rode Road kerb. Wait for the pedestrian light to turn ‘green’. Ensure vehicles are stopping.

When using the crossing, walk within the crossing lines. Don’t run, bounce balls or be distracted from watching all approaching traffic. Ensure that all traffic stops. Your first priority is to keep yourself safe. You can never be sure what another road user will do.

When the pedestrian light begins to flash red, stop and wait on the concrete footpath. The flashing light means that pedestrians on the crossing have time to complete the journey safely but those still to set foot on the bitumen do not. Be aware that vehicles from Foambark Street will begin to cross the road.

Ensure that all pedestrians are able to get onto the next footpath. Do not block the Rode Rd crossing if waiting to cross Foambark Street at the traffic lights.

Never cross a road or a street anywhere but at the traffic lights, if they are provided. Young children must be accompanied by an adult or a responsible elder sibling. It is best to hold hands while crossing.
What’s Happening

JUNE 2014

16-27 ➢ Parent / Teacher Interviews
20 ➢ Inter-House Cross Country P-7 8.30am-10.30am
23 ➢ School Art Competition assembly for Yrs 3-7
➢ Student Progress Reports issued
➢ UJ4 – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’ excursion
24 ➢ UJ2 – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’ excursion
➢ P & C Association General Meeting 7pm K Block
25 ➢ School Art Competition assembly for P-2
➢ Winter Photographs – Choirs / Sports
➢ Performing Arts Celebration Concert 6.30pm
➢ UJ3 – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’ excursion
26 ➢ Student Casual Dress Day $1 fee to Student Council
➢ Inter-House Athletics - Field events Years 5-7
➢ UJ6 – ‘Home for Hermit Crab’ excursion
27 ➢ Inter-House Athletics – Track events P-7 From 8.30am
➢ School Council Nominations close
28 – 13 ➢ SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

JULY 2014

14 School starts – Term 3
OSH Sub-Committee Meeting
17 Brainstorm Productions – “Pastoral Care”
P-2 @ 8.30am Yrs 3-5 @ 12.15pm Yrs 6-7 @ 2pm
18 Year 1 - 100 Days Activity Day
21 Sports Assembly Yrs 5-7
23 P & C Association General Meeting 7pm K Block

Where’s My Jumper?

Winter is finally here. Parents are requested to please ensure that all jumpers and other removable clothing items such as scarves, are clearly marked with your child’s name, so they can be returned if lost? Thanks in advance.

Tartan Tuckerbox

Don’t have a computer or need some help with Flexischools?

A computer is available for use at the Tartan Tuckerbox if you do not have a computer at home. There is also a “How to” factsheet for help on using Flexischools on the P&C website www.mcdowallss.com.

CONTACT: Mrs Anelle M - Tuckshop manager
Email: tuckshop@mcdowallss.com

School Uniforms

Uniform Shop
Open Monday and Thursday
8:15am – 9:30am

Uniform Code

Daily
➢ Tartan or red polo shirt uniform (at school)

Tartan Day
➢ Tartan uniform only (when specified)

Friday
➢ House shirt uniform (at school)
➢ Red polo shirt uniform (interschool sport)

Other
➢ As formally advised (excursions and special events)
➢ 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

13/06 Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C
17/06 Michelle B, Leah C
18/06 Stacey D, Kim S
19/06 Ashleigh S, Belinda I, Danel S
20/06 Lara J, Carla T, Julie F
24/06 Tracey H, Leah C
25/06 Judy M, Joy M
26/06 Suzanne D, Gail A, Dianne B-P
27/06 Michelle M, Enza M, Susan P