Bob the Builder and Bagpipes?

Most of us know the 'Bob the Builder' theme song verse for verse - but have you ever heard it played by bagpipes and drums? If you came along to our School Open Morning last Friday 24th October, you would have seen this unique and very entertaining performance by the Queensland Police Pipes and Drums self identified as 'Kops in Kilts'.

Thanks also to Senior Constable Nicole Seden from the Arana Hills Police Station for joining us on the morning. Nicole spoke to our students about a range of personal safety issues, and of course, demonstrated the lights and siren of the police vehicle! We were also lucky enough to have the firefighters and fire truck from the Arana Hills Fire Station to share some very important fire safety information.

Thank you to Bunya Lions for cooking our sausage sizzle and to our numerous stallholders, including: Everton Tennis Centre, Key Martial Arts, the Girl Guides (Brisbane North Region), the Chermside & District Historical Society, Bunyaville Environmental Education Centre, Downfall Creek Environmental Education Centre, Metro North Oral Health Service (Qld Health), The Kindy Garden, Avenues Early Learning Centre, Everton Park C&K Kindy, the Commonwealth Bank Australia (School Banking Programme) and BrisBricks Inc. Last, but certainly not least, to the amazing Jollybops and their entralling science shows.
Principal’s Post

Instrumental Music Programme 2015

McDowall State School is committed to delivering a quality and robust Instrumental Music Programme and we acknowledge that many more parents would like their child to participate within this extra-curricula programme. Responding to this challenge, presents an extraordinary opportunity to McDowall SS parents and students. An Instrumental Music Programme flier and Expression of Interest notice has been issued to all students across Years 2-5 this week. Please take the time to consider your child’s involvement and if you need convincing, undertake some personal research on what it costs to privately learn a musical instrument. On average, your child could do so at the McDowall State School at an 80% price discount. There are additional savings if your child will be in Year 3 as all involved Year 3 students may hire their instrument from the school. If your child is in Years 4-6 and learning a specified large, expensive instrument, that instrument too, may be hired from the school. Eg. Tenor saxophone, cello, etc.

Although, all students across Years 2-5 (2014) are invited to lodge an Expression of Interest for inclusion within the programme both parents and children need to ensure that they can deliver on the commitments necessary for programme inclusion.

- An Instrumental Music Fee of $240pa applies to all students. Over 40 school weeks this is $6 wk. Can the family afford this commitment by February, 2015? If a little extra time is needed, the Business Service Manager may mutually agree to a realistic payment plan.

- Only Year 3 students will be guaranteed a hire instrument and only for 12months. Those Years 4-6 students learning a specified large, expensive instrument (value in excess of $1,000) will also be guaranteed a hire instrument. If your Years 4-6 child is learning a flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, percussion (general), violin or viola, you must purchase and maintain your own instrument.

- There must be student commitment to disciplined weekly practice and participation in scheduled ensembles and performances. The required school uniform must be worn.

- There is no requirement that a student must excel in their academic studies. Learning an instrument develops, enhances and refines ‘executive function skills’ in all people. Learning an instrument will teach your child’s brain how to learn more effectively, efficiently and the develop skills necessary to apply this learning in a changing practical context.

- The parent must support, guide and ensure that student commitments are met. Commitment is for a full school year, as classes are not reconfigured mid-year.

- Each Music Class will potentially become a band. Should a student fail in their commitments, that student may affect the performance of the whole class.

- There are limited student numbers who may learn a particular instrument within each Year Level.
Both **new** and **continuing** students must complete an Expression of Interest Form and lodge it at School Administration by Friday 31st October, 2014. In 2015, all participating Years 3-5 and a full class of Year 6 students may begin to learn a wind, brass or percussion instrument for the first time. All participating Year 3 and many Years 4-6 students will begin to learn a strings instrument for the first time. Now is the time to take up such a fantastic opportunity.

When Expressions of Interest are received, the Instrumental Music Programme will be adapted to meet the demand. A final programme overview will then be provided for 2015 and a process for ‘Offers of Place – On an Instrument’ will commence.

### Community Award Nominations 2014

The “McDowall State School Community Award” is presented to a member of the school community for outstanding service and contribution to our school. The recipient may be any member of staff, a parent or community member having significantly invested of themselves, beyond that normally experienced, toward the improvement and benefit of the school, and in particular, student learning and welfare. We are all proud of our ‘Great State School’ and acknowledge that its educational influence, success and community standing is upheld by the productive partnerships and goodwill extended toward our school by key community members.

This is an excellent opportunity to acknowledge a member of the McDowall State School Community who has positively, successfully and meaningfully supported or influenced the learning and educational welfare of students, staff, community and perhaps, your own life.

- Nominations must be received at School Administration, within a sealed envelope, addressed to ‘The Principal’ by Friday 21st November, 2014 at 3.30pm.

- Nominations may be made on the provided ‘Nomination Form’ within the school website www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au or be in note form, as long as the following items are included within the Nomination. (a) Name of person being nominated (b) Name and contact details of person making the nomination (c) Statement of why this person is being nominated. Please indicate the full extent and duration of this person’s service and contribution to the school. This assists in the selection process. (d) Statement of what influence or difference this person’s service and contribution has made to the school.

All nominations received by the Principal will entitle the nominated person to receive a “Community Award Nomination Certificate” endorsed by the Principal and P. & C. Association President.

The Parents’ and Citizens’ Association will review all Nomination Forms, with details of the Nominee (remaining private). The “McDowall State School Community Award” is presented by the Principal at either the Year 6 or Year 7 Presentation Assembly on Tuesday 9th December, 2014.

### G20 Public Holiday

Parents are reminded that Friday 14th November, 2014 is a G20 Brisbane Public Holiday. The McDowall State School will be closed.

### School Administration

#### School Enrolment Management

The McDowall State School Enrolment Management Plan was recently updated and amended by Education Queensland. The new Enrolment Management Plan was gazetted on 26th September, 2014 and is now current. To peruse this document and the McDowall State School Catchment Area, please go to: www.education.qld.gov.au

#### School Enrolment Applications For 2015

All parents seeking to enrol their children at McDowall State School for 2015 need to complete and lodge an Enrolment Application Form with School Administration as soon as possible. This includes families with elder siblings already enrolled within the school.

Student Enrolment Forms and information about the McDowall State School are located on the school website at: www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au This website is now progressively being updated with new information relating to the 2015 school year.

#### Student Transfers 2014-2015

Should a parent know at this early stage, that their child will be transferring to another primary school for 2015, please advise School Administration as soon as possible. To assist you, a form that you can use to advise School Administration is located on the school website home page www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

#### School Timetabling 2015

From 2013, McDowall State School has operated on separate P-2 / 3-7 timetables. These separate timetables will continue in 2015 as P-2 / 3-6. The anticipated School Enrolment for 2015 across P-2 = 439 students and across Yrs 3-6 = 484 students. 2015 will be the final transition year, affecting only Year 2 before all P-2 / 3-6 classes will annually operate to their Sector Timetables. Based on 2014 experience, only two Year 2 classes should be required to work to the Yrs 3-6 Timetable in 2015. There should be less traffic congestion and parking issues for the P-2 Timetable.
Our younger students will be safer and better catered for due to less traffic congestion. Our elder students are capable of being more independent in school access travel. Eg. Bus, walk, stride to the car. OSH is available from 2.30pm. The Principal will make the final decision regarding class composition in meeting teacher/student ratios.

P-2 Sector is timetabled from 8.20am to 2.30pm. The Yrs 3-6 Sector is timetabled from 8.50am to 3.00pm.

All Year 2 students in 2015, without siblings in the Senior Sector and all those taking up enrolment within the school since January, 2014 with elder siblings or not, are placed in default classes within the P-2 Sector timetable. In 2015, Year 2 students having been enrolled at McDowall SS since 2013, with siblings in the Senior Sector, are generally placed within a class aligned with the Years 3-6 Sector timetable. Only these students will be offered an opportunity to return to a class within the P-2 Sector timetable for 2015. Expressions of Interest will be issued soon.

**School Council Meeting**

The next McDowall State School Council Meeting will be held in the School Staffroom on Tuesday 4th November, 2014 from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. A meeting agenda and information package will be forwarded to councillors by the end of this week. Items include:

- Meeting dates for 2015
- School Access Policy – transition details.
- Year 7 transition onto secondary – The possible effect on McDowall SS.
- Facilities Strategic Planning – Sports Centre.
- Parent Engagement Strategy.
- Great Results Guarantee funding 2015.
- Instrumental Music Programme 2015.
- Sponsorship & Advertising Policy.
- Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students redrafting.
- Workforce Reform Proposals.

**Tartan TAPS (Teacher and Parent Seminar)**

Parent Information Seminars delivered by teachers, provide parents with a broad overview of curriculum (teaching and student requirements), events and activities, teacher insights in preparing parents, Year Level entry standards, student achievement standards, anticipated changes that developmentally affect children; and parent/teacher communication channels. Three Tartan TAPS are being delivered during Term 4 in preparation for the new school year. Bookings are available through School Administration.

- Tartan TAPS Prep: 27th – 31st Oct, 4pm-7pm
- Tartan TAPS Yrs 3-4: 4th Nov, 5pm-7:30pm
- Tartan TAPS Yrs 5-6: 18th Nov, 5pm-7:30pm

**Asbestos Management Within State Schools**

Most schools across Brisbane would contain asbestos related materials within their construction. Indeed, most houses would include asbestos related products. Asbestos related materials continued to be used within construction up until the mid-1980s. McDowall State School was built and opened in 1975. As major renovation, maintenance and building replacement occurs, over time, asbestos related products are gradually being removed from government facilities. In the meantime, the Department of Education, Training and Employment has clear procedures and protocols that apply in the management of buildings. These, along with policies and vodcasts are readily available for parent perusal from the Education website: www.education.qld.gov.au/asbestos. As a general rule, if you leave asbestos related products alone, they are safe.

The McDowall State School is professionally inspected by qualified contractors to advise Education Queensland on building maintenance cycles / programmes and separately on asbestos related building issues. Eg condition. The McDowall State School was building inspected for maintenance mid-year and separate asbestos inspections were conducted Term 4, 2013 and again, in Term 3, 2014.

There are currently no known asbestos related incidents requiring immediate attention within McDowall SS. This is not to say, that during the busy activity of large school operations, wear or damage to a suspected asbestos related product could not occur between professional building audits. There is an obligation on all staff and parents accessing our Great State School to immediately report any suspected damage of school facilities to School Administration. All work on school facilities is overseen by the Business Services Manager and all tradespeople are required to attend School Administration to receive a Work Access Permit before commencing work. If an actual or suspected asbestos-related product is ever damaged, the area is immediately closed and professional contractors are called to immediately assume responsibility for testing and repair. These repairs are performed out-of-school hours (often during a week-end). A generic departmentally produced letter is issued to parents. If it is known that a non-asbestos related product is involved, repairs will be effected within the usual school maintenance schedule. All staff review departmental asbestos management policies each January Pupil-Free Days. This article is an annual information reminder to parents.
Music News

Term 4 Celebration Concert

Only 3 weeks until the final Celebration Concert for 2014. It will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday 20th November (Week 7) in the McDowall School Hall. All Instrumental Ensemble Groups will be performing, as well as the Senior, Junior and Honours Choirs. Notes for all participating students are going out this week. Family and friends planning to attend the concert, please return the ticket order form on the bottom of the Concert Note to School Administration with money by Wednesday 12th November.

CONTACT: Ms Pomroy – Music Teacher

Sports News

Sick Leave

I have recently returned from a few weeks sick leave due to ACL knee reconstructive surgery. I tore the AC ligament playing sport about two months ago. It is slowly getting better and at the moment I can get around but with a limp. Thank you for all the kind words and support from parents, teachers and students. We truly do have a wonderful and caring community here at McDowall State School.

Swimming Yr 1 & 2

The swimming programme for Year 1 & 2 classes begins on the 17th November. I would encourage all students to be involved. Students receive 5 x 45min swimming lessons. The programme is focused on Learn to Swim and stroke development. It offers great value for money and the students learn many skills and responsibilities in addition to swimming. These swimming lessons replace their regular PE lessons for the last four weeks of term.

School Uniforms

Many students have borrowed a school uniform / jersey to wear when competing in Friday Interschool Sport. Please look after these uniforms during the term and return them to the coach when sport is completed.

Beep Test

Next week the students in Years 4-7 are completing a BEEP test during their PE lesson. The BEEP test is a fitness test and involves shuttle running in time with the beeps on a CD. It gives a general guide to the fitness level of students and this will be shown on their Semester 2 report card.

Table Tennis Tournament

The table tennis tournament for Year 6 & 7 students will be held in the last week of term. Table Tennis practice will be held in the Activity Centre each Thursday at 2nd break.

CONTACT: Mr Paul Henderson - PE Teacher
P&C Association

Open Day – Thank You
A big “thank you” to all who were involved in last Friday’s Open Morning.

Special thanks to the Bunya Lions Club for cooking the visitor sausages for us. They went down a treat! We had a number of fantastic helpers in the tuckshop serving meal deals and running the cafe.

Thanks also to the volunteers who ran the P&C Association Information Stall. Without the support and involvement of such wonderful volunteers, these events simply could not happen.

CONTACT: Mrs Jodi Browning - Parent Volunteer.

Book Covers
Book covers are now available on Flexischools until Friday, 28th November. They will also be available for sale in limited quantities on Book Pack pick up day which is Tuesday, 2nd December.

Book covers ordered on Flexischools will be available for collection on Book Pack pick up day or will be delivered to the classroom in the week ending Friday, 5th December.

Sizes available are exercise book, A4 and scrapbook. Also available in clear as well as a variety of designs, which can all be seen on Flexischools. Some samples are outside tuckshop on the whiteboard and at OSH.

Some designs have already sold out, but these should be available again shortly.

Don’t have a Flexischools account - there is a “how to” available on the P&C Association website (www.mcdowallss.com) under the Services / Tuckshop tab. Or pop into the Tartan Tuckerbox for an information sheet.

CONTACT: Mrs Sally Gunn - Parent Volunteer.

Book Lists
Order forms are due back to School Administration by Friday, 31st October at 4pm. Please note that no late orders can be accepted at the school. If you don’t get your order form back to the school in time, you can still purchase a Book Pack but will have to contact the supplier directly.

BOOK PACK PICK UP DAY is Tuesday, 2nd December between the hours of 8.15am-10.15am and 1.00pm-3.30pm from the School Hall.

If you cannot collect your Book Pack on this day, please organise alternative pick up. The supplier has a home delivery option available.

All Book Packs not collected by 3.30pm on Tuesday, 2nd December will be held at OSH until Friday, 5th December and will ONLY be released between 9am and 2.30pm and WILL incur a late fee of $6.

After this date, Packs will be returned to the supplier and you will need to contact them directly to make alternative arrangements. A late fee may be charged by the supplier.

CONTACT: Mrs Sally Gunn - Parent Volunteer.
Trivia Night

It was a fabulous night with everyone having plenty of fun! Thanks to all those who joined us on the night, especially those who came in costume!

A big thank you to all those who helped set up the hall for the night and an extra special thank you to Fiona Hall for stepping into the Quiz Master role at the last minute.

CONTACT: Mrs Kathy Wright – Parent Volunteer.

The ‘Super Heroes’ table went all out with their costumes!

Tartan Tuckerbox

Closed in December

Please note that the last day for regular tuckshop orders via Flexischools will be Friday 5th December. We will be closed on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th December, 2014. We will reopen for counter sales (drinks and snacks) from Wednesday 10th to Friday 12th December but will not be doing regular flexischools orders on these days.

Happy Holidays Meal Deal – 5th December

On Friday 5th December (the 2nd last Friday of the term) we’ll end the tuckshop year with a holiday meal deal. There will be a choice of two meal deals (or you can have both!) For 1st break you can order a savoury scroll, ice block and cookie for $3.50. For 2nd break there will be a snack pie, small chips, juice drink and mini gingerbread man for $4.50. The Happy Holiday Meal Deal should be on Flexischools from the middle of November.

Tuckshop Volunteers Morning Tea Thursday 11th December

As a token of our appreciation for all the hours you helped out in Tuckshop this year, the tuckshop team would like to invite all tuckshop volunteers to join us for a Morning Tea on Thursday 11 December at 9:30am in Tuckshop. We hope to see many of you there.

CONTACT: Mrs Anelle Moller – Tuckshop Manager

tuckshop@mcdowallss.com or ph: 3872 5304
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

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**What's Happening**

### OCTOBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>All</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>School Council</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Immersion Programme EOI due at School Administration.</td>
<td>Tartan TAPS Prep – Yr 1 (4pm-7pm)</td>
<td>School Council Meeting (7pm-8pm)</td>
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### NOVEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>All</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>School Council</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>School Community Citizenship Award nominations open.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kudan Secondary School students at McDowall SS for 4 days</td>
<td>Tartan Network – School Hall (8:30am)</td>
<td>School Council Meeting – Staffroom (7:30pm-8:30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>New Parent School Tour (Repeat of School Open Morning Tour)</td>
<td>Parent / Teacher Interviews commence.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Yr 5 Living History</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Assembly (8:30am)</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Assembly (9:00am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Years 6 / 7 Walk of Remembrance at Gallipoli Barracks</td>
<td>Public Speaking Competition (2.15pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Public Speaking Competition (9am.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Life Saving Instruction starts (5 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>G20 Public Holiday – School Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>School Swimming Program starts (4 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Performing Arts Celebration (inc. Chamber Concerts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Twelfth Night Theatre.</td>
<td>Performing Arts Celebration Concert - School Hall (6.30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>“Graduate to Greatness” Programme.</td>
<td>School Community Citizenship Award nominations close.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>P&amp;C Association General Meeting. K Block. (7pm).</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Inter-school Sport ends (8 weeks)</td>
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**Tartan Tuckerbox Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 Oct</td>
<td>Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Michelle B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nov</td>
<td>Sally G, Kim S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Nov</td>
<td>Ashley S, Belinds I, Danel S</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Nov</td>
<td>Carla T, Sheralee, Anusaya P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>Tracey H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>Rieko M, Joy M</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Nov</td>
<td>Suzanne D, Dianne B, Gail A</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov</td>
<td>Enza M, Susan P, Anusaya P</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>Shirley E, Esther D</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Nov</td>
<td>Andrea S, Michelle R</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Nov</td>
<td>Julie F, Tania R, Christine B</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Carla K, Greg S, Anusaya P</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>Shaleen Y, Joanne T, Leah G</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Nov</td>
<td>Natalie P, Rieko M</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Julie F, Jodie C, Lee P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Nov</td>
<td>Rachel C, Narelle C, Heather C</td>
</tr>
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</table>