



Tartan Times

McDowall State School
An Independent Public School since 2013

Achieving better outcomes for all students

NEWSLETTER

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NAPLAN!



**GOOD
LUCK
YR 3 & 5**

**10th
to
13th**



What's Happening

16.05.22	Yrs 4-6 Instrumental Music Fanfare - Everton Park SHS
19-20.05.22	Yr 6 Big Bang Incursion
20.05.22	Walk to School Safely & P&C Association Day
23.05.22	P&C Association General Meeting - K Block
24.05.22	Yr 5 Street Science Incursion Yr 5 Cyber Safety Incursion Yrs 4-6 Regional Cross Country
25.05.22	National Simultaneous Storytime Event
25.05-08.06.22	P&C Assoc Billie B's Cookie Dough Fundraiser
27.05.22	Yrs 4-6 Inter-School Sport #3
30.05-03.06.22	Parent / Teacher Interviews
03.06.22	Yrs 4-6 Inter-School Sport #4
06-07.06.22	Yr4 Junior Strings Workshop - Aspley SS
08.06.22	Yr 4 Picasso Art Show
09.06.22	Yr 4 Northside Beginner Band Blitz Day (Wind) - Aspley SS
13.06.22	School Council Meeting - 7pm
16.06.22	Yrs 5-6 Performing Arts Celebration Concert
20.06.22	Yr 6 Mathematics Olympiad P-6 Nicol Jackson Art Competition Assembly Report Cards on QParents
PLEASE NOTE: THE ABOVE DATES ARE COVID RESTRICTIONS PENDING	

EDITION: 11 May 2022

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School Administration (Office)

Open Mon to Fri, 8.00am – 4.00pm
Payment days: Tue & Thur: 8am – 11am

Recess Times

Prep – Year 2:	10.30am – 11.10am 12.45pm – 1.25pm
Years 3 – 6:	11.00am – 11.40am 1.15pm – 1.55pm

School Assemblies

Mon:	8:55 – 9:30am (Years 3–6)
Wed:	8:30 – 9:00am (Prep–Yr 2)

Tartan Tuckerbox (Tuckshop)

Monday: 1st break only
Open Tuesday to Friday
Flexischools orders avail. Mon-Fri
To volunteer: [click here](#)

Uniform Shop

Open Mon & Thu, 7.45am to 9.30am

Standard Uniform (Mon – Thu)

- Tartan or red polo shirt
- Bottle green pants shorts / skirts
- Bottle green socks & black shoes (Tartan)
- White socks & black shoes (red polo shirt)
- Red bucket (for Prep Year) or Bottle green reversible broad-brimmed hat
- Winter: bottle green jacket, jumper and track pants

Friday (Sports)

- House shirt or red polo shirt if playing inter-school sports
- Bottle green pants shorts / skirts
- White socks
- School hat

Principal's Post

Acknowledgement of Country

We thank the Turrbal people for the land on which we play and learn. I acknowledge the traditional owners of this land our school is on and all the lands across the country; I pay my respects to elders past, present and those emerging in our classrooms.



NAPLAN



This week, our Years 3 and 5 students have begun their National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. In 2022, we have moved to the online testing platform where students sit the test using iPads or other electronic devices for all tests, with the exception of the Year 3 writing test which is still conducted on paper. I

wish the students all the best with these assessment pieces. The students have been supported this year and throughout their education to succeed in these tests. The results will be received later in the year. The NAPLAN results are used to help us identify students who need greater challenges or extra support. The school also uses the results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching and learning in the Literacy and Numeracy areas of the Australian Curriculum and to set goals in literacy and numeracy. Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.



P&C Day – 20th May 2022



Our annual Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association day will be held on 20th May 2022. This will coincide with Walk to School Day. Our P&C are made up of volunteers who support our students, their families and our school in so many ways. I am truly thankful to all our parents and carers who volunteer to be a part of our P&C and thank them for their countless support.

This Year the Queensland Council of Parents and Citizens' Association will celebrate its 75th year of making many contributions to state school communities and our wider community. Happy P&C Day and Thank-you!

Principal Role Update

The Principal role for McDowall SS was recently advertised and after the full recruitment process, I was informed this week that I was the successful applicant for the position. I have humbly and gratefully accepted the role. It is an honour to lead this amazing school that we are all a part of. Students succeeding in their education and their wellbeing will continue to be at the heart of my decision making processes for the school as well as continuing to lead an inclusive and collaborative school culture.

McDowall Magics

Staff have been on the look-out to observe students behaving well and following the school expectations. When a student is observed showing respect for themselves and others, taking responsibility for their learning or the learning of others or being helpful, staff will present students with a McDowall Magic Card, telling them why they are being thanked. The student places their name and class details onto the card and places it into a Year Level box. On Fridays, three student names are drawn from the box for special mention at Assembly. With a minimum of three cards required, a student with the most number of cards placed within their Year Level box, is sent to the Principal for a special prize acknowledgement. I would like to thank the Goodson family for kindly donating a Smiggles prize voucher to the school that we are using to support the McDowall Magic initiative for students.

School Strategic Plan – 2022 to 2025

Our school strategic plan has two focuses:

1. Learning – Building a deep knowledge of the Australian Curriculum so that all students achieve; and
2. Belonging – All students succeed and receive the support that they need to belong and engage purposefully in their education through inclusive education practices.

Our school's focuses, strategies and practices will continue to align to these two areas.

Appreciating our Families and Loved Ones

With Mother's Day last week, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the mothers, carers and grandmothers across our school community a belated Happy Mother's Day. Thank-you to all our P&C volunteers who organised and volunteered for the P&C Mother's Day stall, I'm sure there were many, many mothers who felt appreciated with their gifts. Appreciating our families and loved ones makes our world a kinder and more positive place. As a part of our curriculum we teach students about appreciation and positive relationships that support wellbeing. In the Personal and Social capabilities of the Australian Curriculum, we teach students the importance that families and loved ones play in our lives and appreciating positive, safe and respectful relationships. In the Social Awareness element of this capability, we teach students about recognising others' feelings and knowing how and when to assist others (Acts of Service). Students learn to show respect for and understand others' perspectives, emotional states and needs. They learn to participate in positive, safe and respectful relationships, defining and accepting individual and group roles and responsibilities. Students gain an understanding of the role of advocacy in contemporary society and build their capacity to critique societal constructs and forms of discrimination, such as racism and sexism. In developing and acting with personal and social capability, students appreciate diverse perspectives, contribute to civil society and understand relationships.

Simple ways that this can be supported in the home could include:

Try an Act of Service - Acts of good will remind us of how much we have to give and can replace negative thoughts with good feelings.

Support Your Children to Be Grateful, No Matter Their Age - Help your children notice when good things are going on around them, even small things.

Thank-you to all our families for your continuing and ongoing support of your child's / children's education, we appreciate you.

Principal's Gallery

w/c 16th May	3F4	Please enjoy a snapshot of art-work featured from 202
w/c 23rd May	3F2	
w/c 30th May	3F1	
w/c 6th June	3N1	



Library News



Library borrowing is finally back in full swing for all year levels after all those Mondays at home. The library will recommence sending overdue notices home via email next week, so make sure you dig out any McDowall SS library books that are lying around and return them to the library.

McDowall SS is registered to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge again the year. This challenge takes place over the next few months. If your student's class is

not joining in as a class unit but you would like them to participate, please contact the library for more information.

As the colder weather approaches and we find ourselves inside a little more, it's the perfect time to encourage a little more reading on those colder afternoons.

'I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns it on, I go into another room and read a book.' Groucho Marx



CONTACT: Ms Sandra Davis, Library Teacher Aide

Defence News

Welcome to the first full week of school for Term 2. I hope you all had a lovely Mother's Day and enjoyed some pampering!

It's safe to say that these short weeks have certainly presented some challenges with settling into my new role as Defence School Mentor, however, I'm excited to announce that this week will finally see the return of Defence Clubs for both Junior and Senior School.

I have been catching up with some of the students around the playground over the last couple of weeks and they have certainly showed enthusiasm towards re-engaging with the program. I have even been able to incorporate some of their great suggestions into the timetable.

As such, Term 2 will see some changes to the timetable. We will be trialling a new Wellbeing piece on Wednesdays, so for now, Minecraft Club will take a break. I am sure though, that the students will benefit greatly from this new initiative that will be running in conjunction with Ellie Goodwin, our Guidance Officer.

I also wanted to reach out to those families with parents on exercise (or about to head off on exercise) to remind you to please let me know if I can support your family in any way during these times. My email address is rsext9@eq.edu.au or alternatively, you can contact me through the school administration phone number - 3872 5333.

JUNIOR	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
First Break	Prep Playground Visits	Junior Defence Club (Year 1 – 2 Plus a friend) Where: OSHC Outdoor Area	Wellbeing Wednesday Coming Soon
Second Break		Playground Visits	
SENIOR	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
First Break		Senior Defence Club (Years 3 – 6 Plus a friend) Where: Hall (side closest to the admin building)	Wellbeing Wednesday Coming Soon
Second Break		Playground Visits	

CONTACT: Mrs Bec Sexton, Defence School Mentor

Administration News

Congratulations to Eva and Edie G who won the Smiggle Advent Calendar Lucky Ticket.



They nominated McDowall SS to receive a \$1000 Smiggle Shopping Spree as part of their prize.

Vouchers will be used for McDowall Magic prizes.



Guidance Officer News

Kindness
is
Magic

These last few weeks I have been visiting some Year 5 and 6 classrooms and working together with students on team building, personal strengths, kindness and social skills. The transition to adolescence can bring changes to established friendship groups

which bring new challenges to children and an opportunity to build on their social skills. We have focused on the idea of connectedness, kindness and that interactions between individuals can have a ripple effect on others.

Positive friendships can help young people feel like they belong at school and being with friends can encourage them to learn. Staff are continually modelling social and friendship skills at school. It is normal for students to have misunderstandings and disagreements in friendship situations and often they can be supported to sort situations out on their own. We encourage children facing tricky peer situations to consider others' perspectives when looking for the way forward.

Kindness in difficult peer situations can pay dividends for all involved - studies have shown that when you do a kind deed, it actually delivers a bigger happiness boost to you than the person you're helping.

CONTACT: Mrs Ellie Goodwin, Guidance Officer

Music News

Celebration Concerts

McDowall music students are busily preparing for our Semester 1 Celebration Concert Series which will be held on Thursday the 16th June. Students will be presenting three mini concerts.

Concert	Time/Place	Groups Involved	Ticketing
Morning Melodies Concert	Thursday 16 th June 9:00am – 9:45 am School Hall	Adagio Strings Metro Bands	Gold coin donation on entry
Evening Celebration Concert – Bands	Thursday 16 th June 6:00pm – 6:45pm School Hall	Keona Band Rode Band Stage Band Small Ensembles	\$5 per ticket Tickets purchased through <u>Flexischools</u> 4 x tickets per family.
Evening Celebration Concert - Strings	Thursday 16 th June 7:30pm – 8:15pm School Hall	Cantabile Strings Presto Strings Chamber Strings Small Ensembles	\$5 per ticket Tickets purchased through <u>Flexischools</u> 4 x tickets per family.

Students are very much looking forward to showcasing their musical talents!



FANFARE



Presto Strings, Adagio Strings, Cantabile Strings and Rode Band will perform on Monday 16th May 2022, at Everton Park State High School in the State wide Fanfare competition.

We wish all of our ensembles all the very best for their respective performances.

North-side Region Junior Instrumental Music Workshops

A number of our instrumental music students will be attending regional workshops this term. Year 4 strings students will be attending a two day workshop at Aspley State School on Monday 6 June and Tuesday 7th June and Year 4 band students will be attending a one day Band Blitz Workshop at Aspley State School on Thursday 9th June. An information letter was sent home last week with information regarding the online registration and payment process. This year all registrations and payments for regional workshops will be completed online. Please ensure you complete the online registration process.

Please note: Online registrations to this event will close at 9pm on Sunday, 22 May 2022. No extension to this close-off date will be possible. If your child is not registered by this date they will not be permitted to attend.



CONTACT: Ms Vanessa Crowhurst, Head of Curriculum

P&C Association News

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough

This dough-licious fundraiser is coming soon! Starts 25 May, see attached and below link for more details.

<https://australianfundraising.com.au/flipbook/2022cookiedoughorderform/>



Australian school fundraising specialists

Thanks for a Great Disco & Mother's Day Stall!

Huge thanks to our disco team Bec, Rebecca and Kelly, and our Mother's Day Stall team Amy and Vanessa, for organising such wonderful events! Thank you to every one of our volunteers for helping at the events also. We really appreciate all your time and hard work making these events successful!



National Walk Safely to School Day – 20 May

Walk to school on Friday 20 May and join in the activities on the oval. Please see attached for all the details. All participating children must register – and will receive a gift! Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/322229014657>



P&C Day Drawing Competition

Let's thank our hardworking P&C members for the tireless work they do for our children! P&C Day is on Friday 20 May and we have a Drawing Competition "Draw your favourite P&C Event" with some awesome prizes on offer – check out the attached! An entry form should have come home with your child, but is also available from OSHC, or attached if you wish to print a copy. Entries close 9am Wednesday 18 May.



Volunteers Needed

National Walk Safely to School Day Friday 20 May – a great opportunity to do your one thing early in the morning, perhaps before work! All kinds of roles available, see the link for details:

<https://signup.com/go/hTKSDGF>



P&C Meeting

Everyone is welcome at our meetings – you don't even need to be a member! Our next meeting is Monday 23 May 7pm. Join us at OSHC or online via Teams.



CONTACT: Mrs Helen Tavner-Corner, P&C Communications Coordinator