



# Tartan Times

**McDowall State School**  
An Independent Public School since 1913

*Achieving better outcomes for all students*

NEWSLETTER

Office	3872 5333
Absence	3872 5366
Tuckshop	3872 5304
Fax	3872 5300
Email	admin@mcdowallss.eq.edu.au
Website	www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

Please direct ALL OSH enquiries to the following number - 3353 5755

## School Holidays!

### Summer School Vacation Period

Monday 10th December, 2023 - Friday 19th January, 2024



### School Administration Closure Period

McDowall State School Administration will close at 4pm on Friday 8th December, 2023 and will re-open on Monday 15th January, 2024. Office hours are from 8am to 4pm.



## What's Happening

22.11.23	TAPS - Yr 5 & 6, 5pm-6pm (6D1 Classroom)
22-24.11.23	Yr 1-2 Swimming
23.11.23	Yrs 5-6 Performing Arts Celebration Concert (Craigslea SHS) Yrs 3-4 Morning Melodies Matinee (Yr 3 Groups + Adagio Strings, Metro Band & Junior Choir) School Tour - Parents & Students welcome (9am) Yr 6 Lifesaving
27-29.11.23	TADPOLES - Prep
27.11.23	P&C Association General Meeting
28.11.23	Yr 6 Music Tour TAPS - Prep, 5pm-6pm (PA Block)
29-30.11.23	Yr 1-2 Swimming
30.11.23	Yr 6 Lifesaving
06.12.23	Yr 6 Presentation Assembly Yr 6 Celebration Dinner
07.12.23	Yr 6 Fun Day - Albany Creek Leisure Centre
08.12.23	Last Day of Term 4, 2023
15-19.01.24	Administration Re Opens for 2024
22.01.24	First Day of Term 1, 2024

## EDITION: 22 November 2023

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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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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 are learning on Turrbal country.

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we learn, the Turrbal people, and recognise their continuing connection to land, air and sea. I also pay my respects to all Elders past, present and those who are emerging here at McDowall SS and in all schools and educational settings.



### NAPLAN



Our results in both Year 3 and Year 5 for 2023 NAPLAN were outstanding as well as being exceptionally above both the state and national results. Our students also excelled in achieving results in the top two NAPLAN bands for each year level. The mean scale score results that outshone the nation and state are as per the table below:

2023 NAPLAN Means Scale Score

Year level		Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Year 3	McDowall SS	446.8	450.4	440.3	444.6	432.3
	Queensland	384.4	396.4	386.2	389.7	389.5
	Australia	404.6	416.3	403.7	410.8	407.3
Year 5	McDowall SS	541.8	526.5	533.6	566.1	526.1
	Queensland	480.7	463.9	473.7	484.2	469.6
	Australia	495.9	482.9	488.7	496.7	487.6

# NAPLAN

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy

### Thank-You and Wishing all a lovely break

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and staff leaving McDowall SS all the very best and thank-you for your time at McDowall SS. This includes our Year 6 graduating classes for 2023, I wish them all the best with their future educational journey. Thank-you to our student leaders for 2023 for your accomplishments and lasting impacts. I would like to thank all our students for diligently engaging in education through excellence and equity during 2023.



Thank-you to all the school staff for your work with students throughout the year, the work has been outstanding and goes above and beyond. Thank-you to parents and carers for supporting your children throughout the school year.

Thank-you to the P&C executive, the P&C association and members in 2023, for the support that you have provided to the school. Thank-you to all our parent/carers volunteers and community volunteers for your commitment to supporting students to achieve their very best in 2023 and for supporting students and staff. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

Thank-you also to the wider school community, including the wider McDowall Community, Department of Education and Metropolitan regional staff, our wonderful neighbouring State Schools, our local early learning centres, Brisbane City Council, including Councillor Tracy Davis, our member for Everton, Mr Tim Mander and our Federal Member for Lilley, Ms Anika Wells. Thank-you to our school council members for their strategic feedback and guidance.

### Report Cards



During the final week of the school year, your child's Semester Two Report Card will be sent out. Report cards will be sent by close of Business on Thursday 7th December 2023. Please check your QParents account, and emails, including junk emails. This report includes a rating on your child's academic achievement, effort and behaviour, as well as comments made by your child's teacher/s to provide valuable information regarding their progress this year. Our teachers have worked really hard to support your child in their learning throughout the year. We encourage all families to take the time to discuss your child's report card with them to identify areas of success and to set goals for achievement in Semester 1 next year.



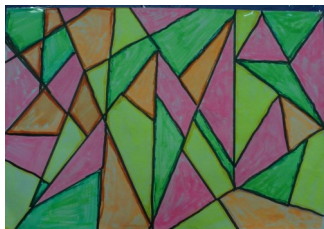
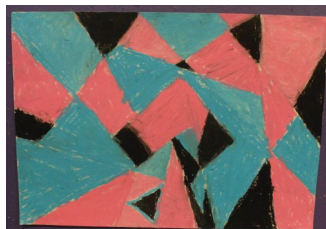
Finally, Wishing all a restful and relaxing break with loved ones.  
**School resumes in 2024 on Monday 22nd January 2024.**

CONTACT: Ms Imogen Stager, Principal



## Principal's Gallery

w/c 27th Nov	PA1-PA2	Please enjoy a snapshot of art-work featured from <b>3/4E2</b>
w/c 4th Dec	6C3	
-	-	
-	-	



## Music News

### Come Celebrate With Us!

Our performing arts students can't wait to perform at our Celebration Concert and Morning Melodies Concert. The concerts aim to showcase the wonderful talents of the many students who make up the McDowall Instrumental Music Immersion Programme, Choral Programme and Dance Programme.

On **Thursday morning 23rd November** we will present two Morning Melodies Concerts which will showcase our Instrumental Music Immersion Programme Junior bands and ensembles, Junior Choir and Year 3 Dance Troupes. The following ensembles will feature:

#### Concert 1 – Morning Melodies Concert – Strings Concert

**Times:** 9:00am – 9:45am

**Who is performing?** Adagio Strings, Year 3 Strings Classes, Year 3 Dance Troupe, Junior Choir

**Ticketing:** Entry to this concert will be a gold coin donation.

#### Concert 2 – Morning Melodies Concert – Band Concert

**Times:** 10:00am – 10:45am

**Who is performing?** Metro Band, Mayer Band, Year 3 Band Classes

**Ticketing:** Entry to this concert will be a gold coin donation.

**Thursday evening 23rd November at Craigslea State High School Assembly Hall,** we will present our end of year Celebration Concert featuring the following ensembles and choirs.

- > Rode Band
- > Keona Band
- > Honours Choir
- > Presto Strings
- > Cantabile Strings
- > Senior Dance Troupe
- > Chamber Strings
- > Stage Band



The concert will **commence at 6:30 pm sharp** in the Craigslea State High School Hall and should run for approximately an hour and a half.

If you haven't purchased your tickets for the Evening Celebration Concert yet, then you had better hurry. All tickets are to be purchased through the **Flexischools app** or the Flexischools website - [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au).

Ticket sales **close at 3pm on Thursday 23rd November, 2023. Ticket price - \$7**

There will only be 450 seats available, therefore there is a maximum of **4 tickets per family**.

Please note that there will be **NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

We wish the students all the very best for their upcoming performances.



### Celebration Concert Raffle

Get your tickets in the Celebration Concert Raffle! Over ten wonderful prizes to be won. Use the QR code below to purchase your tickets. All proceeds from the raffle help support our amazing Instrumental Music Immersion Program of Excellence. Raffle will be drawn on the 23rd November at the evening Celebration Concert at Craigslea State High School.



<https://www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=pfers>

## Year 6 Instrumental Music Students on Tour

On Tuesday 28th November the McDowall Year 6 Instrumental Music Students will be embarking on a day tour. Students will be performing for students at Mt Samson SS and Dayboro SS. An information and permission letter will be sent out with further details. Students are looking forward to a great day of music making.

## Instrument Returns

All **school instruments** and green music folders are being **collected in week 9** (week commencing Monday 27th November) for cleaning and servicing. Please ensure you return your instrument to Mrs Gyte, Ms Jabs, Mrs Payne or Mrs Akeroyd. A number of students have been issued 'holiday loan' forms. Please ensure these are signed and returned to your instrumental music teacher.



## Instrumental Music Deposit Now Due

To secure your child's place in the Instrumental Music Immersion Program of Excellence for 2024, parents should have completed a Commitment Form and Confirmation Form and returned these to School Administration by **Friday 17th November 2023**. Once forms were returned, an invoice for the \$100 deposit was emailed home. **Payment of the \$100 deposit must be received by Wednesday 29th November, 2023, in order to secure your child's place in the 2024 program.** If you have not received an invoice, please check to ensure your paper work has been completed and returned to the school.

CONTACT: Ms Vanessa Crowhurst, Head of Curriculum

## Library News



All books are due back by the end of this week (Week 8). We would appreciate your assistance with ensuring your student's library books are returned on time. Overdue emails will be sent daily from next week to facilitate all students commencing their 2024 school year with a cleared loans record.

Classes can still be visiting the library in the final two weeks of school to share some Christmas books, have some quiet time, and maybe some games and activities. Staff will be completing stocktaking, shelf checking, and lots of preparation for next year.

The final Book Club orders have been submitted and will be distributed to students as soon as they arrive. If you marked your order as a 'gift', you will receive a phone call or email to let you know it is ready to pick up from the library.

*'Books make great gifts because they have whole worlds inside of them. And it's much cheaper to buy somebody a book than it is to buy them the whole world!'* Neil Gaiman

CONTACT: Ms Sandra Davis, Library Teacher Aide

## Year 6 News

### National Memorial Walk

For Remembrance Day, Year 6 visited the National Memorial Walk at the Enoggera Army Barracks.

We were guests of the Royal Australian Regiment Association. This is a valuable experience for our students.

School Captains Amity, Ben, Joshua and Zaydia present some plants to Mr McDonald in appreciation of the RAR Association hosting our visit.



CONTACT: Mr David Pedwell, Deputy Yr 5-6



## P&C Association News

### Music Concert Raffle



Massive prizes to win in our last P&C Raffle for the year! All raffle proceeds go to the McDowall State School music department. Raffle drawn at the Celebration Concert on Thursday 23 November at 6.45pm. You don't have to be there to win! Just click on the link below to get your tickets.

<https://www.raffletix.com.au?ref=pfers>

### Salwart Supporter Award

Do you know a departing Year 6 parent who has demonstrated consistent and long-term support for the P&C Association? Nominations are open for the 2023 P&C Association Stalwart Supporter Award, to be presented at the Year 6 Graduation. Nominations may be sent to the Secretary -

[secretary@mcdowallsspc.org.au](mailto:secretary@mcdowallsspc.org.au)

All nominations are to be submitted by Friday 24 November.



### Year 6 Graduation Dinner Photo Booth



Reminder: Year 6 families! There's still time to donate to the Year 6 Graduation Dinner photo booth. Visit [flexischools.com.au](http://flexischools.com.au). Contributions are voluntary. This is a parent funded initiative, to give the students a little memento of this very important evening.

### Prep Fundraiser

Do you have a Preppie in 2024? Would you like to organise the annual prep fundraiser? Previously we've done prep tea towels, but we're open to new ideas.

Email - [fundraising@mcdowallsspc.org.au](mailto:fundraising@mcdowallsspc.org.au) if you're keen.

# FUNDRAISER

### P&C Meeting – Mon 27 Nov!

Our final meeting of the year!

7pm Monday 27 November

OSHC Building or online via Teams (Link sent to members prior to the meeting. Non-members welcome, please email [secretary@mcdowallsspc.org.au](mailto:secretary@mcdowallsspc.org.au) for the link.)

### The Spy Who Quizzed Me Trivia Night

Thank you so much to all spy teams for being quizzed, volunteers for serving us, sponsors for donating, and the trivia team for organising our 2023 trivia night! A great night was had by all!



### Stationery Aid



Don't just throw your used stationery away! Put it in our Stationery Aid bin located at K Block (OSHC) and do your bit to reduce landfill. Stationery Aid is a registered charity of volunteers that collect, sort, clean, renew, and repack new and used school stationery items that are given a new life and donated to disadvantaged students and families in need of education resources. The bin is available during OSHC hours, including vacation care.

### Book Pack Reminder

Just a reminder that if you have ordered your book packs through MK Educational supplies, they will be ready for collection between 4-9 December.

Shop 24C/815 Zillmere Road, Aspley

8:30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

8:30am to 2pm Saturday



CONTACT: Mrs Helen Tavner-Corner & Mrs Darian Witty, P&C Communications Coordinators