McDonnell Creek State School
CELEBRATING LEARNING WITH EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY!

Principal: Christie Williams-Carey  Phone: 4067 5389

Staffing
Ms Margaret McCarthy will be extending her leave until the end of semester 1. Ms Williams-Carey will remain in the Acting Principal position during this time.

Attendance
P-2 class - 100%
3-6 class - 95%
If your child is absent from school we require either an email, letter or phone message to indicate the reason for absence. Remember that every day counts.

School Communication
The daily focus at McDonnell Creek State School is teaching and learning. A reminder that all staff are involved in teaching and learning activities throughout the day. Our admin officer works Fridays. Please understand that we have processes in place to ensure that phone messages are checked at regular intervals throughout the day, including at 3pm. We will endeavour to return calls where needed as soon as possible. All travel/pick-up messages will be passed onto teaching staff and students. The school mobile is only used for excursions. The school phone is the most appropriate way to contact the school during school hours. Ms Sandra and Ms Williams-Carey are available to meet with parents before 8:50am and after 3pm. If you require a detailed or formal meeting, please arrange an appropriate time in advance.

Goal Setting Interviews
We were pleased that parents took the opportunity to meet with class teachers to discuss semester 1 learning goals. A letter will go home today with a hard copy of your child’s learning goal template.

Book Packs
Thankyou to the families who have already paid for student book packs. Please remember that prompt payment before the end of term 1 is required.

P & C AGM
It was heartening to see so many faces at the first P&C meeting for 2016. The school community is looking forward to realising common goals throughout the 2016 school year. The next P & C meeting will be held at 3:30pm in the senior classroom on Friday March 11.

Parade
A reminder that McDonnell Creek SS holds parade every Thursday afternoon from 2:30pm in the undercover area. This provides an opportunity for the school community to celebrate student success. Parade is run by our three student leaders; Lauren, Aaron and Esa.

“Every day, in every way, every child is learning and achieving....”
SWPBL
This fortnight’s focus was “McDonnell Creek Handball Rules”. Handball is a popular activity played by many students at lunchtime. The key points include:
- We are safe while playing handball.
- We show respect while playing handball.
- We follow the Mac Creek handball rules.
- We celebrate good games and use encouraging comments.
- Year 5 & 6 play on the 2 square court.
- Year 3 & 4 play on the 4 square court.
- Prep - 2 play on the 6 square court.

Student of the week

Spelling Mastery Super Spellers
P-2 Classroom
In the prep-year 2 classroom we are exploring shapes and patterns at present within our maths curriculum. The children have gone on a field trip around the school grounds to locate shapes within our environment. After collating all the data, we made a class shape book and learnt how to represent our observations in graph form as well as through tally marking.

In maths the prep children are also focussing on learning the numbers under 5, representing patterns and identifying a continuing number or shape sequence.

Please donate any clean plastic bottle tops (milk etc.) for use during maths activities.

Thanks to everyone who has bought in their baby, child and young adult photos from home. These have been used in a very helpful way to deepen your child’s concept of human life cycles and changes we go through from babies to toddlers, children to teenagers, adulthood and into old age. The photos are being collated and made into a class photo album. We have been able to have very interesting and rich conversations relating to the characteristics they notice at different stages of the growth cycle from these photos. The children are also documenting the life cycles of our class plants, their family pets, insects such as butterflies and frogs as well deepening their understanding of what living things need to grow and stay healthy as part of the work we are covering within the science curriculum.
3-6 Classroom

Maths is fun in the senior classroom. We have been exploring the features of 2D and 3D shapes.

![Image of students working on a 3D shape]

Narratives
During writing the seniors have been working on creating hooks to grab the reader’s attention.

I wake up in the middle of the night….this is not my room.
(Lauren Year 6)

Boom! The pistons blew up. “Oh no! We are doomed…..totally doomed.”
(Rick Year 3)

Most students are finalising their draft and beginning the editing phase of writing. We look forward to sharing excerpts from our narratives in the coming newsletters and on parade.

Well Women’s Clinics at Edmonton Community Health
(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Monday 14th March 2016
Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence, etc.
All services are provided by a specially trained Women’s Health Nurse.
For appointments phone 4226 4900

Date Claimers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04/03/2016</td>
<td>Clean Up Schools Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/03/2016</td>
<td>Teddy Bear’s Picnic (P-1) Bartle Frere State School</td>
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<td>10/03/2016</td>
<td>Gala Day - Futsal BSS (Year 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>11/03/2016</td>
<td>AVA PetPEP visit</td>
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<td>11/03/2016</td>
<td>Feast of the Senses - begins Innisfail</td>
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<td>12/03/2016</td>
<td>Red Cross Cent Sale GSS Hall 2pm</td>
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<td>15/03/2016</td>
<td>Arts Council performance MSS 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/03/2016</td>
<td>Feast of the Senses - concludes Innisfail</td>
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<td>24/03/2016</td>
<td>Easter Bonnet Parade</td>
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<td>11/04/2016</td>
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