From the Principal

Our School Vision

To provide a safe, respectful learning community
achieving success through positive relationships

At Morayfield State School our focus is on student learning. As I visit classrooms each day it is fantastic to see the amazing teaching and learning happening in every classroom.

Over the last fortnight we celebrated Chaplaincy Week. During this week our students from year 3-6 were lucky to see Az Hamilton present the “Tag You’re It” project. Az talked to the students about playing a random act of kindness forward. Each time a student “tags” another student with an act of kindness they can collect a leaf to add to our kindness tree outside Julie’s room. What a fantastic project! Thank you Julie.

I was also lucky enough to attend the Caboolture District Chaplaincy dinner on Monday night. What a fantastic evening acknowledging the great work done by chaplains across the region. The night raised over $50,000 for Chaplaincy in our district schools.
Attendance Absence Line 5431 6260
Last week’s whole school daily attendance – It is a great concern that we did not reach our 90% attendance target on any day last week.

- Monday 83.4% 98 students absent
- Tuesday 87% 77 students absent
- Wednesday 91.6% 51 students absent
- Thursday 90.1% 56 students absent
- Friday 88.5% 73 students absent

Attendance Target - 90%
Current Attendance Rate - Year to Date 88.7%
Current Attendance Rate - Term 2 87%

Celebrate P&C Day
P&C Day is held each year to celebrate the important work undertaken in our state schools by parents and citizens’ associations. I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of our parents and citizens’ association.

What is a P&C Association?
The Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) is a group of community minded people, parents and citizens, who take on a more formal role to assist the school in providing:
- feedback on school policies and activities
- additional resources to be used to enhance student learning
- parents with opportunities to be involved in their child’s education.

Research has shown that parent involvement in a child’s education makes a significant contribution to the child’s success at school.

P&C Associations: A vital link within the school community
The P&C Association provides a vital service to the school community. The valuable role the P&C plays within the school community and the role and of its Executive and members should not be understated. We encourage you to be an active P&C member and member of the school community by understanding the role of the P&C Association. Not only will you be supporting the school community but you will be supported by the future. Come and support our P&C on Friday night at the twilight market.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday night at the twilight markets.

Aim High
Vicky Gahan
Principal

Principal’s Morning Tea

Every Friday there is a special morning tea held in the Principal’s office for children in recognition of outstanding demonstration of the school-wide expectations of Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for Property. Congratulations!!
Here are this week’s students:
Principal’s Morning Tea guests Term 2 Week 6
Prep B - Christina B, Jay H
3A - Zachery C, Hayley M
4A - Jordan C, Laci B
5A - Natalia N, Olivia F
6A - Seth S, Sara C

Prep to Grade 3
Deputy News

Reporting
Staff are focused on reporting procedures within our school in preparation for semester one reports. It is extremely important that our students are making every day count and attending school as regularly as possible. There will be many assessment opportunities over the next few weeks so it is important that you inform your child’s teacher if your child is going to be absent. Reports will be distributed in the last week of Term 2.
NAPLAN 2015
Congratulations to EVERY one on the preparation for our Year 3 and 5 students for NAPLAN! It takes a whole school community to prepare our students for NAPLAN and I am looking forward to celebrating with you all when we receive our results next Term.

Our teachers and support staff have worked extremely hard to prepare our students for the literacy and numeracy demands of NAPLAN. Whilst NAPLAN doesn’t tell us everything about your student it does help us measure distance travelled between year levels, gives us a unique insight into our teaching programs and helps us identify how our students are going compared to the rest of the nation.

Yr 2 - Save the Date!
Our Yr 2 students will be invited to join our excursion to Bli Bli Castle on Wednesday 24th June. The cost will be $20.00 per child which will include the entry fee and transport to Bli Bli. Permission notes will be sent home soon with payment due by Friday 17th June.

Fast Facts: What is bullying?
Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Online bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Single incidents and conflicts or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying. In short, bullying is an ongoing misuse of power involving a pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour.

Is every conflict between students bullying?
Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour need to be addressed, it is important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying.

The definition of bullying has three critical aspects - a repeated pattern, the misuse of power within relationships, and behaviour which causes harm; all three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

STOP, WALK, TALK!
Students are taught STOP, WALK, TALK as three ways to stop bullying. When students use these three steps this is how students should respond:

1. STOP – STOP what you are doing. Take a deep breath and get on with your day.
2. WALK – STOP and let the person WALK away. Take a deep breath and get on with your day.
3. TALK – Go to the adult when you are asked to TALK and sort out the problem. Take a deep breath and get on with your day.

Anyon can make a mistake and it’s important for students to do the right thing when asked to STOP.

Your support in helping children understand the definition of bullying and using Stop, Walk, Talk will help us support students making positive behaviour choices at school.

Amanda Wicks
Deputy Principal Prep – Yr 2

Yr4-6 Deputy News
SWPBS News
Congratulations to all our students for reaching the rocket target of 5000 rockets for the first 5 weeks of this term. The students earned themselves a rewards day yesterday and it was great to see so many of the students wearing their origin colours. Our next 5 week target is 6000 rockets. If the students reach this behaviour goal, they will earn themselves a pyjama day on the last day of this term. There will also be an end of semester prize to one lucky student in the lower school and one in the upper school. The more rockets you get, the more chances you have to win!! Good luck!!

Year 6 QUT Caboolture Campus visit
On Monday, June 1st all of our year 6 students will be heading off to QUT’s Caboolture campus to find out what university life is all about. This is an excellent day out for our students and we are grateful to QUT for providing us with transport and a delicious lunch. Our students are looking forward to having the opportunity to the exciting
range of experiences that QUT has to offer.

**Morayfield State High School visit**
Our year 5 and 6 students met in the hall at 2pm with staff from Morayfield State High School to hear more about what high school life has to offer. This is the first in a series of events that will be organised to ensure a smooth transition for our students who are moving into high school in the very near future. It’s hard to believe that our year 6 students are almost half way through their final year of primary schooling. We are certain that the visit this afternoon will go a long way in supporting our students to take the next step in their educational journey.

**Inter-house Athletics Carnival**
On Tuesday 23rd of June (800m and high jump) and Wednesday 24th of June (all other events) will be our upper school athletics carnival. We are looking forward to seeing all our talented students participating in their house colours. This year, our wonderful new hats with their house colours on one side and school colours on the other, will be on display. If you haven’t had a chance to purchase one of these for your child, please see the uniform shop.

**RACQ Streets Ahead Program**
From Tuesday the 9th of June to Friday the 12th of June, RACQ will be running their ‘Streets Ahead’ program with all classes from Prep to year 6. The RACQ's Streets Ahead is a road safety education program for Queensland primary schools. The ‘Streets Ahead’ program comprises of four age-appropriate presentations covering road safety themes including passenger, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and is delivered as a ‘whole school’ approach.

**Reconciliation Celebration/Under 8’s Day**
On Wednesday June 17th, we will be holding a whole celebration to coincide with Under 8’s day. The theme as we head towards NAIDOC week will be around Reconciliation. We are currently planning to run a number of events that showcase the incredible contribution Indigenous people have made to our country. Students across all year levels will have the opportunity to be involved in creating art work, dancing, storytelling and a range of other activities.

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**Homework Policy**
This policy and set guidelines has been developed following discussions with teachers and parental feedback.

**Our School Community’s Beliefs about Homework**
At Morayfield State School, we acknowledge that the time spent with their families and their involvement in and out of school hours activities are important components of the development of the whole child. Activities such as art lessons, sports practices, cultural activities, out of school hours care and youth clubs, are all considered to be valuable learning activities that place additional demands on family time. We believe all children should be physically active after school. This may include sports team practice, playing or walking the family dog.

The majority of our school community believes that homework is a worthwhile activity because:
- It supports students to revise their learning
- It provides a mode for extra practice of skills
- It supports students to create positive habits such as organisation, routines and work ethic
- It builds relationships
- Reading sits separately to class homework. All Students focus on reading.

**Homework Guidelines**

**Teachers’ Role and Responsibilities**
Each teacher is responsible as part of the year level team, to engage in developing guidelines appropriate across the year level. The year level team will be responsible for deciding:
- The activities to be set
- How homework will be marked
- What role the parents play in homework
- What parents should do when they find a problem with homework.
- How to communicate the expectations of homework with parents
- There will be no punishment for no homework, instead there will be positive incentives to complete it.

**Parents’ Role and Responsibilities**
- Support the school and the teacher’s homework policy
- Establish a homework routine
- Encourage and support students to complete homework
- Communicate with the class teacher if problems arise
- Parents may opt out of homework for their child, however reading needs to still occur.

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**Michelle Cubis**
Deputy Principal
**Students’ Role and Responsibilities**

- Complete homework as per the guidelines set by their class teacher
- Show homework to their parents and teacher
- Organise their time appropriately (home duties, extra curricula activities and homework)

**Time Allocation**

At MSS, teachers and parents were surveyed and they agree that homework should be no longer than half an hour per evening.

**Prep:** Up to 10-15 minutes daily - With a focus on reading from Week 5, Term 1.

**Years 1-2:** Up to 20-30 minutes daily Consisting mainly of daily reading practice, word recognition, spelling practice and numeracy practise.

**Years 3-6:** Up to 30 minutes daily Consisting mainly of daily reading for pleasure, spelling practice and other tasks increasing in complexity by the year level and set by the teacher.

There will be no homework for the last week of every term.

It is also important to note – that year levels will be responsible for deciding on the content that they will be focusing on; however, each class may look slightly different.

**Comprehension Corner**

For the rest of this term our whole school comprehension focus will be “**Inferring**”.

**What is inferring?**

When we infer we are being a book detective. We use information from words and pictures (the clues) with things we already know (our background knowledge) to make an inference.

When we need to answer more difficult questions we often need to **read between the lines** to find the answer. We use this strategy to help us gain a better understanding of what the author has written and what is happening in the text.

**What do readers need to do to make an inference?**

Use the connecting strategy so that they connect the ideas to what they already know.

Use the prediction strategy to think about what may happen.

Stop and check if the text makes sense.

Look for clues that will help them understand the text.

**Questions that you can ask to help your child infer**

- What do you think the author is trying to say?
- What is really going on in this part?
- What is your conclusion? What words from the text tell you that?

What do these clues lead you to believe?

Happy Reading

Robyn Stegman

**Enrolling at Morayfield State High School for 2016**

We would like to invite all Year 5 and 6 parents and students to an enrolment information session.

This is an opportunity for us to showcase our school and explain the enrolment process. Enrolment pack will be available on the afternoon. We will begin accepting 2016 Enrolment Applications for Year 7 2016 from **Thursday 21 May and are due by Friday 28 August**.

Please note that a parent enrolment information session will also be held on **Wednesday 22 July at 6pm in the multipurpose shelter**. This will be a repeat session of the first session. Please feel free to contact Morayfield State High School (5428 5555) for further information.

**Expression of Interest**

2 X TEMPORARY PART-TIME ADMINISTRATION OFFICER (AAEP) POSITIONS

Expressions of interest are sought for 2 x 18hpw plus ADO (negotiable) temporary part-time Administration Officers (AAEP) positions at Morayfield State School for period 13 July 2015 to 20 January 2016 (possibility of extension).

Hours are temporary and may fluctuate depending on funding.

**Experience in OneSchool essential.**

Role includes a mix of tasks including:

- Reception duties – customer service
- Recording and conveying messages
- First Aid, Mail, Excursions, Collection/receipting monies, Filing, Ordering
- Student admissions/enrolments/class rolls

Please email a 1 page resume outlining your experience to:

Jennine Simpson (BSM)
jsimp91@eq.edu.au (Telephone 5431 6233)

Applications close: Friday 12th June 2015 @ 12pm