**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Our School Vision

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

Welcome to the 2015 school year. It is certainly great to be back at school and I am looking forward to a fantastic year. I would particularly like to welcome our 98 Prep students all the new students across years 1 to 6 and their families. I am confident that you will find Morayfield a great school where your children will learn, grow and develop.

I would like to thank all the staff for the amazing job they did preparing and organising the grounds and classrooms so that they were ready for our children.

Over the last week all classes have been working on “Rocket into Learning” units which explicitly teach rules and routines across the school and in the classroom. Teachers have also been working on social skills developing new friendships within each class.
Uniform Policy/Dress Code
Our uniform policy reinforces, in students, a sense pride in their own appearance; instil recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community; and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are factors that have contributed to the establishment of the Morayfield State School Student Uniform Policy. By having a Uniform Policy we aim to:

- Readily identify students and non-students at our school.
- Further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with our school.
- Eliminate the distraction of competition in dress and fashion amongst students at the school.
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Develop mutual respect amongst students through minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences.
- Maintain and enhance the positive image of the school within the community

To support families the P&C are providing a range of strategies to enable all children to wear a uniform. Strategies include:

- Ability to layby uniforms
- A range of second hand uniforms
- An exchange service – if a child comes to school not in uniform they will be asked to go to the tuckshop to exchange their clothes for a uniform. At the end of the day they will exchange the uniform for their clothes.
- Students attending excursions or representing the school in off campus activities eg. Sporting events, excursions etc. will need to wear a school uniform.

This process will come into effect in week 4 - 16th February enabling all families time to get uniforms. If you are having difficulty getting uniforms please contact Mrs Wicks, Ms Cubis or I to discuss possible solutions.

Attendance – Absence Line 5431 6260
If your child is absent for any reason please ring the absence line to inform the school.

School absenteeism can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. Schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences.

If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing school without you knowing, contact your school immediately for assistance and support.

Support Strategy
This year every student who attends school every day (Monday to Friday with NO late arrivals or early departures) will receive an ice block of Friday afternoon at the end of the day.

Smoking Banned 5 metres Around School Grounds –
This includes the Bus Stop
Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays. On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school. Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.

Communication
If you have access to Facebook please like the Morayfield State School and the Morayfield State School P & C sites. Both these sites will provide you with up to date information about what is going on in the school.

Newsletters can be received either electronically via email or from our school web site www.morayfieldss@eq.edu.au. If you wish to receive an emailed electronic copy please pop into the office and check we have your email address. You can also organise to have a paper copy sent home with your child or collect one from the office.

“The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.” - Lao Tzu

Aim High
Vicky Gahan
Principal
Our year has got off to a great start. Thank you Mums and Dads for the wonderful way you presented your children in uniform with all their learning materials ready for the learning year ahead.

Learning began day 1 with students completing writing and maths samples that will help inform their learning goals in reading, writing and numbers. Teachers are working together in year level groups to set targets for student achievement in reading. To help us achieve these targets we need your help at home. See our Comprehension Corner in the newsletter for our Term 1 reading focus.

During Week 3, 10 – 13 February, parents are invited to ‘Meet the Teacher’ meetings. This is a great chance for parents to share information about their child to help teachers cater for their learning and social emotional wellbeing in the year ahead. Please respond early to secure your preferred meeting time with your child’s teacher.

We would love to see you at our Junior parade for Year 1 and 2 students on Thursday afternoons at 2.00pm in the school hall. Prep students will join parade in Term 2. It’s a great opportunity for you to hear messages and also see classes perform which will start from week 4 this term.

Please accept my invitation for you to be actively involved in all aspects of your child’s education this year as a class volunteer. Teachers are always happy to have helpers involved even for 15 minutes to listen to children read. If you have time please let your child’s teacher know you’d like to help out!

Amanda Wicks
Deputy Principal Prep – Yr 2

SWPBS Update
Our students have started off the year well and are looking forward to working towards their rocket targets for this term. Each student is rewarded a green rocket ticket when they’re demonstrating positive behaviours both inside and outside the classroom. If students reach their target, they will be rewarded with a free hat day at the end of week 5. Students will be able to wear any hat of their choosing on that day.

Year 6 Camp to Maranatha
Notices have been sent home to our Year 6 families regarding our upcoming leadership camp to Maranatha, near Yandina. The camp will take place on Monday 27th of April to Wednesday 29th of April and will include activities like raft building, abseiling, bush walking and team challenge activities. This is a great opportunity for our students to build relationships with their peers and their teachers, while developing their own personal leadership skills. If you have any questions about camp or the costs involved, please contact the office.

Year 6 Leader Induction Assembly
On Wednesday 18th of February at 2pm, we will be holding our leadership induction ceremony in our school hall. Wyatt Roy MP for the Federal seat of Longman, will be joining us to help us celebrate the selection of our school leaders. Parents are invited to join us on the day and stay after the ceremony for light refreshments.

Michelle Cubis
Deputy Principal 3-6

Curriculum News
During these first two weeks of school, the teachers have been hard at work teaching our ‘Rocket into Learning Units’. These units focus on: teaching the routines of the classroom, building the relationship between your child and their teacher, sharing the behaviour expectations of the school, and offering a positive start to students after the vacation period.
Teachers provide activities that allow them to get to know their students. This allows them to further cater for their academic and emotional needs throughout the year. At Morayfield State School, we value Literacy and Numeracy; therefore these areas are catered for across the ‘Rocket into Learning Unit’.

Kelly Elliott-Maskiel
Head of Curriculum

CHAPLAINS CHAT

Welcome to our new school year.
Hi everyone for those of you who don’t know me, my name is Julie Hose and I am the Chaplain here at MSS. I am here at school 4 days per week which are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. My office is located in the SEP Block so please feel free to drop in and say hello.

Brekky Club
Brekky club started again this week.
We run it every Tuesday and Friday morning over near the Hall from 8am -8.30 am.
We are serving toast with jam or vegemite, a cup of Milo and scrambled egg or French toast.
In return we ask the children to pick up 5 pieces of litter from the school grounds and to wash and wipe up their own dishes. This is a way for our children learn to take pride and responsibility in our school and in themselves.

We have a lot of fun working and eating together. Hope to see your children there.

Have a great week keep smiling
Julie Hose

P&C NEWS

Welcome back everyone!

2015 is starting off to be a great year, we would like to welcome all our new families to our school and hope your child’s learning experience is an enjoyable one!

Next P&C Meeting is Thursday, 19th February, 3:00pm at the PLACE, the building near the Hall.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Our Tuckshop is now OPEN!

New menus have gone home with students over the last 2 weeks, if your child has not received one, please come to the Tuckshop to collect one!

Parents please check pricing as there has been a slight price increase on a couple of our items, also parents will be happy to know that we are “Home Baking” some our favourite items! We now have homemade rice; lasagne, Spaghetti bolognaises, chicken carbonara, macaroni cheese, sausage rolls and we are now making our own pizzas!
We are in the process of obtaining a new slushy machine, so until then slushy’s will be unavailable, but we are hoping to have one over the next week or two! Who loves smoothies? Well we are trialling homemade smoothies so keep an eye out as we will be giving out taste tests for you to try!

UNIFORM NEWS

Hats have arrived; if you need one please see the Uniform Shop.

Pre-Order forms have gone out this week for our Senior Shirts and please read carefully, as there will be NO Late orders!

Over the next week or two, pre-order forms will be going out for Winter Jackets.

If you have any questions, please see our

Uniform Convenor
Denise Mountney