

MORAYFIELD STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Respect • Responsibility • Cooperation



Visentin Road
Morayfield QLD 4506

Website: <http://morayfieshs.eq.edu.au>

Email: info@morayfieshs.eq.edu.au

Phone: 07 5428 5555

Fax: 07 5428 5500

Subscribe to Online Newsletter!

<http://morayfieldshs.schoolzinenewsletters.com/subscribe>

9 December 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER

10 December	Year 8 and 9 Aim High Rewards Day
11 December	Year 8 and 9 Reports distributed Year 9 Junior School Graduation
12 December	Final Day for Year 8 and 9 students
13 December	School Holidays commence
19 January	Bookshop and Cashier - CLOSED
20 January	Cashier open - 8:45am-1:00pm Uniform shop open - 9:00am – 1:00pm
21 January	Cashier open - 8:45am-1:00pm Uniform shop open - 9:00am – 1:00pm
22 January	Cashier open - 8:45am-1:00pm and 4:00pm-7:00pm Uniform shop open - 2:00pm – 7:00pm
23 January	Cashier open - 8:45am-1:00pm Uniform shop open - 9:00am – 1:00pm
25 January	School Holidays finish
26 January	Australia Day Holiday
27 January	School Resumes for Year 7 to 10 inclusive – 8:45am
28 January	School Resumes for all year levels – 8:45am

From the Principal

What a year 2014 has been for Morayfield State High School! I am incredibly proud of what we (staff, students and parents) have achieved this year. Our students have excelled in the classroom, on the sporting field, on stage and in many other areas. Our staff have, as always, worked tirelessly to ensure

that our students have been exposed to quality learning experiences and have achieved optimal outcomes throughout the year.

Our Year 10 and 11 students completed the 2014 school year on Friday, 28 November. Reports for these students have been completed and students are able to collect them from the Attendance Window in the school's Administration Building.

Our Year 8 and Year 9 students will be working in regular classes this week except for Thursday afternoon when the Year 9 cohort will participate in a Graduation Ceremony to celebrate them completing Junior Secondary Schooling. Students will receive their reports on Thursday, 11 December, but school officially breaks up for the summer vacation on Friday, 12 December. Expectations in relation to attendance, behaviour and dress remain the same as always.

A number of teachers have completed their teaching contracts. I would like to thank the following staff for the contribution they have made this year and especially for their commitment to improving learning outcomes for our students.

Susanne	Ellen	Imogen	Cheryl
Perey	Abbott	Alcock	Nolan
David	Casey	Luke	Kathy
McDonald	Reibelt	Harris	Gould
Selena			
Long			

Some of these teachers will return in 2015 to take up permanent or contract positions. This week, we will also say farewell to some of our permanent staff who will transfer to other schools or who will take extended leave (*). I would like to thank these teachers for their ongoing and relentless support of our students. They have collectively inspired and motivated our students over many years and each of them will be missed in our school community. We wish them all the very best in their new locations and look forward to catching up with them at some time in the future.

Alan	Margie	Tim	Marc
Bradford	Vellnagel	O'Connor	Timmins*

Great state. Great opportunity.



Bernie Toohey	Leisha Burgaty	Jon Adams	Reannon Krummins*
Melissa Scott			

Keep a watch on our school these holidays

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88.

By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please do not intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Janelle Amos
Principal

From the Cashier:

As the end of the school year is rapidly approaching please ensure all school fees from 2014 and previous years are paid in full. **The Cashier will close at 1:30pm on Tuesday 9 December 2014.** Unfortunately no payments can be accepted after this date during 2014.

The Cashier will re-open on Tuesday 20 January 2015. The Cashier and Uniform shop will be open selected hours from Tuesday January 20 – Friday 23 January. Please see below the flyer with the Uniform Shop and Cashier hours for the organisational week.

Before payment can be accepted for 2015, a new Student Resource Scheme (SRS2015) participation form must be completed for every student and returned to the school office. Forms are available on the school website, from the office or click on the link below and print a copy at home.

Students in Year 7 and 8 in 2015 would have received a copy of the SRS form in your enrolment pack. If you are unsure if this form was returned please check with the office. All required textbooks/resources will be issued to eligible students in class groups in first three weeks in Term 1 2015. Students will need to present their receipt to the Resource Centre to collect their required resources and they will need to ensure all resources from 2014 have been returned.

For parents that have completed and returned the Student Resource Scheme form with their credit card details the payment will be processed during the first week of school from 27-30 January 2015; please ensure you have sufficient funds available.

If you have chosen not to join the Student Resource Scheme in 2015, you will need to advise the school office in writing of non-participation. Please be aware if you have chosen not to join the Scheme or become financially ineligible by non-payment of fees you will be responsible for providing your student with the items that would otherwise be provided by the Scheme. For non-participants a complete list of the items (all textbooks, resources, consumable materials) that a student requires to have for each subject/year level is available from the school office. Please note this is separate from the stationery list; all stationery requirements for all subjects and year levels are also available on the school website or at the school office.

During the year, we also prepared to welcome the Year 7s to high school in 2015. Apart from the obvious building program, our teachers have written curriculum, undertaken additional training, sourced and purchased resources and re-written policy and other school documentation to reflect our growing school community.

Our P and C has also been incredibly busy this year, carrying out a review of its operations to ensure a more effective and efficient organisation and to cater for the needs of our growing community. I thank the Executive and all members of the P and C for the work that they continue to do to support our students.

I sincerely thank all members of our school community for their support of our staff, students and school in 2014. It has been an incredibly busy year, but it certainly brought out the best in our students. I wish you all a safe and healthy holiday and I look forward to continuing our great work in 2015.

Orientation Days

Last week we hosted 161 Year 7 students and 259 Year 6 students for our Orientation Days. We held Orientation over two days as we will welcome two cohorts of students into our school next year. The Orientation Days are designed to introduce primary students to the secondary setting and to ensure they are feeling comfortable about the start of 2015.

Students were introduced to key staff, given a tour of the school and worked with their 2015 Form teachers and student leaders. Parents were also invited to an information session where we provided a snapshot of the school and passed on tips to support their student in the transition.

What you need to know for the beginning of 2015

As will be detailed later in this newsletter, the school office will reopen on Monday 19 January and the Cashier and Uniform Shop will be open from Tuesday 20 January.

As 2015 is unique with Year 7s and Year 8s starting, we have decided to do a "split start" to the school year to ensure students settle in and can be supported by our Senior Student Leaders. With this in mind, please note the following start dates/times.

Years 7, 8, 9, 10	Tuesday, 27 January 2015 Students to assemble in Multi-purpose shelter at 8:45am
Years 11, 12	Wednesday 28 January 2015 Students to assemble in Multi-purpose shelter at 8:45am

For those eligible students currently in Years 9 – 11 with Laptops/Tablets, the access fee of \$100.00 for 2015 will be due by 13 February 2015. Students will need to ensure SRS fees are also paid to continue to be eligible for the device scheme. Any students no longer requiring their devices are to ensure they are returned to the technicians in G Block with all accessories before the end of the 2014 school year.

Payment options at the School Office include: cash, eftpos, cheque, EFT and Centrelink deductions. Please ensure if direct depositing into the school bank account that you use your child's name and year level as the reference so we can uniquely identify your payment. If you would like to organise Centrelink deductions or would like to organise a payment plan please call the office to schedule an appointment with the Business Services Manager.

Julie Hill
Cashier

Guidance News

University of Sunshine Coast Options – Your Questions and Answers Day

This year University of Sunshine Coast Options has been extended to an all-day affair happening on:

When: 9am - 5pm, Friday 19 December

Where: University of Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs campus

You can choose a time that best suits you to get your questions answered.

Come along to:

- take a campus tour with a USC student ambassador
- talk to staff about your QTAC preferences, the admissions process, fees and scholarships
- talk to program advisors about your preferred degree
- find out about your accommodation options
- attend a special seminar 'Surviving the first year of University'

Register now for your campus tour and preferred seminar time at usc.edu.au/options.

Employment and Training Program at Deception Bay Community Youth Programs

In late January/early February we will be holding a FREE Certificate III in Retail for young people 15 – 25 year olds. The course will run over three weeks for 4 days a week.

To be eligible the young person is not enrolled in school, not receiving Centrelink and not hold a certificate III or higher.

The details of the course are:

- Options will see participants gain a Certificate III in Retail, with opportunities for industry experience
- Participants will take part in a range of job preparation and life skills workshops

- Throughout the program participants will undertake intensive case management support to identify and transition into further employment and / or training.
- The accredited training component of the program runs for 3 weeks, 4 days a week.
- Ongoing employment and training support will continue until April 2015
- If young people are interested contact DBCYP on 3204 0277 or alternatively email Veronica veronica@dbcyp.org.au or Ime Lia-Norris Imeleta@dbcyp.org.au with your basic details - name and contact phone number. Any other information that is relevant to the referral can be included and is appreciated.

Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

How students can apply for a Tax File Number from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a Tax File Number.

Students can now apply for a Tax File Number online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a Tax File Number. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604'

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource *Tax, Super and You* is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au.

In the coming weeks we will provide more information by email on how students can apply for a Tax File Number and the educational services we can provide. In the meantime if you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Kara MacLennan
Guidance Officer

Aim High Program

This year has seen a large number of our students achieve either GOLD or PLATINUM status as part of the Morayfield State High School Aim High program. Our Aim High program

rewards those students who are consistently displaying the school values of being Respectful, Responsible and Cooperative in all settings throughout the school. Students are invited to attend the end of year excursion to Wet and Wild and are issued with a GOLD or PLATINUM student ID card, which allows them access to a number of discounts at various retailers throughout the Morayfield Shopping Centre.

Students are provided with either stamps or Merit points from school staff for displaying the school values outlined above. Students need 75 stamps and/or merit points and 85% attendance to be eligible for GOLD status and 150 stamps and/or merit points and 90% attendance to be eligible for PLATINUM status. This year 54 students achieved PLATINUM status and over 200 achieved GOLD status. This is a fantastic achievement by these students and something that they should be very proud of.

Congratulations to all of these students and we hope that you once again 'Aim High' in 2015.

Brendan Macaulay
Head of Department Student Services

PEER SKILLS WORKSHOP

On 1st and 2nd December, 32 of our Year 10 and 11 student leaders participated in a Uniting Care Community 2-day Peer Skills Workshop, facilitated by our Chappy Jesse Davis and the Guidance Officer Kara MacLennan.

The workshop aimed to provide our students with the confidence and skills they need to respond in the best possible way when a friend turns to them with a concern and/or problem. Research at Kids Help Line suggests that while many young people share their problems with their parents, often they turn first to their peers and friends.

The workshop trained students in support skills, communication and problem-solving skills and provided them with information about local agencies.

These student leaders will be mentors to the grade 7 and 8's next year. They will be paired up with form classes and will mentor these students throughout 2015.

We are looking forward to the initiatives in building on our positive and supportive school environment from our 2015 student mentors.



Jesse Davis
School Chaplain

English Department

Paul Sherman has been attending our school for many years. He is a well-known performer and poet and he has written a poem about Morayfield State High School. Please see below his poem titled "Under the Osprey".

Under the Osprey

Osprey opens her whitened wings
--Badge-bird of Morayfield State High,
"Strength through Integrity" her motto.

I've volunteer-visited many a year
Helping with Shakespeare and Aussie Poems.
Morayfield students ever keen.

School's on the North Coast railway line
Between the railway and beaut billabong
Where paddling ducks no Bunyip fear.

Library rooms link up for stage
Where Beatrice masters Benedick,
Where Weird Sisters worry Macbeth.

Where Hamlet frightens fair Ophelia
Then kills her father by mistake,
Knifing through Gertrude's closet-curtain.

Where Romeo and Juliet
Defy their parents' long-held hate,
Where Tybalt's keen to slice with sword.

No one complains that we're too loud.
Library readers love to listen.
Lunch-break always comes too soon.

Paul Sherman, for the Morayfielders

PS. I look at picture that you posted (see below) the students and I playing with props, still keen after just completing the scene.



From left to right: Johan Layt, Emma Reely (Front), Nastassja Dootson (Back), Mary –Faith Mihaka, Sam Martin, Liam Theunissen, Ty Hardie and Mr Sherman seated.

Verushka Torrens
Head of Department English

SOCIAL SCIENCE MATTERS

Year 9 News

The study of people, and their interactions with each other and their environments in the past, enables students to gain an understanding and better appreciation of the society they live in today.

The Year 9 students currently studying History have just finished investigating the significance of ANZAC Day. The unit focus was World War One. They studied the major issues related to WWI – questions related to who, what, where and why. For assessment, the students are currently writing a speech that could be delivered during the Dawn Service at Gallipoli on ANZAC Day 2015. Of course this day has particular significance, as it marks the centenary of the first landing by Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli. This was our first involvement in war as a federated nation.

Many of the students have been moved emotionally as they learn about the involvement of our young men in trench warfare at Gallipoli and along the Western Front. The visual images of endless headstones in the war cemeteries of Europe bring the reality of a distant war a little closer. By studying the connections with the past, hopefully these students will have an even greater appreciation of the special significance the 25 April has on the Australian and New Zealand calendar today.



Ms Teena Norman
Acting HOD Social Science

Change to Swimming Carnivals

The Morayfield State High School Swimming Carnival date is Friday 6 February 2015.

Due to the increase in school population next year, it has been decided that the 2015 Swimming Carnival format will change from the activities and swimming day to a pure swimming only day, with the focus on active participation. With this in mind, the carnival will be a nomination only event. Students who nominate to attend MUST swim in at least two events. All participation

will be over 25 metres and championship events over 50 metres.

When not swimming competitors will be involved in cheer squad activities or assisting staff. **For all other students it will be a normal school day and students are expected at school.**

If you have any queries regarding the 2015 Swimming Carnival format, please contact me on 5428 5570.

Bill Schneid
Head of Department HPE

Kangaroo Bus Lines – 2015 Bus Pass

Kangaroo Bus Lines would like to advise that students who currently have a bus pass with our company will need to collect their new 2015 pass to be able to continue to travel on our school services next year. Passes can be collected from our office at 2 Motorway Drive, corner of Pitt Road, Burpengary, from Monday 12 January 2015.

New Applications, Change of School or Change of Address Applications will be accepted for the remainder of the year with cards to be collected after Monday 12 January 2015.

Bus passes will **NOT** be available for collection from the bus drivers of our school services.

Should you require further information or parents have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office between the hours 8:00am – 5:00pm Monday to Friday on 1300 287 525.

Theresa Lybery
Kangaroo Bus Lines

Community News

School Holiday Fun - Active Kids and SHAFT Programs

From Monday 12 January to Friday 23 January 2015, Moreton Bay Regional Council is running two great programs to help keep kids and youth who live in or attend school in the Moreton Bay region active during the school holidays. These activities are a great opportunity for children to engage in physical activity while making new friends and enjoying themselves.

Active Kids Free Park Sessions are run in various parks throughout the region and require no bookings or payment to attend. Activities will teach children aged 3 to 12 years and their families new skills, sports and games in a supportive and fun environment.

Active Kids: www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/activekids

School Holiday Activities for Teenagers (SHAFT) has a range of great activities to engage youth aged 12 to 17 years during the school holiday period. All activities are subsidised by the Moreton Bay Regional Council making them more affordable for students and families.

SHAFT: www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/shaft

For further information please contact Mr Brendan Arthur, Team Leader Healthy Communities, on 3283 0328 or email Brendan.Arthur@moretonbay.qld.gov.au .

Brendan Arthur
Moreton Bay Regional Council
www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/recreationprograms

A Message from the Morayfield State School Guidance Officer

Here are four skills for self-esteem building:

1. Realistic self-talk

Many children will default to putting themselves down when they do not do well. Help children understand their own self-talk. Get them to listen to that little voice in their heads that says they can or cannot do things and help them work out alternative messages that they can use if they are self-defeating. Teach children that they can change the self-talk from a negative to a positive response.

2. Encouraging others

When children and teenagers encourage others to do well they are internalising encouragement. They also begin to associate encouragement they give to others with themselves. So if a child praises a sibling for overcoming a learning challenge, such as improving his spelling at school, he is learning firsthand about the impact that encouragement will have. He will also experience that feeling himself.

3. Regulating feelings

If a child feels disappointed in himself he does not have to stay that way. It is important for children to realise having feelings is ok, for them to be validated and not be overwhelmed by them. Children learn to manage their feelings by observing modelling from parents/carers. We can teach children to regulate their stress levels; express their feelings constructively, not impulsively or hurtfully.

4. Choosing friends

Peers give young people a sense of belonging and an increased sense of self-confidence. Talk with your child about friendships so that you offer support when there are difficulties and provide some ideas when needed. Give children the opportunity to develop their own resourcefulness and to understand that they can make smart friendship choices, broaden their friendship group, and walk away from challenging situations.

Angus McGarva
Guidance Officer