

MORAYFIELD STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Respect • Responsibility • Cooperation



Visentin Road
Morayfield QLD 4506

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4 May 2015

Dates to remember

4 May	Year 8 Assembly (AIM)
5 May	Year 10 to 12 Parent Teacher Interviews Year 11 Biology Kondaila Falls Excursion Year 9 QUT Business Class Visit Year 12 Sampling and Measurement Cheesemaking
6 May	QUT Caboolture Business Competition Year 12 Chemistry Cheesemaking
7 May	Year 12 SIS Bush Camp
8 May	Red Cross Blood Drive
11 May	P&C Meeting – 6.30pm in Administration Building Year 9 Assembly (AIM)
11 to 15 May	Variation Free All Year Levels
12 to 14 May	Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN
15 May	Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN Catch Up Day
18 May	District Cross Country Year 10 Assembly (AIM) Year 7 Assembly (AIM) Murrumba Downs District Maths Tournament Year 11 and 12 Geography Excursion

From the Principal

WELCOME BACK TO TERM TWO

I trust that all families had a relaxing and peaceful break over Easter. Term Two is an incredibly important time for all students as we work towards finalising Semester One results. Senior students should be studying at least one and a half hours per

night during the week and again for a block of time on the weekend.

Students in Years 7 and 9 will soon sit the National Literacy and Numeracy Assessment tasks (NAPLAN) and teachers have been supporting their preparation for this. This term our students will also participate in a number of sporting and academic competitions, camps, community events and curriculum related excursions and activities.

Across all year levels we continue to focus on improving students' literacy, numeracy and academic performance. Deputy Principals and Heads of Department are currently undertaking academic reviews with students. We also continue our focus on improving student attendance and ensuring students are displaying high standards in relation to behaviour and engagement.

ANZAC DAY

Our school ANZAC Ceremony was held on Thursday 24 April and was attended by special guests Bruce Miller (RSL representative), Mark Ryan (State Member for Morayfield), Corey Wilson (former member of the Royal Australian Navy) and Stephen Sly (P&C President). The ceremony was led by school captains Emily Griffin, Dominic Paino, Ellyse Burrows and John Viani. Our Keynote speech was delivered by Gabrielle Viljoen.

We must thank Mr Lou Mackay-Payne, who is currently on leave, for his support in organising the school assemblies. He was ably supported by many staff and we must also thank our cadets, our school band and choir (led by Deb Thorpe) and Lorna Lukey for catering.

A full report on our ANZAC Day assemblies and our student involvement in the ANZAC Day commemorations in Caboolture follows in this newsletter.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will take place week 4 of Term 2 on Tuesday 12 May, Wednesday 13 May and Thursday 14 May. All Year 7 and 9 students will take the tests over the three days except for a handful who have an exemption.

Great state. Great opportunity.



At this school, all teachers are teachers of literacy and numeracy and it is expected that across the curriculum, all Year 7 and 9 teachers are making explicit the literacy and numeracy components of their particular subject, with reference to the NAPLAN test.

Our Year 7 and 9 students are well prepared for the test as we have had a whole school focus on improving students' literacy and numeracy in 2015. Students have routinely completed literacy/numeracy warm-ups in all subjects, have sat a practice test and strategies have been employed with targeted students to improve performance and reduce anxiety.

All students who sit NAPLAN will receive their individual score for each test later in the year. We expect that our students will improve on their result from Year 5 or 7 and that they will continue to value the literacy and numeracy components of their subjects.

TUCKSHOP UPDATE

I would like to thank our P&C Executive and our Tuckshop staff for their efforts over the past two weeks. As previously notified, asbestos was found in sheeting whilst renovations were being carried out over the holidays. Our school tuckshop has been operating out of H05 and students have been very patient and supportive of staff and the situation.

Replacement equipment has been ordered and is progressively being delivered. We will hopefully be fully operational and back in I-Block by the end of week three.

Janelle Amos
Principal

Parent/Teacher Interviews

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

It is coming up to that time of year when the Senior round of Interim Reporting and Parent/Teacher Interviews will occur. Our Parent/Teacher Interviews for the Senior school will take place on Tuesday 5 May 2015. These interviews are for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 only. Our teachers are looking forward to the opportunity to speak with parents/caregivers about your students and their progress in Term 1 on this evening.

Parent/Teacher interviews will be able to be booked through the SOBS website, www.sobs.com.au. This is a quick and easy way through which parents / caregivers can book a number of interviews with a variety of teachers at a time that suits them. Also, the rooms in V Block that each teacher has been assigned to will appear along with your appointment time. Please don't forget to bring a printout of your appointment times with you so as to ensure the smooth and timely running of this event.

Please ensure that you are checking our website and Facebook page for more information in regards to both the Parent/Teacher Evening, the issuing of report cards and when the SOBS site will be open for booking teachers.

Nicole O'Hearn
Deputy Principal

NAPLAN

As you are aware NAPLAN testing for Year 7 and 9 students will take place on 12-14 of May.

TUESDAY – 12 May	WEDNESDAY – 13 May	THURSDAY – 14 May
Language Conventions 45mins	Reading 65mins	Numeracy Calculator 40mins
Writing 40mins		Numeracy Non-Calculator 40mins

Students are required to bring the following equipment :

2B or HB pencils
Sharpener
Eraser
Blue or Black pens
Calculator

For optimal performance in each test, we recommend an early night and a healthy breakfast. Our volunteers will be running Breakfast Club each morning of the tests with a range of healthy choices for our students.

Students must ensure that they are at school on time and move directly to the classroom allocated to them as per discussions in Form class.

Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the tests.

Kerri Furlong
**Head of Department Junior Secondary School/
Languages**

Year Level Coordinator News

YEAR 12 NEWS

Welcome to Term 2! As I write this article, the countdown clock reminds me that our Year 12 only have as little as 24 weeks left of formal schooling. What can they do to make this a memorable and also a fruitful and successful 24 weeks? Students must understand that it is up to them to set goals and work hard to achieve then staff are only too willing to support them in achieving their dreams. Students must ensure that they comply with school rules; uniform dress code, behaviour standards, attendance and academic effort and achievement right up to the last day. It is very important that I bring this to your attention as these factors are some of the criteria that we use to assess whether your student is eligible to attend the School Formal at the end of the year.

Next week each Year 12 student will receive a letter as well as a Formal eligibility form that they will have signed off by their

subject teachers. Students must ensure that they complete these forms and hand them in by the stipulated date. This process will be repeated again at the beginning of Term 3 and Term 4. Students are also reminded to check Form rolls for absence slips that require parent/carer signatures and explanations. If your student has been absent, please submit a note, call the school or return a text message explaining the absence. Please check in regularly with your student about their academic progress and assessment due dates. If you have any questions about Formal eligibility, please contact me at the school.

With winter upon us, please ensure that all students are abiding to the schools Dress Code. The school diary (p14 -17), explains in details out expectations.

It is going to be a jam-packed term with students working hard on assessments. A final message for students: Persevere in your efforts and the long term gain will be your best reward! Remember to check in with me if you need any assistance.

"Believe you can, and you are halfway there!" Theodore Roosevelt

Bharti Singh
Year 12 Year Level Coordinator

YEAR 11 NEWS

Morayfield State High School students really stood out and impressed on the weekend at the Caboolture ANZAC Day march. Seventy-Eight students attended from Year 11 and this is 32% of the entire cohort. This attendance rate made me proud to be their Year Level Coordinator and I would like to thank every one of them and their parents for this effort. Many more contacted me and stated that they could not attend and this clearly demonstrates that the Year 11s are 'stepping as they continue their journey into senior schooling.

Mr Smith
Year 11 Year Level Coordinator

Year 10 NEWS

The start to the term for the Year 10 students has been very busy. We have had a number of Year 10 student leaders assisting at events such as parent teacher interviews, the ANZAC Day march at Caboolture, helping at the Valentine's Day stall and other events that have been happening around the school.

On 29-30 May a group of 40 students will be attending the *QUT Explore Uni* camp. These students were chosen based on their attendance, behaviour and uniform data and all the students chosen had an exemplary record. The purpose of the camp is for students to experience university life and other careers to gauge a possible future career pathway. The camp will involve students attending the QUT Caboolture and Gardens Point Campuses and visiting the Employment and Careers Expo at the Convention Centre on Saturday. This will be a great experience for all students and I look forward to attending the camp with our Year 10 students.

Term Two is already proving to be a busy term. In the next few weeks there will be an application for current Year 10 students to apply for the leadership program. Students who would like

to engage with this program should have a desire to make a positive contribution to our school and should be Respectful, Responsible and Cooperative members of our school community. Students who wish to apply should be collating a list of their current experience in leadership. Information will be released in the student notices in the next couple of weeks.

Have a great term

Amy Hunter
Year 10 Year Level Coordinator

YEAR 9 NEWS

2015 was off to a flying start for our leaders of the Junior Secondary school. The Year 9 students knew that this was to be a year of hard work, dedication and leading the way for our two new cohorts who joined us. Our 2015 cohort of Year 9s have proven to be Respectful, Responsible and Cooperative students who have done a fantastic job of upholding the values of Morayfield State High School. Exemplary behaviour was demonstrated at the ANZAC Day March at King Street, Caboolture on 25 April as our students paid their respects to Australia's Armed Forces, both past and present. As the Year Level Coordinator, I could not have been more proud of our Year 9 students.

Term Two holds many exciting things for our Year 9s. Our current attendance rate is over 90% and our new goal for this term is to improve further and achieve 93%. NAPLAN is coming up in Week 4, so our students are refocusing their studying habits to ensure they do their very best. The Summit Club currently has five members from Year 9 with many more almost there, so remind your Year 9 students to be collecting AIM High stamps by being Respectful, Responsible and Cooperative in all settings, both at school and in the community.

Thank you to the Year 9 cohort for a wonderful start to 2015. I am looking forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

Cassie Roggenkamp
Year 9 Year Level Coordinator

YEAR 8 NEWS

Since their arrival at Morayfield State High School in January, the Year 8 cohort has settled well into school life. I receive many glowing reports from teachers who have been impressed with the students' commitment to Respectful, Responsible and Cooperative behaviour in and outside of the classroom. Term One was always going to be an exciting time for our Year 8s because of the transition to high school, but some of the highlights on the calendar included the school Swimming Carnival and the Year 8 Welcome Barbecue. Attendance and participation at these events was very encouraging and a credit to the students. In other great news, a number of Year 8 students achieved their Summit Club Gold Cards by the end of Term One. This is impressive work!

In Term Two, our Year 8 students will be encouraged to join our Leadership Program (now that they have settled in) and exciting events on the school calendar include our ANZAC Day Assembly and community march and Brisbane Eisteddfod for junior dancers. I wish all students a safe, happy and productive term.

Michaela Lee
Year 8 Year Level Coordinator

YEAR 7 NEWS

The first term for Year 7 has been a busy and active term. Students have now settled well into the day to day routines at high school and are beginning to focus on the future. Some have faced academic and personal challenges and I would like to thank staff for their support and guidance with specific students. This is a positive reflection on the commitment of staff. We look forward to positive NAPLAN results from our students as they have been working hard on improving their literacy and numeracy skills this term. Good luck Year 7!

Mark Waudby
Year 7 Year Level Coordinator

Every Day Counts

Morayfield State High School's attendance policy aims to ensure students are actively engaged in school and attend every day to ensure optimal individual outcomes and student participation. We have high expectations of student attendance and promote 100% attendance for all students.

WORKING TOGETHER - INFORMING THE SCHOOL OF AN ABSENCE

Parents must explain all student absences. This can be done by contacting the school's absence line on 5428 5522 or 5428 5560, absence email to info@morayfieshs.eq.edu.au, by writing a note and having it delivered to the school by the student or responding to the absentee text message. All absences require explanation by a parent or carer.

For more detailed information regarding the school's attendance policy, please visit the school website.

You can visit <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/parents-community/index.html> for more information and resources regarding school attendance.

Kerri Furlong
Head of Department Junior Secondary/Languages

Information From the Cashier

Thank you to those families that have already paid the Student Resource Scheme (SRS) for 2015. For those families that have not paid the annual fee, the Semester One payment is now overdue. Semester One payment was due on 27 January and Semester 2 payment is due by 13 July. If payment has not been made please complete the SRS form and return to the Cashier with payment to ensure your student has access to resources. Statements will be posted home shortly. If you have moved recently or changed contact details, please complete a change of details form and return to the office.

If you have chosen not to join the Student Resource Scheme, you should have advised the school office in writing of non-participation. If you have chosen not to join the Scheme or have 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) required for each subject/year level is available from the school office or on our school website. Please note: these lists are separate from the stationery requirements lists available on the school website.

For those students who are studying Certificate III in Children's Services and/or Certificate III in Fitness, the subject fees have been added to accounts and payment is now due for Childcare and by the end of Term Two for Fitness students.

Year 10 - 12 students with laptops/tablets: the annual hire payment is also now overdue. Please ensure these payments are made to continue to access these devices.

Any families who wish to discuss payment plans or who are experiencing financial difficulties at this time, should contact the school office on 5428 5555 to schedule an appointment with the Business Services Manager so that special arrangements can be made to meet your needs. All discussions will be held in confidence.

For any account enquiries or phone payments please note the Cashier hours are 8:15am - 1:30pm Monday - Friday.

Julie Hill
Cashier

Student Leadership

On Monday, 27 April our student leaders joined with leaders from Morayfield East State School as well as Minimbah State School for our latest student leadership breakfast. After an early start (at 7:30am) students took part in an inspirational session with Bernie Kelly, a well-known speaker in the field of leadership and motivation. After an enthusiastic and much appreciated morning, students finished at morning tea, inspired and energised for the upcoming term. A thanks to the Federal Member for Longman, Wyatt Roy, who supported the morning. The next leadership breakfast will be held in the first two weeks of Term Three.



Simon Done
Deputy Principal

Student Services

STATE EDUCATION WEEK

The date for State Education Week has changed and will be held from 25-31 October. The celebrations we planned for May will be held over this week.

SUMMIT CLUB UPDATE

The Morayfield State High School SUMMIT Club program aims to recognise those students in our school who consistently display the school values of Respect, Responsibility and Cooperation in all settings throughout the school. Students are rewarded for displaying these values by teachers through stamps in their diary or Merit Points through our attendance program, ID Attend. When students reach 75 stamps and have an attendance rate of 90% or greater, they become eligible for GOLD status. When students reach 150 stamps and have an attendance rate of 95% or greater they become eligible for PLATINUM status. Each of these levels provides students with various rewards and invitations to school events. This information can be found on Page 118 of their school diaries. The following numbers of students have achieved either Gold or Platinum status to date in 2015:

Year 7 – 12 students on Gold status

Year 8 – 12 students on Gold Status

Year 9 – 5 students on Gold Status

No senior students have achieved Gold or Platinum Status at this point.

I would like to sincerely congratulate all of those students who have achieved their Gold status and thank them for consistently displaying the school values in their daily school lives.

STUDENT SUPPORT

This term our Student Support team will continue to run a number of support and intervention programs for our students. These programs are designed to help students gain skills and strategies to improve their self-confidence, resilience, anger management, social skills as well as attendance and effort in the classroom. Each term we have approximately 100 students participate in our support programs. Throughout Term two we will be running the following programs:

Rock and Water	facilitated by our Youth Support Officer, Tavita Timaloa
Drumbeat	facilitated by our Youth Support Officer, Tavita Timaloa
SHINE	facilitated by Mrs Jessup
PE4RLS	facilitated by our School Based Health Nurse, Helen Baxter
Seasons	facilitated by our Youth Support Officer, Tavita Timaloa
Bunnings Construction Crew Program	facilitator to be confirmed
No Limits	facilitated by our Chaplain, Jesse Davis
Unlimited	facilitated by our Chaplain, Jesse Davis

We have seen many positive outcomes from the students who participated in these programs last term and anticipate this

trend to continue into Term Two. Students reported feeling much happier in relation to their schooling and are implementing coping strategies that they have learned throughout these programs. Many of the students have also reported an improvement in their academic achievement which they attribute to the focus these programs put on improving attendance as well as effort and behaviour in the classroom.

I would like to thank all of the program facilitators for the fantastic job that they do each week in ensuring these programs run and that students are engaged. If you would like more information about any of the programs we run, then please feel free to contact me at school.

Brendan Macaulay

Head of Department – Student Support

ANZAC Day Commemoration

On Friday 24 April, the school held assemblies to commemorate ANZAC Day. The theme this year was 'Gallipoli and the ANZAC Legend'. This year marked the centenary of the landing at Gallipoli during WWI. During the senior assembly, Mr Bruce Miller, representing the Returned Soldiers' League, reflected upon the involvement of his two grandfathers during WWI. Mr Mark Ryan, State Member for Morayfield, spoke about the sacrifices that should never be forgotten.

One of our senior History students, Gabrielle Villijeon, gave a moving keynote address which reminded us about the Gallipoli campaign. As a major campaign, it was the first time that federated Australia, with a growing sense of nationhood, stood on the world stage. It is the sacrifices then, and in all wars since, that we remember on ANZAC Day.

For the first time, a contingent of 18 students looked on with pride while Environment Committee Chair Caitlin Silk laid a wreath at the Centennial ANZAC Dawn Service. This was the precursor for the largest ANZAC Day March the school has ever seen. A massive 304 students marched in perfect formal uniform with 24 staff, where our school captains laid a wreath at the main service. Many comments were made and compliments given about the conduct and appearance of our students – we are looking forward to 2016 – the more the better!



Teena Norman

A/Head of Department Social Science

Year 9 STEM Camp

Once again this year, Camp Mapleton will provide the venue for our annual Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) camp. The camp aims to provide a wide range of interesting and challenging activities for our best-performing Year 9 Science and Maths students. Running over three days and two nights (May 25 - 27), the camp introduces participants

to experiences and activities which will challenge them intellectually. QUT (Queensland University of Technology) provide their equipment and expertise for several activities, while one evening will involve an astronomy night with some of the State's best, amateur astronomers, and a mind-blowing experience inside a large, mobile planetarium.

The cost for the camp is \$195, which includes transport, accommodation and all meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, morning and afternoon tea and supper).

Expressions of interest have already been sought, though some places are still available. Permission letters have been made available to students, and payments can be made now. For any further information, please contact Mr Balfe (Head of Department Science), Mr Steel (Head of Department Learning and Teaching), or Ms Haslam (STEM Coordinator) through the School office.

Bob Balfe
Head of Department Science

2015 Art Camp

This year the Visual Art Department celebrated our 23rd year of the Senior Art Camp with 70 Year 11 and 12 Authority Art and Visual Art Studies students participating.

The Senior Art Camp gives students the opportunity to attend an intensive, 3-day extended workshop with one of five professional artists. The artworks produced form a significant part of their senior assessment, and are also displayed later in the year at the annual Eyeball Art Exhibition.

This invaluable experience for our students allows them to work one-on-one with talented and currently practising artists. Peter Hudson, Brent Harvey, Chris Postle, Nic Plowman and Greg Rogers, all renowned painters, provided the tutelage.

All participating artists received very positive feedback from the students. In Term two, students will continue to work on their body of works and develop the methods and techniques learned. The students conducted themselves with maturity throughout the camp, with all artists commenting on the level of commitment and focus. The Visual Art Staff were very proud of the Senior Visual Art students as representatives of Morayfield State High School. We would also like to thank everyone who helped make this 'incursion' possible.

The Art Camp provided a unique experience for our art students and we look forward to 2016. What a great way to learn!!



The Visual Arts Department

From the Languages Department

FRENCH DEPARTMENT

N'OUBLIONS JAMAIS L'AUSTRALIE (Never Forget Australia)

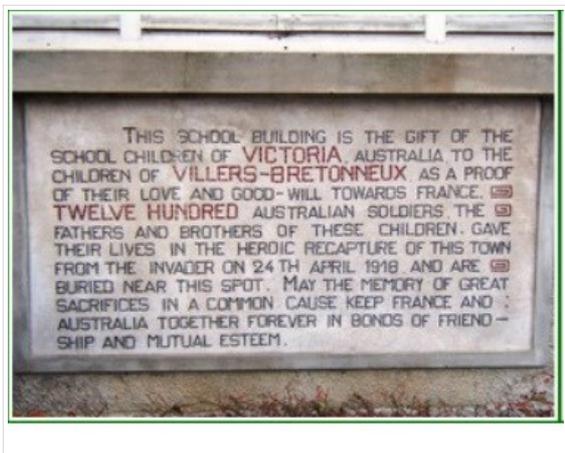
These are the words that you can read on signs in the main hall, schoolyard and every classroom at Victoria School in the French town of Villers-Bretonneux which lies just south of the River Somme. Australia had little to do with this far off idyllic town in France, until World War I broke out. In April of 1918, this once quiet town was under German occupation. The Germans planned to push out and capture more land. There was real concern that if they continued on this course, having Villers-Bretonneux as a base, they would take Amiens and the war inevitably would be lost. It was under such high stakes that Australia and France forged an enduring bond.

British command assigned an important operation to two Australian brigades. The plan was that at night time these Australians would encircle the German Army during a surprise attack on the evening of the 24 April. Through the night, heavy losses were recorded and 1200 Australians died in the re-capture of the village. By the early hours of the morning, the Australians had heroically retaken Villers-Bretonneux, marking the end of the German offensive at the Somme.

It was three years on from when the ANZACs had stormed the hostile heights of Gallipoli and once again a new front line was created and, under the duress, a special relationship had been forged between Australia and France. The sacrifice made by the Australians has never been forgotten and this is especially evident at the Victoria School in Villers-Bretonneux. The school was rebuilt in 1927 because of money donated by school-children from Victoria. The main hall has pictures of kangaroos, koalas and platypuses.

The bond and honour goes beyond the school. At the *Mairie* (Town Hall), the Australian flag flies, the main street through the town is called *Rue de Melbourne* (Melbourne Street) and a main restaurant is named *Le Kangourou* (The Kangaroo). After the Victorian bushfires and the devastation of Black Saturday, the favour was returned when the Villers-Bretonneux community raised over \$21 000 and thirty residents visited primary schools in Victoria to see how their money had helped in the re-building process.

A British General described the battle at Villers-Bretonneux as "perhaps the greatest individual feat in the war". The victory came at a great cost and the courage of the Australians is long remembered by the people of Villers-Bretonneux.



Plaque at Victoria School

Monica Popa
French Teacher

JAPANESE DEPARTMENT

What is happening in Japan in the month of April?

HANAMI, or 'flower viewing' is a popular pastime in the Japanese Spring. The famous **sakura** (cherry blossoms) flower all over the country and the Japanese take advantage of the warming weather by holding picnics in the shade of the magnificent pink trees. Groups of people will have barbecues, play games and drink green tea while enjoying the flowers that bloom throughout April.



GOLDEN WEEK is a group of public holidays from 29 April to 5 May. There are four official holidays – Showa Day (29/4), Memorial Day (3/5), Greenery Day (4/5) and Children's Day (5/5) – and many Japanese people use this time to take annual leave, similar to Christmas or Easter time in Western cultures. Golden Week is a popular time to travel, with many flights and trains booked out months in advance.

Tradition **koi** (carp) kites flown for Children's Day during Golden Week.

Blair Stickland
Japanese Teacher

Sporting News

SPORT

Interschool sport finals will have been done and dusted by the time this newsletter goes to print and I am predicting big things from our sports teams from Year 7 right through to Year 11. It has been a very successful summer season for a number of sports, in particular touch and volleyball.

Winter season sport will be starting up in the first week of June and trials for these sports will be held during May so students please keep a watch for when they are on and ensure you are in attendance if you wish to be part of winter sport.

CONGRATULATIONS

Nicola Clark in Year 12 who has been named in the U18 Qld women's AFL team. The term will be travelling to Western Australia to participate in the National Championships – well done Nicola.

DISTRICT TRIAL DAY THREE

District Trial Day three is being held Tuesday May 12. Sports trialling are:

- 15 years Boys and Girls Basketball
- 15 years Boys and Girls Soccer
- 15 years Boys Rugby Union

12 YEARS BOYS AND GIRLS TOUCH

District trials to be held on 15 May at Caboolture Touch fields – Petersen Road, Morayfield from 3.45pm-5.15pm. Any students wishing to trial must see Mr Moody to receive a release form from the school to attend.

Steve Moody
Sport Coordinator

Teaching and Learning

ART AND SCIENCE OF TEACHING (ASOT)

The Art and Science of Teaching has been Morayfield State High School's Pedagogical Framework since 2013. The important first stage of this teaching model is to very clearly tell students the goal or objective for every unit of work they do. Many units in the junior school are five or ten weeks long and are summarised in an overview that is given to each student.

WHAT ARE STUDENT UNIT OVERVIEWS?

Did you know that every student in Year 7-10 receives an Overview for each of their subjects and for each unit of study? This is a one page summary of what they will do throughout the unit including the assessment type and timing. The overview is set out in a consistent way and is basically the same for all subjects although the length of the units may vary. The essential parts found on an overview are:

- Unit Learning Goals - this outlines the important overall things to know or be able to do (there is more information below)
- Rationale: why is learning about this topic important?
- Lesson content
- Assessment

ADVICE FOR PARENTS TO DISCUSS WITH STUDENTS

Research indicates that students who know the purpose of their learning in the classroom tend to achieve better results. If they also set their own goals at home they become more motivated and stay more focused. This leads to improved success at school.

Each goal should indicate what you want to achieve and how and when you will accomplish it. This is often summarised as setting 'S|M|A|R|T' goals:

- Specific – For example, a general goal would be, “get in shape.” But a specific goal would say, “join a health club and workout 3 days a week.
- Measurable – How much should you try for and to measure it? It is best to keep a record of time spent each week on working towards the goal.
- Attainable and Realistic - It is best to start small and build up as most achievements happen with one small step at a time.
- Timely – Decide in advance when to start and when to finish.

There are many articles that can be found with a quick google search on the Internet on SMART goals. An interesting view can be found in the link below:

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748704758904576188453057819300>

Warren Steel
Head of Department Teaching and Learning