

MORAYFIELD STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Respect • Responsibility • Cooperation



ENEWSLETTER

Visentin Road
Morayfield QLD 4506
Subscribe: <http://morayfieldshs.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: info@morayfieshs.eq.edu.au

Phone: 07 5428 5555

Fax: 07 5428 5500



1 March 2017

Dates to Remember

1 March	Year 11 QCS Tutorial
3 March	Clean Up Australia Day
3 March	9-a-side Gala Day Rugby League
6 March	Year 7-9 Ruby League Trials (after school)
6 – 10 March	Year 11 Academic Reviews
6 – 10 March	Murri Health Screenings
7 March	Year 10 – 12 Ruby League Trials (after school)
13 March	AGM P & C Meeting 6:00pm and General P & C Meeting 6:30pm
13 and 14 March	Year 11 Science 21 QLD Police Museum Excursion
13 – 15 March	Year 11 Leaders – Emu Gully Excursion
13 – 17 March	Year 12 Industry Placement and Work Experience Cert III
15 March	Year 12 QCS Tutorial
17 March	Bullying No Way Day
20 March	Stress Talk - Yourtown
20 – 24 March	Year 11 Industry Placement and Work Experience Cert III
23 – 31 March	Year 12 Exam Block
27 – 31 March	Year 11 Exam Block

Cashier Dates to Remember

Due now	Student Resource Scheme payments
Due 2 March	Junior Summer Sport payments
Due 6 March	Sydney Footy Tour Final payment
Due 6 March	Year 11 Emu Gully Leadership Camp payment

From the Principal

It is hard to imagine that we are already half way through the first school term of the year. This means our students are well underway with their studies for the term and soon we will be preparing students for their first round of assessment.

High Expectations

Developing a culture of high performance and commitment to learning is a key feature of the work we undertake with students. Part of this involves preparing and supporting students to complete assessment in exam contexts, preparing and completing assignment work and ensuring all students complete the set assessment for each course.

Assessment Policy

Our school's Assessment Policy aligns with the guidelines set by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority and as such students and parents need to be familiar with the expectations around completion and submission of assessment. This includes understanding the guidelines for handing in assessment by the due date and the rules for sitting formal exams.

Any student who is unable to complete assessment by the due date **MUST** speak to their teacher and Head of Department prior to the due date to discuss their concerns. Extensions may

be granted for illness or due to special circumstances up to and including the deadline only and a medical certificate is required for students who are unable to complete assessment due to illness.

All students are required to complete all assessment tasks for the subjects they study. Students who do not submit the required work will be required to attend scheduled catch-up and detention sessions to ensure work is completed and appropriate grades can be awarded.

Exam Block

An exam block allows students opportunities to plan their study time more strategically and ensure all assessment is finalised to the best of their ability. Our Year 11 and 12 students will participate in their first Exam Block for the year at the end of the term. Year 12 students will commence their Exam Block on **Thursday 23 March 2017**. Year 11 students will commence their exam block on **Monday 27 March 2017**. During the exam block, formal tests, catch up workshops and a QCS practice test will be held.

Guidelines for the Exam Block are as follows:

- Students who are not involved in an exam session or workshop are expected to be studying at home or onsite in a predetermined room (should they not have permission to be at home).
- Full uniform must be worn to and from the school during the exam block.
- **ANY STUDENT ARRIVING LATE FOR A SESSION WILL NOT SIT THE EXAM.**
- A medical certificate is required if a student is absent.
- All other assessment items for subjects not on the schedule should be completed prior to the exam block. However students with outstanding assignments or practical assessments will be informed if they need to complete this work on site at a designated time.
- ANY student enrolled in a VET/SAS subject who has incomplete modules at this point in time **MUST** be at the school in the designated catch-up sessions scheduled throughout the exam week until all modules are completed to teacher satisfaction.
- Students with outstanding detentions will also be required to attend school at designated times during this time until all detention time is completed.
- In cases where students are required at school and do not arrive, staff will contact parents directly.
- Outstanding assessment by the end of the Exam Block (where students do not have special consideration) may result in students having to show cause regarding their ongoing enrolment.
- Our assessment policy is outlined in the student diary.

QCS Practice Test

The first two days of the Year 12 Exam Block will see OP eligible students complete a full QCS Practice Test on **Thursday 23**

and Friday 24 March. Student performance in the QCS test has a significant impact on the OP scores of students in Year 12. It is therefore a requirement of the school program that all OP eligible students sit this practice test as the data collected will be used to tailor future test wiseness programs across Terms 2 and 3 of this year. The practice test also allows students to become familiar with the strict procedures and processes around the QCS test including venue layout, timing, student equipment required for the test, student behaviour expectations during the test and engagement with test materials. Further practice tests will occur in Term 2 and OP eligible students will continue to undertake QCS preparation through the AIM Program and additional workshops.

NAPLAN Testing

Our Year Seven and Nine students will participate in the NAPLAN tests this year in the areas of Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy across Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 May, with a catch up day on Friday 12 May 2017. To support our students to feel confident about taking the tests and to assist our teachers in identifying aspects of literacy and numeracy around which to focus their teaching, students in these year levels have undertaken some practice tests as well as participated in regular literacy and numeracy programs at levels appropriate to their individual student development. As a result of this work I hope our students feel confident and prepared to do their best in the actual tests so that they can achieve their very best. This year we are continuing our focus on encouraging students to develop their interest and capacity as readers and engage in focused writing sessions. Additional practice tests will also occur in week 10 of the term.

P&C Meeting

Monday 13 March 2017 will see our P&C Annual General Meeting followed by the regular meeting for the month. As we begin the school year we continue to encourage new membership and participation. One of our key goals in 2017 is to try and increase parent and community participation through our P&C Association meetings. We hope to grow this group as one that supports not only the day to day running of our Tuckshop, but as a means of engaging parents and community with the strategic direction of the school. Please come along and join us in the School Library at 6:00pm if you would like to be part of this important group.

Communication

As we continue to move into the digital age, much of our communication between home and schools now takes an electronic form. You may have received text messages, Facebook notifications or emails from the school about your student's attendance, progress or school events. Please remember to check these communication channels for correspondence from the school, and if you change your details, please let us know. Students should also be checking their school email accounts weekly. Information about career opportunities, job vacancies and special programs and courses are regularly emailed to students for their information and action.

Student Recognition

Do you know a student who has achieved something special in our community? Perhaps they have achieved at an elite level at sport, participated in an eisteddfod or competition or represented themselves proudly at a community activity? Please email admin@morayfieshs.eq.edu.au and let us know so that we can acknowledge the student in our school newsletter.

Leasa Smith
Principal

From the Year 11/12 Deputy Principal

Attendance: It is not ok to be away

Many students have their educational progress severely interrupted by absences which are more often than not, unnecessary, and for reasons fairly low on the 'important to my future' scale.

To reach their potential at school, students need to attend regularly. This means a few days off per year due to genuine illness – not a 9 day fortnight which accumulates to 20 days absent, which is 100 periods of class time, the equivalent of 4 school weeks absent in a school year (nearly half a term!). How could any student be expected to keep up with work in such circumstances? Parents have a critical role to play in protecting your own child's future by enforcing student attendance at school. This is especially important for senior students who need to maintain AT LEAST 90% attendance in order to meet the contact hours requirement for certification at the end of senior. Students who are away too much will not receive a qualification at the end of Year 12.

Absences can be minimised by arranging dental and doctor's appointments after school or during the holidays. This may require advance notice and booking ahead. Shopping, birthdays, helping at home, and visiting relatives may all seem important at the time – but they are not as important as your student's FUTURE.

We (parents and the school) need to work together to help students to understand the importance of being at school whenever possible, and that trivial reasons for absence are not sufficient to discharge parents' legal responsibilities to ensure students attend.

Studies show there is a far greater chance of a student becoming an early school leaver and/long term unemployed, if they do not attend school regularly.

We all can work together to make a difference to your student's future.

Year 12 – End of Year Formal

Though the year has just begun it is important to now think briefly about the end. Many senior students look forward to the Graduation and Senior Formal which marks the end of their formal schooling and the transition from high school to adult life.

Students have been made aware since their very first day of senior school and again at their commencement of Year 12 that the Senior Formal and the Graduation are special events. The

Formal is an optional celebratory event while the Graduation is our formal ceremony at the end of 12 years of schooling. Participation in the Senior Formal is not mandatory. It is an extra-curricular activity to which students are invited if they meet certain criteria.

Students are involved in many of the decisions about the formal but the final decisions are and always have been made by staff. This is to ensure that the event meets the many policy and safety requirements that all school sanctioned events must adhere to.

The final timing and location of the formal is in the process of being finalised. This year we have the added complexity of our largest senior cohort for many years. This has meant that many of our previous venues do not have the capacity to accommodate our large number of students. As soon as the venue and date of the formal have been finalised these dates will be extensively circulated.

Only those students who have met the criteria are permitted to purchase a ticket to attend the Senior Formal.

In order to receive an invitation your senior student must have met the following criteria:-

- all assessment items for their subjects have been completed and submitted
- regular attendance at school with an attendance rate of 90% (i.e. all absences are explained and justified)
- appropriate behaviour has been displayed throughout the year. Students who have been suspended more than once may lose their eligibility to attend the formal.
- follow school rules and procedures (including the schools uniform policy)
- all financial obligations have been met (i.e. there are no outstanding money or borrowed resources owed to the school).

Mr Joe Bucher
Deputy Principal

From the Year 7 Deputy Principal

YEAR 7 WELCOME BBQ A SIZZLING SUCCESS.

On behalf of Morayfield State High School I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for attending the 2017 Welcome BBQ.

The turn up was fantastic and the atmosphere was relaxed and very friendly and what a hit the new promotional video proved to be with parents and students alike.

I would also like to thank Lee Justice, Donna Whyte, Stephen Mabb, Steve Moody and the Student Leaders for their efforts behind the scenes and on the day.

I look forward to a positive and successful year for our fantastic Year 7 cohort.



Regards
Mr Bill Schneid
(Acting Deputy Principal)

From the Senior School

It has been a fantastic, all be it HOT, beginning to the 2017 academic year. Senior students have been knuckling down in their studies, with the Year 11 and 12 students making great strides forward for their futures.

Uniform

Thank you to parents and students who are working in partnership with the school to ensure the appropriate uniforms are worn each day. Wearing our uniform ensures a sense of pride, equity and appropriate, safe dress for learning environments. Please remember that if your student is having trouble wearing the correct uniform, you can contact your year level coordinators for assistance.

Year Level Coordinators (YLC) are:

- Year 10** – Mrs Pauline Place
- Year 11** – Mr Cameron Daniel
- Year 12** – Mr Mark Waudby

Senior Shirts

With the arrival of the senior shirts it has been fantastic to see our Year 12 students wearing these with pride. Well done to Mr Waudby (Year 12 YLC) and his helpers for getting these sorted.

Leadership

In their final years of schooling, Morayfield students get the opportunity to take part in a wonderful leadership program that teaches them real life leadership skills that they can take outside the school gates. In a couple of weeks' time, Mr Cameron Daniel (Year 11 YLC) and Mrs Pauline Place (Year 10 YLC) will be taking a group of Year 10 and 11 leaders to the Emu Gully Leadership camp. This camp is a wonderful opportunity for students to work in teams, lead different activities and to realise "it is not always about me!" We wish all staff and students going on this trip the best of luck and look forward to the pictures from the "mud pits."

Monday 28 February will see, our senior leaders will have their induction ceremony. This will be a wonderful morning where students will be officially recognised for the positions they will be filling 2017. Congratulations to all involved.

Paul Towner
Behaviour Management Coordinator – Senior
Secondary

From the Year Level Co-Ordinators

Our Year 7 students have had a great start to their first year at high school. It's been an eventful few weeks with the swimming carnival, immunisations and school photos. It's great to see so many Year 7s wearing their uniform and with pride, and mostly displaying respectful and responsible behaviour in the playground and classrooms. Thank you to the families that were able to attend our Welcome BBQ last week. It was great to meet you and have a chat.

The Year 7 form classes are having a competition regarding attendance and bringing in notes/calling absence line when away. 7.03 are currently in the lead with 96.69% attendance and 7.08 are the class that have most of their absences explained. Great work! Please support us by sending in a note when your child has been absent.

As Year Level Coordinator, it is my job to help support your child at school. If you have any concerns, please encourage them to drop into T block to talk to me. If you need to contact me, my email address is ljust1@eq.edu.au.

Lee Justice
Year 7 Coordinator

From the Cashier

For those families that haven't yet paid their Student Resource Scheme for 2017 payment is now overdue. Statements were posted home at the end of the school holidays with the Student Resource Scheme (SRS) form. All students must return a SRS form to the Cashier for 2017. Payment will ensure your student has continued access to the resources provided by the Scheme as well as ensure your student remains financially eligible to participate in school activities not included as part of the SRS (for example interschool sport and excursions). All fees from previous years will also need to be finalised.

Bpoint payment is now available where you can pay online via the Qparents app or via the Bpoint website at the bottom of statements posted home. Please allow 3 business days for bank processing. If paying via Bpoint payments must be made at least 3 business days before payment deadlines.

We still have a lot of textbooks/library books outstanding from last year; could please return these to the library urgently. Invoices will be sent home for books outstanding in the coming week. Any books lost or damaged, will need to be paid for as per the Student Resource Scheme terms and conditions.

For payments or account enquiries the Cashier hours are 8:00am - 1:30pm Monday - Friday.

Julie Hill
Cashier

From the School Based Police Officer

Parents/carers are reminded that the area directly out the front of the school is a bus zone. This area also includes a pedestrian crossing and a yellow line on either side of the crossing. These areas are **NOT** for dropping off your student. There is ample parking available to the left and right of the school zone. Those parents who utilize the Sports Club/Harvey Norman car park are reminded that this area is for customers of those businesses and I ask you to be respectful of this.

I understand that at times, especially as students commence driving themselves, parking is of premium. Afternoon pickup time would have to be the most confusing and congested period of the day around the school. Leaving pickup for ten minutes would elevate this problem greatly as most of the traffic has left the area, including the school buses. There are teachers on duty at the front of the school until 3:25pm, therefore if your child feels anxious they can always approach the teacher and speak with them.

I reiterate with parents that school zones around drop off and pick up are the most hazardous times and are the same in all school areas. Parking is not easily gained. We are fortunate that Queensland Rail allows staff, parents and students to utilise the two parking areas out the front of the school.

I ask all parents to be mindful of this matter as stopping in a bus zone, on a pedestrian crossing or on a yellow line are all traffic related offences and a ticket can be issued.

Senior Constable Kris Parker

From the Guidance Team

Building Self Esteem

Self-esteem is feeling good about yourself, liking yourself and feeling that you are a worthwhile person. For almost all parents there are times when you worry about your child's self-esteem. Positive self-esteem enables students to try new things without too much fear of failing, to reach out and make friends, and to manage problems they are likely to meet along the way. Good self-esteem builds a solid foundation for life.

An important part of self-esteem is feeling that you have a place in the world where you belong – that you are part of a family where you matter.

What parents can do to help build self esteem:

- tell your child often that you love them and you are glad they are who they are.
- show you love them by spending time, listening to their point of view, being willing to help them achieve their goals eg. Drive them to sport, watch the game.
- support their learning – take an interest without taking over. Be involved in the school.

- encourage friendships and make their friends welcome, and get to know them.
- encourage hobbies or interests – a busy child is less likely to get into trouble.
- let your child assist you with something eg. Cooking, fixing the electronics.
- keep and cherish mementos of their success eg. Ribbons, trophies.
- help them to solve their problems themselves by talking through the issue, offering ideas or alternatives and helping them follow through.

All children need love and support. You are the most influential person in their lives. How you support your child and the skills you teach them will affect them for the rest of their life. Parenting is not easy but it can be a most rewarding job when you see that the child you have reared is a happy, capable and caring person.

(Adapted from the Parent Easy Guide 'Self-Esteem')

Chenoa Matthews (Years 8, 10 and 12) and Simon Braiden (Years 7, 9 and 11).
Guidance Officers

From the Student Services Centre

Attendance

Our attendance target for 2017 is 90%.

How are we tracking so far? Below is an attendance snapshot of each year level from last week to this week.

Week 4

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
92.6%	91.04%	89.44%	88.61%	88.69%	90.3%

Week 5

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
92.7%	90.67%	89.58%	87.37%	88.26%	90.02%

Strong attendance at school plays a significant role in your child's future.

Is your child's attendance "on target"?

Talk to your son or daughter about their current school attendance percentage. This week during form students were asked to record their current attendance percentage and work to improve this if it was not on track.

Did you know?

- In Qld, higher school attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.
- Less than 90% attendance equates to **over one month of school** missed in the school year.

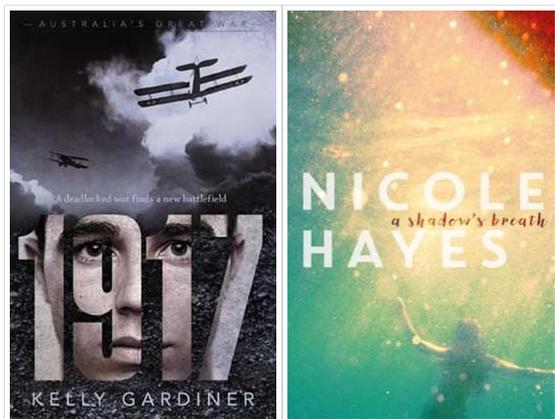
- Less than 80% attendance equates to **over two months of school missed** in the school year.

If you have any questions regarding your student's attendance please contact the relevant Year Level Coordinator or Head of Department Student Wellbeing on 5428 5555.

Donna Whyte
Head of Department - Student Wellbeing

From the Library

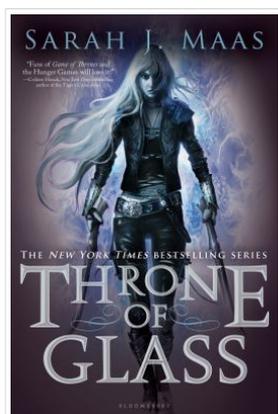
It has been wonderful to see so many students enjoying reading. Some of our new titles for this month are:



Recommendations from students:



Mr Schneid, our Deputy Principal recommends the Throne of Glass series.



Textbooks

These have been distributed in Maths classes. Once students who have joined the Student Resource Scheme since texts were distributed to class and returned any overdue texts, are eligible to receive their textbooks for 2017. Students will need to come to the library in their breaks to collect these.

Julie Mabb
Teacher Librarian

From the Sports Department

On Monday 6 February Morayfield State High School held its annual swimming carnival at Caboolture Regional Aquatics Centre.

Once again this was a fantastic event where students were actively involved with very high participation numbers across all year levels. For some of the events we were required to run up to eight heats for a particular year group in order to cater for all those wanting to give it a go! The attendance of the Year 7 students was fantastic and we would love to see them nominating for future swimming carnivals.

This year's swimming carnival was one of the most fiercely contested events ever, with the lead House changing several times throughout the day. Students who were in the stands were aware of the closeness of the contest and were fantastic in cheering their House on to potential victory.

In the end the final points for each house were: Russell 611, Bribie 569, Stradbroke 539, and Moreton 391. Congratulations Russell!

We would also like to congratulate the following age champions:

- 12 Year Boys** – Tyler Coxall
- 12 Year Girls**- Hayley Farmer
- 13 Year Boys**- Sebastien Lucien
- 13 Year Girls**- Gemma Rühle
- 14 Year Boys**- Lachlan Harrison and Beau Wease
- 14 Year Girls**- Zoe Mahoney
- 15 Year Boys**- Baiden Mills
- 15 Year Girls**- Madeline Thompson
- 16 Year Boys**- Ben Stewart
- 16 Year Girls**- Riannon Boehmke
- Open Boys**- Kyle Barnwell
- Open Girls**- Amy Mills

Good luck to all students who competed and were successful in gaining nomination for the district swimming carnival. No doubt you will represent Morayfield State High School with honour and compete to the best of your ability.

We would also like to thank all the staff and students who enabled this event to run effectively and smoothly; we couldn't have done it without you!

Ryan Phillips
Sports Coordinators

From the Arts Department

Virtual Dance

Over the past two years our school has partnered with the Brisbane School of Distance Education to deliver Senior Authority Dance. Students enrolled in this course attend two on-line tutorial sessions with their Distance Education teacher and several practical dance sessions with a teacher from our campus per week. To gain entry into the subject students were required to achieve a particular standard as well as maintain a minimum number of dance training hours per week. This week our Year 11 students began their studies. Exploring the new world of virtual schooling was very exciting for the students. Watching their reactions as they heard their teacher's voice for the first time, and seeing them get excited as they met their new classmates, was very entertaining. We wish them all the best in their studies.



Year 11s hard at work during their first on-line lesson

Instrumental Music Program

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning students to the Instrumental Music program. As part of our IM program students have the opportunity to study a variety of Brass, Woodwind or Percussion instruments. Lessons are 35 min and occur weekly for the entire school year. Once students demonstrate a particular standard they are invited to join the school band which rehearses one morning per week.

All students regardless of their year level or instrumental music ability are able to learn for a minimal annual fee provided there is an instrument available. If students have their own instrument they are required to pay \$15 per year to cover photocopying and maintenance costs and for students who need to hire an instrument the total fee is \$50.

If you would like your child to learn an instrument please ask them to collect an information pack from the Q block staffroom.

Welcome Mr Mewburn

The Arts Department would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Eric Mewburn to the faculty. Mr Mewburn teaches both Junior and Senior Classroom Music.



Liz Rigby
Head of Arts Department

From English Department

Literacy

Literacy, the ability to read and use information, is one of the most important skills we can learn. It is a skill important in all areas of life and one that we are always trying to improve in our students. All English classes in Year 7, 8 and 9 participate each fortnight in Wordflyers and Spellodrome activities. These two online platforms provide the opportunity for students to enhance their reading and writing skills. They may also be accessed from home if students would like to extend their skills. The links are provided here for you. Each student has been provided with their own username and password for each program.

<http://wordflyers.com.au/>

<http://www.3plearning.com/uk/spellodrome/>

Reading is a fantastic activity for supporting literacy. Reading increases vocabulary, punctuation and writing ideas. It provides experiences and promotes empathy as we travel along with the characters. Parents can support their students in reading in many ways. These include

- ensuring your student has access to books (all students are welcome to borrow books from school),
- modelling reading,
- discussing the books that you have enjoyed, and
- allowing students to talk about the books they are enjoying.

The important thing is to find a book that students are interested in and is at their level. Library staff have accepted the challenge of finding the right book for every student – they just need to ask!

Verushka Torrens
Head of Department English

From Student Leadership

We are fortunate at Morayfield State High School to have many students who are willing to put their hand up and help out. The Year 11 leaders Yeshi Makgeta, Mitchell Roser, Mitchell Kenny, Jasmine Benstead, Nicole Grinover, Keely Barnes, Faith

Muston and Sarah Dureau all contributed to the successful Year 7 Welcome BBQ.

The House Leaders were keen and supportive helpers at the swimming carnival. Ebonie Ponturo worked tirelessly recording names throughout most of the day. Well done to all the leaders who helped out when needed and encouraged others to participate.



The Welfare and Media team members of the Student Leadership Team are in the process of organising a campaign to support No Bully Day. One of our Media Officers, Agnes Timaloa, has written this article.

No Bullying Week Article- Agnes Timaloa

Bullying is a very serious issue whether it is online, verbal or physical and it is seen everywhere in society! But do the students of Morayfield State High School know where to go for support? This year the senior leaders of Morayfield State High School with the help of Ms Curti and Ms Wall, have decided to not only have one designated day to take a stand against bullying but to change it to 'No Bullying Week'. The purpose of this is to help not only the younger grades but also the older grades, to gain knowledge of what bullying really is, how it can be prevented, how it will be dealt with and who to go to around the school for help. No Bullying week starts on 13 March and runs to 17 March. With that being said, in the past 2 weeks the senior leaders have already been through a number of meetings to collect ideas for No Bullying Week, such as PowerPoints and videos to help the students gain knowledge of who to talk to around the school. In 'No Bullying Week' we will hand out orange ribbons and having inspirational posters around the school to remind everyone of the importance of respecting each other. I hope you enjoy what the senior leaders have instore for No Bullying Week!

Murri Health Screenings

Caboolture Community Medical will be doing health checks from 6 to 10 March. This is open to all students. Please make an appointment and collect a permission form from the Student Services window - T02. For further information please contact Karen Scott on 5428 5555 or kscot18@eq.edu.au.

Community Notices

A survey is being conducted by the University of the Sunshine Coast to help develop better training for learner drivers. The project is exploring the current state of professional driving

instruction for learner drivers in Queensland. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

If you are a learner driver or have just got your red P-plates we want to hear from you. Survey link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/learningtodrive>

All survey participants will be eligible to go into a draw to win an iPhone 7.

For further information please contact the PhD Researcher, Natalie Watson-Brown (Natalie.watson-brown@research.usc.edu.au) at the Sunshine Coast Mind and Neuroscience – Thompson Institute, 12 Innovation Parkway, Birtinya 4575, or call 0754 563 561.

The survey closes on the 30 April, 2017.