25 March 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<td>Australian Geography Competition</td>
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

P&C Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parents’ and Citizens’ Association held on Monday, March 11 our Executive Committee for 2013 was elected. Congratulations to the following:

President: Meredith Dootson
Vice-President: Catherine Rowe
Secretary: Gail Martin
Treasurer: Deb Blake

I would like to thank outgoing Vice-President, Gill Clark for all of her efforts and thank her for her continued commitment to the P&C. Gill has been heavily involved in the P&C for the past five years and has held the positions of President and Vice-President. She has worked tirelessly with our school and our community for the benefit of our students and her contribution to our school has been highly valued.

Newly elected Vice-President, Catherine Rowe has been an active member of the P&C and we are very pleased that she has taken on this role. We are also very pleased that Meredith, Deb and Gail will continue on as President, Treasurer and Secretary.

It was pleasing to see some new faces at the meeting and I again encourage parents and friends to become involved in the P&C.

Attendance – Every Day Counts

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of ensuring their students attend school on every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away.

Research shows that students who have a good attendance record are more likely to achieve high results. The Department of Education has done a study on what makes students achieve, based on the results of a group of student in 2006.

The study indicated that “every day counts” in relation to student learning. The study found that:

- There is a linear (clear and strong) relationship between attendance and achievement
- Substantial proportions of the socioeconomic-achievement relationship can be explained by student mobility and attendance (i.e. being wealthy or poor did not matter as much as regular attendance at school).

Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late, being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Every day away from school reduces your student’s potential to achieve excellent results for their future.

We need your help to push our students to achieve the best they can - by maximising learning engagement (having students in classes and ready to learn) we will maximise student results.

Outstanding Debating Results

Recently our Year 8/9 and Year 10 Debating teams have had great success, winning debates against St Patrick’s College and Woodford P-10 State School.

Congratulations to:

Year 8/9 Team: Jay Almeroth, Jessica Bradford, Hayden Cashmore and Zoey Saunders
Year 10 Team: Elyse Burrows, Petra Donnolly, Amy Hinchcliffe and Breeanna Stewart

I would also like to thank teachers Michaela Lee, Raelene Bates and Larry Forman for their support of our students.

NextStep Survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2012. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Government Statistician to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details of forward the survey to their new address so they can participate. Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2013.

For more information visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

Janelle Amos
Principal
INTERIM REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Interim reports were issued to all students on Thursday 21 March. These reports do not contain individual comments but do give an indication of how students are progressing in their subjects at this early stage of the year. They give feedback on the student’s level of commitment through the effort they are putting in and their behaviour in class.

Please take the time to sit with your student and discuss their report. There will then be an opportunity for you and your student to discuss progress with individual teachers. The first parent teacher interviews for the year will take place on Wednesday 27 March. Appointments will be available from 3.30 pm until 6.00 pm. Full details of the operation of the afternoon will be provided with the reports and will be detailed in the next newsletter. Book this afternoon in your calendars and make the effort to discuss the progress of your student with their teachers.

NAPLAN 2013

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

TEST DATES

Tuesday 14 May

Language Conventions 45 minutes
Writing 40 minutes

Wednesday 15 May

Reading 65 minutes

Thursday 16 May

Numeracy
Calculator 40 minutes
Non-calculator 40 minutes

- Language Conventions includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- In Year 9, there is one Numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.

There is an expectation that all Year 9 students will participate in the NAPLAN tests. Students with a disability may qualify for adjustments. If a student has a temporary injury this may also be accommodated.

Formal exemptions or withdrawals may be granted for students who have significant intellectual disabilities, have recently arrived in Australia from a non-English speaking background or parents who do not wish their student to sit the tests for cultural or other reasons.

The school can provide you with more information regarding special provisions and the process required to gain a formal exemption. There is also a formal process for the withdrawal of students from the tests. Please contact the school to discuss this. Formal exemptions and withdrawals require paperwork to be submitted to the school Principal, signed and completed by 10 May.

More information regarding the tests and the administration of NAPLAN will be included in future newsletters.

You can visit www.nap.edu.au for more details regarding the tests.

Kerri Furlong
Head of Department Junior Secondary School

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR A GLOBAL FUTURE!

Foreign language skills are becoming more and more important in our society, so much so that Universities recognise academic achievement in the study of foreign languages in Year 11 and 12 by offering rank point advantages for those who pass their senior study of a language other than English.

A study of a foreign language can open up opportunities in Business, Media, Travel, Education, Law, Government or Architecture.

At Morayfield State High School in Year 8 our students are offered a choice of two languages, French and Japanese. Through the study of a foreign language our students are also able to reflect on how their own language works, and are able to develop an ability to understand issues from different points of view.

“Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.”

Flora Lewis

Kerri Furlong
Hod Junior Secondary School/Languages/Business

OFF THE SHELF

LIBRARY NEWS

Our school Library has been a busy place this term. We have some great new books in and we are hoping to get some of the latest releases before the holidays. One of our current displays includes zombie themed books put together by one of our Year 10 students. These have proven popular along with The City of Bones series, and the Vampire Academy books.

All students are welcome to use the library for school work, printing and recreational reading. A reminder to all students...
in Years 11 and 12 – M04 has been reserved as your area during the breaks.

Please feel welcome to ask one of the library staff for assistance when you need a hand with research, printing or recommendations for a good read. We are also open to suggestions from you for new resources which we could add to the collection.

Julie Mabb
Teacher-Librarian

FROM THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

2013 – yet another year in the history of the school. As usual, many students are completing a semester of a Social Science subject. The Social Sciences are the collective term for the subjects Geography, History (both Ancient and Modern), Economics, Legal Studies and Civics.

For many years, students in the Junior school completed SOSE. SOSE was often a combination of all of the above subjects. Recently however, Key Learning Areas have been revised under the National Curriculum, or the ‘ACARA’ Framework. As a result, we have gone back to the future and students in Year 8-10 complete distinct Social Science subjects, including History and Geography.

Parents often ask what are the benefits of completing a Social Science subject. Our answer is that the Social Sciences, collectively, enhance:

- Students’ literacy, both written and oral
- Critical thinking, including analysis and evaluation
- A greater understanding of Australian heritage
- A greater understanding of World history and its connection to Australia
- A greater awareness of environmental issues and their impact on communities
- An understanding of trade and economics
- Our knowledge of World cultures
- Our knowledge of our legal and political systems and how these systems impact upon our lives
- Our Research and data collection skills

Upon entering Year 11 and 12 students will need to carefully consider what subjects they select. The following points are very valid reasons why students should study at least one Senior Social Science subject:

- More than 68% of Australians work in jobs that are not scientific or technical
- The fastest growing areas of employment are in Human and Business Services combined with Information Technology.
- We teach skills needed for the Year 12 Core Skills test on an ongoing basis
- We teach and coach students in the art of writing and researching analytical essays and reports

Social Science subjects may be studied for one or more semesters

Combined with studies in Business and Information Technology, the Social Sciences offer access to tertiary course related to growing areas of employment

The Social Sciences provide students with thinking and communication skills useful in life and employment

Take up the challenge and take on a Social Science.

Louis Mackay-Payne
Head of Department Social Science

AN INVITATION FROM THE HPE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

My name is Bill Schneid and I am the new Head of Department of Health, Physical Education, Outdoor Recreation, Rugby League Excellence and Sport.

I have been teaching for thirty two years and I look forward to spending the remainder of my career here at Morayfield State High School.

Before I was appointed to Morayfield State High School I taught at Pine Rivers State High School for seventeen years and I rate our school with the best schools I have been associated with.

I would like to extend an invitation to all Parents and Caregivers to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child’s progress in any subjects offered by the HPE faculty. You can make an appointment with me by calling the office, call me direct on 5428 5570 or email me on bschn24@eq.edu.au. I look forward to meeting you.

Bill Schneid
Head of Department Health and Physical Education

SOME OLD FASHIONED TRIVIA

When the children get home from school pack their wet shoes with newspaper and they will be dry by the next morning.

This can be a handy tip with all the wet weather we have been having.

Greg Nicholas
School Staff

UNIFORM AND STATIONERY SHOP HOURS FOR 2013

Monday – Thursday: 8.00am – 9.00am.

Please note that the Bookshop will also be open between 10.10am-10.30am Monday – Thursday for students requiring textbooks.

Carrolyn Reiter
Bookshop
CELEBRATING STUDENT WORK IN THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

In our Science class our teacher, Mr McCormick has been encouraging us to design A4 sized posters based on topics which we are learning about in class. Some examples of these are the three forms of heat conduction, convection and radiation, circuit breakers, light and sound energy. The reason Mr McCormick wants us to design these posters is so our classroom looks more creative and to help our learning. The way these posters help our learning is when we research for the posters we learn more about the topics we are covering in class.

Tyler Switzer
Year 9 Student

SPECIAL VISIT FOR OUR YEAR 12 MATHS STUDENTS

On Monday 11 March the Year 12 Maths B and Maths C students had the privilege of attending a special lecture from Helen Fairweather from the University of the Sunshine Coast. Dr Fairweather attended the school to talk to us about her experience in Environmental Engineering, and to show why Mathematics is such an important part of our schooling. We had a discussion on the problem-solving nature of engineering and learned how an engineering career can be extremely rewarding. We also received information about the University of the Sunshine Coast and the engineering courses that the University offers, and were able to discuss the requirements and specifics of an Engineering Degree. We would like to thank Dr Fairweather for giving up her time to visit us.

Maddie Walcher
Year 12 student

SUCCESS FOR OUR DEBATING TEAM

On Wednesday 13 March, our Year 10 debating team was victorious against Woodford P-10 State School. It was an incredibly close debate that could have gone either way but we will certainly accept the win! The girls wore their uniforms proudly and displayed excellent sportsmanship before, throughout and after the debate. I must also note that all the girls approached the adjudicator to personally thank him for his feedback, which is a great indication of just how respectful they are.

Students involved were Ellyse Burrows, Petra Donnelly, Amy Hinchcliffe and Breeanna Stewart (our timekeeper). Our school community would like to congratulate them on their win and their conduct. I would also like to thank Raelene Bates and Larry Forman for coming on board for our debating adventure in 2013. Our newsletter will have the dates and times for future debates to ensure parents do not miss out on the action.

Michaela Lee
English Teacher

SKIN CHECK EXCURSION

On Friday 1 March and Tuesday 5 March, the Year 12 Health Education classes, Ms Hunter, Mr Schneid, Mr Bradford and Mr Timmins travelled to Bribie Island Skin Cancer Clinic. The excursion was an opportunity for all involved to have their skin checked for any suspicious spots, as well as experience what it is like to have your professionally skin checked. As well as this, the Year 12 students had the opportunity to ask Dr Peter Norton a range of questions about skin cancer and sun safety which will be sure to strengthen their upcoming assignments on the topic. Students enjoyed the experience and were glad to have realised that getting their skin checked is not at all as daunting as they had anticipated. It is a timely reminder to students, staff and the school community to get their skin checked regularly. It is pain-free, bulk-billed (so you do not have to pay a cent) and a simple way to save lives that may otherwise be lost to melanoma.

Marc Timmins
Physical Education Teacher

SCHOOL SPORT

Well done to the students at both Junior and Senior level who have been participating in the interschool sport teams during the summer season. Although the weather has not been perfect we have still managed to play a lot of games and success in many of the sports.

Good luck to those teams who will play off in the grand finals after Easter. Start training for the upcoming Cross Country carnival and winter round of interschool sport which are the key highlights of Term 2.

We would also like to congratulate the following students who were successful at Touch Football trials at Noosa recently and have been selected in the Sunshine Coast Touch Football teams.
These boys join Robert Papalaua who made the 15 Boys Volleyball team as our regional representatives to date which is a great effort considering that the region stretches from Cooroy to Narangba Valley and across the highway to Redcliffe/Clontarf. Well done boys! Details of their successes can be found later in the newsletter.

Steve Moody
Junior Sports Master

AFL 9 A SIDE YOUTH GIRLS CUP

On 7 March the Senior Girls played in a 9-a-side AFL gala day at Zillmere. As we arrived with confidence in our mini bus, we were all anxious and rearing to play and stepped onto the sloppy, muddy field – we could not wait to get started. With a day full of stacks, face plants in the mud, laughs, bruises and bumps, we had some victories and unfortunate losses but it was definitely a memorable day.

We came third overall in our division. At the end of the day, as we boarded the bus covered in mud, the team voted Petra Donnelly player of the day. She had an amazing ability to tackle everyone she went against into the biggest puddle on the field, risking her cleanliness for the win! Mr Bradford made an excellent coach and we could not have done any of it without him.

Etana Armstrong
Stradbroke House Captain

SUCCESSFUL TOUCH

Touch continues to grow in profile at Morayfield State High School with six students being selected to represent Sunshine Coast at State Carnivals. Brennan Griffin, Alex Albert and Connor Cox were all selected in the Open team to travel to Cairns in May. Juggling multiple sporting commitments is nothing new for these three: Brennan is an experienced representative touch player and consistently wins the school cross country; Alex played in the same carnival last year and is currently representing Redcliffe Dolphins in the Mal Meninga Cup and Connor is starring for Sunshine Coast Sea Eagles in the Cyril Connell Cup after being an accomplished soccer player up until this year.

In the Under 15 trials, Corey Horsburgh, Thomas Griffin and Jake McPaul impressed the selectors. They will now travel to Mount Isa for the State Carnival. Corey is a fierce competitor in any sport at school; be it cricket, rugby league or athletics. Thomas and Jake are still only in Year 9, making them eligible for this team again next year.

Tim O’Connor
Touch Coach

BRITTNEE’S SELECTION INTO THE WORLD DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Year 8 student Brittnee McGrath has been selected to represent Australia as part of the AusDBF Australian Auroras Junior Dragon Boat Team to compete at the World Dragon Boat Championships to be held in Szeged, Hungary between 22 – 29 July.

Brittnee will also be attending a training camp for other Australian Junior and Senior Dragon Boat Paddlers which will be held in Gyor, Hungary between July 15 - 21. Prior to leaving for Hungary all Australian Auroras Juniors will have an additional training camp that will be held in Tallebudgera, Queensland from 30 May – 2 June.

Brittnee’s selection into the Australian team was as a result of her success competing against Junior dragon boat paddlers from all around Australia. It was based on fitness tests, boat style and technique and her ability to combine and work as an efficient dragon boat team member. In addition to this she was given personal goals which needed to be achieved.

The Australian Dragon Boat Federation have passed on their congratulations to Brittnee on her selection and along with our school community, wish her all the best for her future academic and sporting endeavours.

Morayfield State High School Newsletter ~ STRENGTH THROUGH INTEGRITY
LET’S CLEAN UP, MORAYFIELD!

To combat the litter problems that are a part of all schools, our Environment Committee has decided to run a competition. The person who can create and design the best A4 anti-littering themed poster will be given house points for their team. There is a box placed in the library for the people who wish to participate in this competition – place your name and form class on the back. This competition will end early Term 2. Please help us make our school a better and clean place while you are helping out with our environment. You are also helping your house to success with house points awarded to the winner’s team.

Ma.Fhey Dungao
SRC Environment Committee Liaison

WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

As part of the school’s ongoing commitment to support our community, the Student Representative Council (SRC) Fundraising Committee devoted their time this term to support the Leukaemia Foundation. On Friday 15 March the students of Morayfield State High School got together to raise funds through a non-uniform day, and shave and colour their hair for a cure.

We had three very brave students who shaved for a cure - Adele Irvine, Jessica Hulm and Thoryn Edgecombe. On behalf of the school we would like to thank these students for their dedication and bravery. This day raised over $1200 for the foundation; those students who shaved have also raised an additional $2000 (and still counting) though sponsorship.

On behalf of the SRC Fundraising Committee would like thank all the senior leaders and volunteers from the Caboolture branch of the Leukaemia foundation who assisted in running of this event. It was a fantastic day with the whole school working together to contribute in whatever way possible to support this very worthy cause.
INDIGENOUS NEWS

FOGS “Closing the Gap” Breakfast

On 13 March, Sam King and Skye-Lee Kennedy were invited to represent Morayfield State High School and the ARTIE academy at the FOGS (Former Origin Greats) "Closing The Gap" Breakfast at Pelican Waters Golf Resort and Spa.

They both fought their fears and went on stage to give a short speech and answer questions about their experiences as part of the ARTIE Academy and FOGS Indigenous Employment and Career Expo that they attended in April 2012. Skye-Lee and Sam were joined on stage by Candy from Tullawong State High School. Skye-Lee also had her doubts about getting up in front of so many people but did a great job. “I felt it was very nerve racking to stand there in front of so many adults, but as soon as I got up there it was pretty straight forward,” she said.

Both Sam and Skye-Lee were entertained and inspired by “Trendy Trev . . . The Murri from the 'Curry" who said, “Shoot for the moon, and if you miss you will be among the stars”.

Sam King
Year 11 Student

Parent Invitation One Key Resources Training Initiative

One Key Resources will be holding an information session about the ‘One Key Resources Training Initiative’, which is open to current Year 12 Indigenous students. Parents and these students as well as Year 10 and 11 students are invited to attend this information session:

Date Thursday 18 April (first week of Term 2)
Time 8.45am to 10.00am (Form and Period 1)
Location Library
Refreshment Light morning tea will be provided for parents

For further information regarding One Key Resources - www.onekeyresources.com.au

2013 FOGs Indigenous Employment and Careers Expo

All our Indigenous students are invited to this expo. This is the third year we have attended and our students have found it an invaluable experience. It has enabled them to explore a variety of employment and training opportunities across a broad range of industries. The event will feature appearances by a selection of Queensland Former State of Origin stars. Players will be available to sign autographs and chat with students throughout the day.

Date Wednesday 24 April
Time 8.00am to 2.55pm
Location Lake Kawana Community Centre
Travel Bus
Cost Free
Refreshments Students to provide or purchase at the expo
Dress Formal, including lace-up, black leather or vinyl shoes

Karen Scott
Indigenous Coordinator