Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have had a busy few weeks since I last wrote; an enjoyable under 8’s day, our dashing school photos, a cross country/ball games carnival and two ANZAC services. (Not to forget about all of the learning experiences we have each day within our classrooms!) I must say, I was extremely proud of the first ANZAC service to be held at our new formal presentation area; our student leaders did a fantastic job of hosting the event. Our special guest, Mr. Sanderson was very impressed by their organisation and public speaking abilities. I would also like to thank all of the students, parents and family members who attended the Murgon ANZAC service. We had a total of 20 students represent our small school at this significant and important event.

School Improvement

In 2016 our key improvement areas are:
1. Purposeful use of data – using data to make informed decisions
2. Improvement in student reading performance – across all year levels, focusing on Years 3-5
3. Improvement in student numeracy performance – across all year levels, focusing on Years 3-5
4. Successful Transitions & Closing the Gap initiatives – Early years into Prep, Year 6 into Year 7

At Moffatdale State School we aim for 100% attendance each day to maximize our learning experiences. Our minimum expectation is students attending 95% of the time. This roughly equates to missing 5 school days a term.

At the end of Term 1, our whole school attendance was sitting at 93.6%. In Term 2, our overall attendance is sitting at 93.4%. We are going to need to work hard to maintain this attendance rate for the remainder of the term. Congratulations to our Year 3 students who are currently achieving a 98.3% attendance rate! AMAZING Work! Remember, Every Day Counts!

Parent Teacher Communication

Parents and carers, our staff are always willing to discuss the educational experiences of the students in their classes. However as you can appreciate, mornings are often used for preparation, set up and finalising lesson preparation for the day. Similarly the afternoons are busy periods for teachers with staff meetings, professional development sessions and other capability building meetings scheduled throughout the week. With this in mind, I request that parents attempt to organise meetings with teachers in advance.

If you need to discuss issues that you believe are significant or are impacting on your child’s education, please contact the office or your class teacher to make an appointment to meet in a formal manner. I thank you in your compliance.

School Photos

School Photos have been completed and order forms are attached. Orders and payment should be returned by Thursday 12 May.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the students who competed at the Cross Country/Ball Games event at Cloyna State School on Friday 22 April. Our young athletes braved awful heat and staggering distances to prove they are as tough and as resilient as we need them to be. Congratulations to our Age Champions and to the older students who have been selected to participate in the South Burnett Cross Country Trials on Friday 13 May at Murgon SHS. The following students will represent the Small Schools team at the trials: Kayla D, Jacob H, Christine W, Mickayla H, Jacob D, Harry S, Jake S.
At Moffatdale State School we are...

**RESPONSIBLE**  **RESPECTFUL**  **SAFE**

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**Student Absences**

Parents, please be aware that it is your legal responsibility to inform the school if your child is absent from school. This communication can be in the form of a voice message on the school answering machine or a note sent to school the following day. Prolonged student absence from school without a valid reason is required to be reported to the police.

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**NAPLAN**

It is nearly that time again! Year 3 and 5 students will be sitting the NAPLAN assessments in week 5 of this term. It is important that students attend on each of these days to avoid any make up days. The tests will be broken up across three days.

- Tuesday 10 May - Language Conventions and Writing
- Wednesday 11 May - Reading
- Thursday 12 May - Numeracy

Parents and carers, please ensure students are well rested and have had breakfast before attending on these dates, as it is important for students to feel as relaxed as possible before commencing these tests. School staff will supervise the testing procedures according to the NAPLAN supervision handbook.

Aaron Jones, Principal

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**Prep/One News**

WOW! What a terrific two weeks we have had in Prep/One! We have had so many special and exciting events to attend and share together.

On Monday 18 April, all of the students in Prep to Year 3 travelled to Murgon State School by bus for our Small Schools Under 8s celebration. The students behaved perfectly at every stage of our excursion and were a credit to our school. We worked in year level groups with students from the other small schools to create different musical instruments out of craft materials. Each table created a different instrument. Then, we joined-in a musical and movement performance by The Kangagang. Mitchell from Year 2 was chosen to be a crocodile! He was just the right balance of fierce and friendly!

On Thursday 21 April, we also held our first Moffatdale SS ANZAC Service at our new school memorial. Our students were very respectful during our commemoration of this important occasion and wore their handmade poppies with pride.

All Small Schools were invited to participate in the Murgon RSL ANZAC Colouring Competition. The Moffatdale Prep/One students dominated our category, taking out all of the places! Congratulations to our winners! (Matthew 1st, Hayden 2nd, Dallas 3rd and Amity, highly commended.)

A special mention and thank you to Amity and Dylann (and their parents) for attending the Murgon ANZAC Service and march on Monday 25 April. They were the only students from Prep/One to attend and they represented our class beautifully.

On Friday 22 April, our school attended the Small Schools Cross Country at Cloyna State School. While I did not attend, I was very please to hear of how well the Prep/One students joined-in!

We had our school photos on Thursday 21 April. Their first school photo day is always an exciting day for Prep students. Thank you to Trish Beckett for her effort and lovely manner with the children.
Firstly, congratulations to all of those students who have been participating in our school events. It is so great to see Moffatdale being represented in many places.

Under 8s Day was held at Murgon State School and, although I did not attend, I was informed that the 2/3s behaved beautifully. Students were certainly full of interesting stories about their day when they returned.

Cross Country was a great day with the 2/3 class having 100% attendance—well done! We even managed to have a few place getters from our room. Well done to Chloe and Patrick who got the Age Champion trophies for their age group. What an awesome effort.

ANZAC Day was another event that we have participated in with pride. The days leading up to ANZAC Day involved the 2/3 class learning about the commemoration and doing some art and craft. The silhouette paintings and slouch hats looked amazing and the students should be very proud with their efforts.

**JUST A REMINDER:**

We are chasing boxes of any size/shape for our Geography Unit. So if you have any boxes at home, please send them to the 2/3 class.

We are also still chasing broken crayons for our Science Unit.

Four/Five/Six News

All students in 4/5/6 are working on their book work presentations. Students are encouraged to use a margin, date, ruler and ALWAYS do their best.

Most students have made great improvements! Come and have a look at our show off wall. This wall shows students who have amazing bookwork presentation.

Science update:

We have continued with our unit Matter Matters. This week students have focussed on safety. Students are asked to identify and explain different safety signs and labels around the house. If possible, please take a photo to share with the class.
Below is a graph with the Top Three VIVO Earners from each grade for the year so far.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Amity</td>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Cooper A</td>
<td>Carissa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dylann</td>
<td>Hayden</td>
<td>Bree</td>
<td>Damon</td>
<td>Claydis</td>
<td>Jacob H</td>
<td>Caleb C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>Aryanah</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>Parker</td>
<td>Caleb S</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Kiana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Those students who take part in any extracurricular activities like Cross Country, Under 8s Day or the ANZAC Day March can earn extra VIVOs. Other areas where VIVOs can be rewarded are when students are required to return permission slips or do some extra jobs around the school. Remember—the more VIVOs students have, the more items they have to choose from at the VIVO online store!

**ATTENDANCE:** Just a reminder that to be eligible to attend our End of Term Rewards Day, students must have 95+% attendance. If your child is sick and you’ve contacted the school, then those days do not count towards days missed.

**FOCUS SKILLS LESSON:**

**Weeks 3 & 4:** Move quietly between transitions.

Clean up your learning area.

Starting next week, on Friday 6 May, the Student Council will begin a new weekly fundraiser.

We ask families to support our Student Council by saving-up all of your five cent coins and sending them to school each Friday.

The students have set a target to purchase new sporting equipment with the money that is donated. Your small change can add up to a lot for our small school!

**“The Great Battery Round Up”**

1st April to 31st May

The Moffatdale P&C are raising funds through recycling old dead lead Acid batteries in order to purchase new school materials for the students.

You can either hand your old lead acid batteries to a school collector or drop them out to our collection point at the school.

**Every Battery Helps**
Japanese Speech Contest

Moffatdale did very well at the Speech Contest yesterday. Keturah came 3rd and Carissa came second in the Year 6 division and Tatum actually won the year 5 division. Well done Tatum!! All students that entered did a fantastic job and you should be very proud.

Student Statements

Statements of monies owed to the school have been sent home with this newsletter. We ask all outstanding fees be paid in full by week 10 this term, 17th June, 2016.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties please contact our office to arrange a payment plan to suit your circumstances.

Canberra Trip Payments

The 2nd payment of $250 was due to be paid by today 29th April 2016 as per the letter #4 sent home to families. Thank you to the families who made this payment.

Invoices will be issued next week for the total cost of the students contribution towards the camp ($550 per student) and will show the balances owing. Full payment must be received by 24th June 2016.

Community News

Ration Shed’s Reconciliation Fun Run 2016

The people of Cherbourg welcome the people of Murgon, the South Burnett and beyond to run (or walk) the 7 hrs in the name of friendship, in the name of hope, in the name of new possibilities.

Run with friends, walk with strangers, share with everyone, enjoy together and at the end of the route in the Cherbourg Memorial Park and the Ration Shed Museum we’ll all have a big party - with food, traditional games, sports workshops, market stalls, dancers and performers starting at 10am.

COME and JOIN THE FUN, even if you don’t run or walk • ALL WELCOME!

Buses will leave Cherbourg for Murgon Showground on Sunday morning at 7.15am for check-in at 7.30am with race start at 8am sharp. Shuttles will run between Cherbourg and Murgon from 10am to 1pm on race day.

Also please note: the Cherbourg-Murgon road will be closed in both directions between 8am and 10am on the race day - Sunday 15th May.

Proceeds from the Fun Run will go to The Ration Shed Museum for their work in education and reconciliation.

More information go to: rationshed.com.au/funrun
or contact the Ration Shed Museum: 07 4169 5753 or info@rationshed.com.au