Dear Parents/Guardians,

This week saw the completion of the NAPLAN testing process for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. I would like to congratulate the participants on their attitudes towards the testing process and the calm and relaxed way they tackled the challenge. Results for this testing process will be released later in the school year.

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 93.4%. In Term 2, our overall attendance is sitting at 93.7%. We are going to need to work hard to maintain this attendance rate for the remainder of the term. Congratulations to our Year 5 students, who, for the last fortnight achieved a 96.3% attendance rate! AMAZING Work! Remember, Every Day Counts!

Morning Processes

From Monday morning, students arriving at school from 8:00am till 8:30am will need to go straight to the library. There will be no morning oval activities. Students will have a variety of board games, card games and books at their disposal within the library environment. Students will be supervised by a member of staff during this time.

Parent Teacher Communication

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 for your compliance.

Gala Sports Day

Year 5 and 6 students will be attending the first Gala Sports Day of the year next Friday 20 May. Students will participate in a wide variety of sports; Hockey, Football (Soccer), Touch (Flag Tag), Dance, Gymnastics, AFL, and Golf. Permission forms will be distributed to students on Monday 16 May.

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.

**Fundraising**
A huge thank you to the families of Moffatdale State School, our battery drive has been highly successful and hopefully profitable. Full details of the fundraising efforts will be released in future newsletters but the feedback I have had from the fundraising team is that it has been widely supported by the community. Thank you to all.

**Community Support**
Members of the Moffatdale family may not realise that local organisations such as Graham House offer a number of services to support community members and families. Recently our school staff have been made aware of a number of support services they offer such as the Community Drought Support for people experiencing hardship due to the drought. For more information about this support contact Linda or Sharon on 4169 8400.

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**Prep/One News**

Science is currently the most popular subject in our class; thanks to the sensational Primary Connections Unit, ‘Spot the Difference.’ The Level 1 Unit provides an exciting early years introduction to chemical sciences. It focuses on the diversity of materials in our world and provides child-friendly, hands-on opportunities to observe and explore changes in the properties of food, including ice-blocks, ice-cream, spaghetti, eggs, popcorn and chocolate. We have been investigating how heating and cooling a food can change its properties, as well as whether (or not) it can be reversed.

**Spaghetti Fun**

In the lesson, **Spaghetti Fun**, we explored the properties of cooked spaghetti and created annotated drawings using the spaghetti. It was so much fun! (As well as a wonderful sensory activity.)

**Spaghetti Towers**

In **Spaghetti Towers**, we explored the properties of uncooked spaghetti and worked in pairs to build towers using uncooked spaghetti and different sized marshmallows.

**Hot and Cold**

In **Hot and Cold**, we investigated the changing properties of bread when it is toasted. We compared the texture, colour, smell and taste. We concluded that it is not possible to change toast back into bread.

We also observed changes in chocolate when it is melted, as well as uncooked corn kernels to popped corn. In each case, we compared ‘before heating,’ ‘after heating,’ and ‘after cooling.’

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**At Moffatdale State School we are...**

- **RESPONSIBLE**
- **RESPECTFUL**
- **SAFE**
Each morning we begin the day by moving to levelled reading groups. It has been great to see students engaged in their reading and learning different strategies to work out unfamiliar words and make sense of what they have read. These sessions go from 8:45–9:15 which is why it is so important to be at school on time so that valuable learning time is not missed. Below are some pictures of our avid readers reading from our large Guided Reading books. The book is almost bigger than Malaeky!

From 9:15 to 9:45 we move into our Spelling Groups. Again, students are levelled to suit their learning needs. Mondays and Fridays are our testing days, which leaves Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to practise our words.

These words are also sent home to practise for homework. Everyone strives to achieve 75% or better as this is working AT level.

Meet our 2016 2/3 students:

Interview with: Amelia

Where I live: Moondooner

My family: Mum, Dad, Jacob and Mckayla

The best thing I like about school is… play

My favourite colour: Red

My favourite food: Watermelon

My favourite game: Playing tiggy with Tilly (my dog)

My jobs at home: Feeding the horses

My pets: Tucker the dog, Misty the cat, Spider the horse, Kaitlyn and Charlotte the guinea pigs. We used to have Mister Rat but he got killed by Errol (Mum’s cat) and Errol fed him to Duke the family cat.

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The graph below shows the current Highest VIVO Earners across each of the grades for the year so far.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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. Amity</td>
<td>Hayden</td>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Damon</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Cooper A</td>
<td>Caleb C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dylann</td>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Bree</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Kayla</td>
<td>Jacob H</td>
<td>Carissa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dallas</td>
<td>Aryanah</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>Parker</td>
<td>Claydis</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Kiana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As it is Week 5, we will be revisiting our Be Safe expectations from previous weeks. They have been:

- Walk on concrete areas, around buildings and in classrooms
- Move quietly between transitions
- Clean up your learning area

The latest craze at lunchtime is playing Marbles. At this stage, we do not have a problem with the students bringing their marbles in to play at lunch breaks. However, please remind your child that there is NO playing for keeps (winning marbles from someone else) and that any marbles that are brought to school are the child’s responsibility. Marbles are to stay in school bags and not enter classrooms during class time.

**School News**

“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!

“Five Cent Fridays!”

Each Friday, the Student Council will run their new, weekly fundraiser, ‘Five Cent Friday!’

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!

Cooler Weather

With the cooler weather surprising us all it is time to remind families to label all school clothing.

Moffatdale SS P&C have school uniform jackets ($30) and trackpants ($25) available for sale. If you require uniforms please contact our office.

Payment of Fees

Please remember school fees are to be fully paid by the end of this term. Families can pay by cash, cheque, bpay and the new Bpoint. If you have any questions please call our office.
**Community News**

**COMMUNITY TRAINING**

You’re invited to a FREE, informative workshop:

**VENUE** KIMBERA TOWN HALL
Reception Room, 45 Glenland Street
**ON:** Friday 3rd June 2016
**AT:** 8.00am – 5.00pm

Please note: to become a facilitator you must attend the complete session.

**WORKSHOP:** Fun FRIENDS Facilitator Training

Once trained, participants will become fully accredited to facilitate the Fun FRIENDS Programs within their school, child care centre, or another environment on a not for profit basis.

Participants will also be provided with the Facilitator and child Workbook, as well as having access to Pathways to Resilience online resources.

Presented in association with:

Australian Government
Department of Social Services

ABOUT: ‘Fun FRIENDS’

The Fun FRIENDS Program helps guide the social and emotional development of children aged 4 to 7 by using fun, play-based group activities. Fun FRIENDS teaches skills that will nurture a child’s development during these crucial early years, giving them the ability to excel, smoothly transition into school life and more able to cope with stress.

The secret to the Fun FRIENDS Program is the group activities that help children to learn new skills. There are a number of different play-based activities that help teach skills to participants in a way that can be easily grasped, understood and used in everyday life.

Fun FRIENDS is a proven, successful program which has benefited thousands of kids and families over many years, and BUSKIDS and our partners are proud to offer you this FREE invitation to come and discover more about its benefits.

For more information or to register:

1. Register online at www.buskids.org.au – click on the ‘Latest News’ link
2. Call BUSKIDS on 3870 7288 Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm
3. Send an email to info@buskids.org.au with:
   - your name
   - contact number
   - email address

Registrations are required no later than one week prior to each workshop date to assist our planning.

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**Community Drought Support**

Are you or someone you know affected by the Drought?

Graham House Community Centre can provide flexible financial hardship support to community members experiencing hardship in the drought declared area of Murgon

Hassle Free - No Paperwork to Complete & Nothing to Repay

Confidential Hardship Support

(Flexible Appointments can be arranged at our office or at your home)

For more information, please contact Linda or Sharon on 07 4169 8400 or Email: admin@grahamhouse.org.au

Proudly Supported by:

Queensland Government
Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services