Dear Parents/Guardians,

As today is World Teacher’s Day (Friday October 28), I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the wonderful teachers we have at Moffatdale State School. Our teachers are committed to providing the best educational experiences for the students at our school in a caring, nurturing manner. I hope everyone had the opportunity to pass on a positive comment to their class teacher to let them know how much they appreciate the time and effort they go to for our students. As principal, I am extremely proud of the work they do and recognise that they play a vital part in providing our students with the skills they need to be lifelong learners.

Explicit Improvement Agenda - Reading

Online Reading Activities

Parents, you may or may not be aware that as part of your school resource scheme your child has access to www.literacyplanet.com.au. This fun and engaging learning site provides students access to levelled texts to read for pleasure or to work on their comprehension strategies. Students can have the text read to them or read along with a parent/carer. The site also offers sight word practice, spelling activities, grammar and punctuation exercises and many more. If you are interested in utilising this site from home, please contact your child’s teacher for their login details. This website is also available on iPads as an app, just search for Literacy Planet in the app store. It is a very exciting way to engage reluctant readers and also extend more avid readers with a variety of texts at their fingertips.

Our compulsory school-wide reading sessions continue to run before school (from 8:00am-8:40am). Students have the opportunity to read ability levelled texts independently or with a teacher aide or teacher. Parents are encouraged to come along, sit with the students and enjoy listening to some amazingly talented readers! We would love to see some more parents and carers helping to increase our students’ exposure to texts and help to foster a love of reading, especially in our lovely outdoor area near the library.
Attendance—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 per term. In Term 3, we finished with an attendance rate of 88%, a far cry from the 95% we set as our minimum expectation. Let’s work together to ensure that students are attending school each day and maximizing their learning opportunities.

Our week 2 attendance for Term 4 was 92.5%. Congratulations to our Year 6 students who achieved 97.1% attendance for week 2! Our week 3 attendance for Term 4 was 91.3%. Congratulations to Year 1 and Year 3 students who both achieved 100% attendance for week 3!

Payment of Accounts—We have a number of outstanding accounts that need to be finalised before the end of the year. If this is relevant for you, you will have received an outstanding invoice; please contact Mrs Granger in the office on Monday, Wednesday or Friday to discuss your payment options.

Japanese Excursion—On Tuesday 18 October, our Year 5/6 students had an amazing time in Brisbane visiting the Japanese Consulate, Daiso ($2.80 shop) and Kabuki restaurant. Students were well behaved and thoroughly entertained during the trip. Lunch was a highlight as the various chefs entertained students with various food tricks and lots of FIRE!!! Thank you to Mr Pellinkoff for organising the trip and to all of the small schools that came along.

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.

2017 Enrolments—Thank you to all parents and carers who have responded with their intentions for 2017. If we have not received your reply, you will receive a phone call next week. This is to assist the school in providing accurate information to regional office and ensure accurate staffing allocation for 2017.

Important Dates:
- Wednesday 2 November – Swimming commences – Murgon Pool
- Friday 18 November – Gala Sports Day
- Tuesday 22 November – St Mary’s Transition Day
- Wednesday 30 November – Year 6 Transition Day to Murgon SHS
- Friday 25 November – Moffatdale Prep-6 Open Day
- Friday 9 December – Term 4 Rewards Day – Aussie World

Aaron Jones
Principal
Two/Three News

We have been very busy in class with our learning.

Each morning we work in our small reading groups, and sometimes we join groups together so that students can hear each other read.

It has been great to see the enthusiasm for reading with Diary of a Wimpy Kid being one of our most popular texts.

On Tuesday, we had Mitch Sargent, an NRL Development Officer come out and run through some footy drills with the classes.

It was wonderful to see our students listening carefully and running through the drills and games, giving their all to do their best.

Congratulations to Mitchell who has achieved a Gold Mathletics Certificate! Great Achievement!

Prep/One News

WOW! What an exciting week! 😊

On Tuesday 25 October, Mitchell Sargent, an NRL Development Officer for the Darling Downs Region came to visit our school. The Prep-Year 3 students worked with Mitchell from 12:00-12:45pm, completing a number of skill building exercises and modified games. It was FUN!

On Wednesday 26 October, Firefighter Russell and Firefighter Jack (Jerry’s Dad) drove their fire truck out to our school. They spoke to us about being a firefighter and also about fire safety at home and at school. They involved the children in an exciting and entertaining way. We are grateful for the time they gave to our class and will likely be talking about their visit for a long time!

We have also been working through the national website, Triple Zero Kids Challenge, which focuses on the 3 emergency services and what to do in an emergency. Please take a moment to discuss this with your child and ensure they know their home address and contact telephone number. The website address is: (http://kids.triplezero.gov.au/)
The app can also be downloaded from iTunes and GooglePlay.

Swimming will begin in Week 5, on Wednesday 2 November. Please ensure your child has togs, towel and a sun-safe shirt ready-to-go for swimming!

On Friday 27 October, we had a special visitor with Firefighter Russell and Firefighter Jack (the kids’ dads) coming to our school to talk about fire safety and how to be a good firefighter. The kids really enjoyed talking to the firefighters and learning about what they do daily. They had a fantastic time! 

We are grateful for the time they gave to our class and will likely be talking about their visit for a long time!

Swimming will begin in Week 5, on Wednesday 2 November. Please ensure your child has togs, towel and a sun-safe shirt ready-to-go for swimming!
We are working very hard and learning lots of exciting things!

So far in Science we have learnt:

- Light travels in a straight line
- Transmission of light - Opaque (allows no light to be transmitted),
- Translucent (allows some light to be transmitted) and
- Transparent (allows most of the light of be transmitted
- Reflection is when lights hits a surface and the rays of the light (travelling in a straight path) bounce back
- Refraction - as light travels from one direction to another it slows down and changes direction slightly (often described as 'light bending')

This week we will be testing our spearfishing skills and our knowledge of refraction! We will be spearfishing with kebab sticks and lollies

Our English task of creating an ethical dilemma is on track. This week, we have finished our drafting stage and will soon start to produce our animations. Thank you to the wonderful students and families who have kindly donated different toys and equipment to use!

Please remember to bring in shoe boxes! We are needing these for our Science assessment next week J Thank-you for those families who have!!

This fortnight our Focus Skills are:

- Be a problem solver
- Remember the return to class routine: Toilet, Hands, Drink

The school is buzzing with excitement about our Rewards Day to Aussie World in Week 9. Everyone is aware of the expectations that need to be achieved to earn a place on our trip.

On Tuesday the Student Leaders asked some questions about the trip.

**How will we get there?** By Bus (although we did try to organise a helicopter, but the price was slightly out of our budget!)

**Who is welcome to attend?** Those students with 95+% attendance and those who have shown positive behaviour.

This will be our first time for Moffatdale School to visit Aussie World and we are super excited!

**Student Council News**

Our Sport Captains, Christine and Jake, have continued to run different lunchtime activities each week. So far, the novelty games, Egg and Spoon and Sack Races, have been the favourite!

The new activities for the week will be announced on Assembly each Tuesday.

**PBL News**

Japanese trip to Brisbane - The Students had a SENSEtional time on the Japanese Excursion to Brisbane. We listened to a very interesting speech at the Japanese Consulate about Japanese food and chopstick manners. We also walked up to the DAI$O $2.80 Shop where Students bought a wide range of toys, stationery and presents for friends and family...... all for the price of $2.80.

Finally, and perhaps the highlight of the trip for most of the Students, was lunch at the KABUKI Restaurant. Students were treated to a wide range of traditional Japanese foods and an amazing display of Teppanyaki skills by the Chefs. (Kids please do not try those tricks at home......)

Thank you very much to the Teachers who assisted on the trip and thank you to all the Students who participated. All of your behaviour was excellent and I hope everyone had a great time.

ありがとう ございました  **Sensei** (Sonny Pellinkhof)