**Principal’s Report**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to thank the students and their families for supporting this year’s 100th celebration of ANZAC Day at Murgon and Cherbourg last Saturday. We proudly represented Moffatdale State School with our biggest attendance ever and marched proudly for those we remember at this time each year.

Next week (Tuesday) Moffatdale State School will welcome Josh Arnold (Small Town Culture) to our school. Josh will perform a short concert and will then interview students and parents about what makes Moffatdale State School such a wonderful school. Josh will be auditioning students for a place in the ‘Beyond Barambah’ project. This project aims to bring attention to the exciting opportunities that are on offer to the students currently attending public schools in the Barambah region. It will focus on present and past students and the transition from our primary schools to Murgon High and beyond. I encourage parents to visit the school on Tuesday morning and enjoy a fine performance from Josh Arnold himself. In order to participate in any filming of the visit by Josh Arnold, parents/guardians must complete the permission/media release forms attached to the newsletter.

**School Improvement**

The table shows the average attendance data for each year level. Our school has set an aspirational target of 100% attendance, however we have set a minimum expectation of 93% for each year level. Congratulations to the year levels who are currently at or above that level. (Stay tuned for some exciting announcements for students that consistently achieve 100% attendance each term!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Current Term 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>96.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>96.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>98.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>98.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>91.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
<td>97.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our SSP program is continuing in classrooms each day with students currently completing their first level assessment. We have had a number of students successfully move from one coloured phase to the next. Students will continue to participate in activities that target their personal code level. Students will receive targeted instruction in the skills associated with the sound pics within their code level. If you would like further clarification around the program or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Dates to Remember:**

- Josh Arnold Visit – Tue 5th May 9-11:30am
- P&C Mother’s Day Stall – Fri 8th Apr 8:30 am
- Centenary Meeting - Tue 12th May 6:30pm
- P&C Meeting – Thu 21st May 8:30am
- SSP Parent Information Night – Fri 22nd May 4:30-5:30pm

**Attachments:**

- P&C Minutes
- Josh Arnold release form
feedback on its inclusion into the Literacy program at Moffatdale State School please speak with Mr Aaron Jones (Principal). An SSP Parent information night will be held on Friday May 22nd from 4:30-5:30pm. This night is a chance for parents to come and see the activities and routines that students are currently participating in, using the SSP strategies in reading and spelling.

By now, students in Years 2-6 should have received their own copy of the SSP 440 Duck Words (helpful words or sight words). Students will need to learn these words by using the strategy: say the word, write the lines and numbers and then use the correct sound pics to spell the word. Once a student has demonstrated they are able to successfully use this strategy to say/read the words and use the lines and numbers approach to spell each word within a specific level correctly (during school time), they will earn a certificate for that Duck Level. There are 7 levels in total. GOOD LUCK!!

Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL)

Our newly formed PBL team will be conducting its first meeting on Thursday 30 April. There will be a full summary of the meeting in the next newsletter.

Our school rules are: SAFE, RESPONSIBLE and RESPECTFUL. We encourage all parents to speak with your children about what these rules look like at our school and encourage them to display these positive behaviours in all aspects of their lives.

Rewards Day Criteria:

- Students must earn 150 tokens by week 9.
- Students must have at least 90% attendance up to the end of week 9 (students can have up to 5 days absent this term).
- Students must not receive any major incident referrals for behaviour.

The Rewards Day for term 2 will be held in week 10.

Student Absences

With the cold and flu season upon us, Parents are asked to consider the health of others when sending students to school. If you believe your child is too sick to attend school then it is in their best interest to rest and recover. A simple call to the office will ensure the absence is recorded correctly. Student absences longer than 3 days will require a letter from a doctor.

We encourage all students to attend school each day. We would like to congratulate the families that have shown a commitment to ensuring their child/children are attending school each day.

Centenary Information

Our Centenary celebrations are quickly approaching and the Centenary Committee have many exciting events planned over the next few months. To stay up-to-date with the latest news and developments, please check the dedicated Facebook page. The committee has committed to hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday July 25th in Block D. The cost will be $10 pp or you can book a table of 6 for $50, bookings can be made through the school.
office by speaking with Mrs Caron Granger. We encourage all parents to round up a team and come along for what is sure to be a night of challenges, enlightenment and fun.

The Centenary Committee would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of Candice Sippel and Jillita Rose in organizing and conducting the recent Centenary Golf Day. The event was run superbly, the weather was kind and participants enjoyed a fun-filled day of golf. Thank you ladies!!

**Up Coming Events**

- **Tuesday 5 May** - Josh Arnold visit
- **Friday 8 May** – P&C Mother’s Day Stall
- **Tuesday 12 May** – Centenary Meeting (pm) – All Welcome
- **Thursday 21 May** – P&C Meeting (am) – All Welcome
- **Friday 22 May** – SSP information Evening – All Welcome
- **Saturday 25th July** – Moffatdale State School Trivia Night – Come along, invite your friends and family!!

**Regards,**

Aaron Jones, Principal

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**School News**

**Cross Country Postponed**

Due to the wet weather the Small Schools Cross Country and Ball games day scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed to a later date. Students eligible for the South Burnett State trials will be picked from teams from previous years.

**Dental Van - Extended**

Government funded dental care is offered to all Queensland students through the School Dental Service from the age of four years old to the completion of Grade 10. Students of Moffatdale State School are being offered dental treatment at Dental Drover 19 now located at Cherbourg Hospital.

Parents/Guardians must attend. If you would like your child to participate in the government funded dental care program, please complete the registration oral health services form, sign and return it to the School Office by **Friday 8th May**.

Appointments are at Dental Drover 19 located at Cherbourg Hospital.

Oral Health does not accept any responsibility for transport of the children to and from their appointments

For information regarding this service contact: **0412 369 412**.

**Lost Property**

With the colder weather making our Moffatdale mornings a tad chilly we remind parents to please label your children’s school clothing. Our lost property bin is bulging with un-named items. Please feel free to come before or after school to find any items your child has not brought home.
Thank You

A big thank you to Connar and Tatum’s Dad, Neil, for giving his time to mow the school grounds and trim our hedges and trees. The school looked a picture when we returned from holidays. Your help is truly appreciated.

P&C News

Mother’s Day Stall.........The P&C are holding a Mother’s Day Stall Friday 8th May 2015 from 8:30am.

There are gifts for Mums who like to bake, gifts for those who like to garden and lots for those who like to relax and even some for those who like to be organized!

We have a great range of gifts for $2, $3 and $4. Send along a small amount of money and let us help your child choose a gift to say “Thank you for being the Best Mum!”

“Mother’s hold their children’s hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.” – Author unknown.

Prep/Year 1 News!

Term 2 has begun with a flying-start in Prep/One!

We welcome Mrs Emma Lucas to our classroom on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Emma taught Music at Moffatdale last year and has built a wonderful rapport with the students already. She will teach Science on Tuesday afternoons and Geography on Wednesday afternoons. In Science, we will focus on the Primary Connections Unit, What’s it made of? Through hands-on investigations, students will explore what different things in their school environment are made of, as well as the properties of the materials used to make them. In Geography, students will explore the question, “How do people use places?” through the C2C Geography Unit. They will investigate, identify and describe natural, managed and constructed features of different places. Students will also consider the location of different places, as well as ideas for how to care for local areas and places.

In English, students will listen to, read, view and interpret picture books and stories from different cultures. They will choose a favourite story and prepare a written retell which they will present to the class. There will be a strong focus on sequencing and written vocabulary throughout this unit. Our SSP lessons have begun and all students have been grouped into their colour-levels. We have rearranged our SSP Learning Areas and are really enjoying working in our new space!

In Maths, students will complete their first whole class iMaths Investigation. Prep students will complete the Investigation called, Happy Birthday Humpty and Year 1 students will complete the Investigation called, All About Birthdays. These units align extremely well with each other and focus on days of the week, months of the year, calendars, collecting data, presenting data, lists and tables, graphing, chance and probability, two-digit numbers, addition and subtraction. Students will also continue their number learning through daily warm-ups and revision.

Our You Can Do It! Focus for the next couple of weeks is Resilience. Our focus character is Ricky Resilience. Students are encouraged to be aware of their feelings and reactions to different situations and consider the best way to deal with each situation. We encourage students to consider different options and use strategies to de-
escalate their reactions. The You Can Do It! Program uses puppets and music to engage children in their learning and so far, our class are responding well. Please keep an eye-out for Ricky Resilience Stickers sent home with your child. This will mean they have used resilience during their day!

You may have smelled the delicious aroma of ANZAC Biscuits baking last Thursday afternoon.... The Prep/One students baked biscuits as part of our learning about ANZAC Day.

We read the story, ANZAC Biscuits, written by Phil Cummings and then made our own. We also made our own Remembrance Poppies to wear on ANZAC Day.

A special, ‘thank you,’ to the families who attended the Murgon Service on ANZAC Day. It was wonderful to have so many Prep/One students there to march with our school. Thank you to Olivia, Hannah, Julia, Kiri and Jeremiah for marching in the Murgon parade!

We invite all parents, guardians, carers and friends of Prep/One students to drop-in and have a look around our room and see the changes we have made. We hope you enjoy looking at our displays of each subject area and the focus of our learning this term.

2/3 News!

Welcome back! In the first term I challenged the students to see who could beat my attendance. As I was away for ½ a day, students needed to attend every day for the entire term. I was very happy to award the following people with 100% attendance – Parker, Damon, Amelia, Patrick and Brett. That is a fantastic achievement!

In Term 2 we will be covering the following concepts:

- **English** – Persuasive texts – write arguments with reasons/evidence to support their point of view
- **Maths** – Number, Graphing, Measurement
- **Science** – ‘All Mixed Up’ – in this unit students will explore how changing quantities of materials in a mixture can alter its properties and uses.
- **Geography** – students will demonstrate their understanding of the similarities and differences between characteristics of places at a local scale and represent data

We have started our spelling groups. These words lists will be sent home so that you can put them somewhere to help practise these words.

**Please remember to label jumpers, jackets and tracksuit pants as we have already started to get a collection that have no names.**

Here we are, Term 2. Our class welcomes Miss Sarah Cove, who will take on the role of support/admin relief teacher for this term. Miss Cove will be in the 4-6 room two days a week (Thursday and Friday).

This term our English Unit requires students to compare a narrative to its adaptation into film. In this case, we will explore a classic Australian story – Storm Boy, written by Colin Thiele and compare it...
to the 1976 movie of the same name. Students will read the book and watch the movie. They will compare the similarities and differences between the book and the movie version of the story and then write a persuasive report stating their preferred version of the story.

This term, students will complete another iMaths Investigation. These investigations aim to provide students with a real-life context for the mathematics concepts they are covering. The units explore concepts of time and timetables, data, money, weather and temperature, including negative numbers and multiplication and division. Within our class, students work across four ability levels in Maths. Each group will complete a different iMaths Investigation:

iMaths Book 3 – Top Team: students will create four team activities that are enjoyable and aim to improve the skills of the participants. These activities must involve some form of timing or measurement. Students will design scorecards and create clear rules for each activity.

iMaths Book 4 – Lengthy leaps: students will investigate the optimum run up they need to achieve the longest jump possible. Students will record and analyse data and reflect upon their findings.

iMaths Book 5 – Race around Australia: students will try to complete an imaginary flight around Australia in less than 24 hours. Students will plan and design a trip to each state and territory capital using our commercial Australian airlines. Students will investigate, plan and record data during this investigation. Students will be required to justify their decisions throughout this investigation.

iMaths Book 6 – Fantasy Flight: students will produce a travel itinerary and record of expenses for a dream trip to 4 major cities in the world (they have a maximum of 50 000km of free travel). Students will record flying times between locations, costs of accommodation, food and tourist activities at each capital city. Students will be required to report on any special deals or discounts they find and how much these discounts have saved them.

All students also continue to work through the ten iMaths Problem Solving Strategies throughout our Maths lessons each day.

Our Primary Connections Science Unit: Package it better, will be exploring the packaging industry and how different materials are more suited to certain products. The class have been given a design brief, and will be creating a portfolio that investigates packaging for a fragile gift that needs delivering. Within this unit they will also have to understand the importance of being environmentally responsible, which ties in with the Geography unit this term.

In Geography this term our students will be investigating how different views about the environment influence approaches to sustainability, and how people can use places more sustainably. Their assessment is a research task that looks at how waste is managed locally, and will evaluate ways to make the process more sustainable.

This term will also be the end of our First Semester of 2015. We look forward to meeting with parents and carers during the end of semester interviews (dates will be released next newsletter).