DATE: 09 June 2015

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:
Hello Students, Parents, Carers and local Community members,
Attendance is first and foremost on my agenda as you will again see in this newsletter. The information below has been compiled by Education Queensland and is certainly worth reading. I have also included the attendance Data indicator and you will see it has fallen by .2 of one percent. Our goal for this term was 88% which will now be difficult to achieve considering there is only 3 weeks left in this term, however, every day counts. Thank you to everyone who has made the extra effort to see that your son or daughter is attending regularly, your efforts have dramatically reduced the rate in which attendance had been falling on the indicator.

The Importance of School Attendance
Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success, while absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

Why is it so Important to attend every day?
• Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day(s).
• Reading the material and completing work independently does not compensate for the loss of insight gained during class discussion or the loss of competency acquired through explanation or supervised drill.
• Many classes use lectures, discussions, demonstrations, experiments and participation as part of the daily learning activities, and these cannot be made up by those who are absent.
• Regular student participation in daily classroom activities plays a significant role in a student's school success.

Are there other benefits to my child?
• Students with good attendance records generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
• Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.

Regular school attendance patterns encourage the development of other responsible patterns of behaviour.
• Students who develop an "on the job" attitude toward school will be more desirable to future employers.

What are the risks of frequent absences?
• A child who does not attend school regularly will be unlikely to keep up with the work.
• The more students miss school, the lower their grades; the lower their grades, the less they want to stay in school; the less they want to stay in school, the more likely they will drop out of school.
• Students who miss school are more likely to be at risk for anti-social or criminal behaviour.

What can parents do to help?
• Parents must model the value of education, including the importance of regular attendance.
• Make sure that your child goes to school regularly and arrives on time—you will establish a good habit that will carry through life.
• If your child starts missing school, work with the school to put things right. Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of him/her missing school.
• If your child is ill or must miss school for some other reason, contact the school immediately. If you ask for homework, make sure your child completes it.
• Do not expect the school to approve of shopping trips during school hours.
• Whenever possible, arrange family vacations during school holidays so that children miss as little school as possible.
• Take an interest in your child's school work and be involved in the school as much as possible—your child will value school more if you do.

Who else benefits from good school attendance?
• Other students: less classroom time is spent re-teaching and reviewing for students who have been absent.
• Teachers: lesson plans are more likely to be completed when all students are present. Teachers must sometimes postpone tests or other important activities until all students are present.
• The office staff: less time is spent calling to verify reasons for absences.
• The school and district: school districts with a low absence rate receive more state funding than those with absence rates higher than 6%.

Remember, regular attendance is necessary for success in school. Help ensure that your child has the best opportunity for success by making sure he/she is in school every day.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

My vision for Mount Morgan State High School is that “Every student succeeds and is work-ready”

Regards,
Trevor Rickertt – Principal (Acting)

CAREER EXPO
Our senior students in years 10-12 were given the opportunity to attend a Career Expo held at CQ University on Wednesday 03 June 2015. Students were exposed to a range of careers including apprenticeships and traineeships that they would not normally be able to access. Information packages were available from all stall sites for students as well as face to face interaction with workers in specific fields.

POSITIVE AWARDS
Week 6 Term 2
Year 7—Allannah Phillips
Year 8—Celeste Robinson
Year 9—Katheryne Loader
Year 10—Emily Stein
Year 11—Connor Stewart
Year 12—Bianca Tulk

Week 7 Term 2
Year 7—Willandra Hughes
Year 8—Telleesha Bull
Year 9—Cara-Delle Wilkes-Hayden
Year 10—Tammy Ryan
Year 11—Colleen Anderson-Ross
Year 12—Angel Coulson-Cooper

NETBALL
Netball rounds are complete with our Open C2 team advancing into the semi finals. Both of our open teams played wonderfully on Wednesday with our Open C1 team winning 20-2 and our Open C2 winning 20-4. Our junior teams have now completed their season and are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Good luck! to the Open C2 team in their semi final matches.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
Rockhampton Show Holiday—11/06/15
School Athletics Carnival—17/06/15
Last day of school term 2—26/06/15
School resumes for term 3—13/07/15

Agricultural & Horticultural News
Growing Lettuce (lactuca sativa)
(Best months for growing Lettuce in Australia - temperate regions)

Easy to grow. Sow in garden, or start in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks. Sow seed at a depth approximately three times the diameter of the seed. Best planted at soil temperatures between 8°C and 27°C.

Space plants: 20 - 30 cm apart
Harvest in 8-12 weeks.

Compatible with (can grow in same bed): Carrots, Onions, Strawberries, Beets, Brassicas, Radish, Marigold, Borage, Chervil, Florence fennel, leeks.

Avoid growing in same bed: Parsley, Celery

Lettuce seedlings
Lettuce table ready

Lettuce offers a range of shapes, sizes and colours but they are all easy to grow. Choose a variety marked on the seed packet as suitable for the time of year as some do badly in the very hot months. Try to provide some shade to prevent them 'bolting' to flower and seed in the hottest months.

Sow in rows and use thinnings as small salad greens

Lettuce is shallow rooted so water daily in hot or dry weather to prevent bitter flavour and bolting.

Growing lettuce in the aquaponics system means that you do not have to worry about the constant watering as the system does it for you.

Culinary hints - cooking and eating Lettuce
Wash well, spin or shake dry and use in salads and sandwiches

Lettuce will be for sale this week for $1 to $1.50 depending on size. We are also selling bunches of fresh thyme for $1.

Phone the school on 4912 5555 to place your order.

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