Hello Students, Parents, Carers, Local Community members and Staff,

Welcome everyone to our 2017 School year. This year we have 4 Terms, each a nice even 10 weeks long.

There are many exciting changes happening within Queensland Education and our school over the next few years, some of which I will touch on here.

The sharp and narrow focus for 2017 is on full implementation of the Australian Curriculum in all subject areas from Year 7 to Year 10. This will be a gradual transition. We have already begun the transition with English, History, Geography, Science and Maths from day one this year. Full implementation of the Australian Curriculum will take place in all subjects by the end of 2020.

NAPLAN (Years 7 and 9 in High school) is in the process of converting to an online system that will be fully implemented for 2019, however, there will be some trial schools involved this year and next year also.

The Senior Phase of learning (Years 11 and 12) will continue as it is until the end of 2018 when the OP (Overall Position) system will be phased out and replaced in 2019 with an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) system. This means that our current Year 9 Students will be the first in our school to experience the ATAR system. Beginning this year we will be preparing for this transition.

Attendance is still of major concern for student success here at Mount Morgan State High. Whilst everyone has done a fantastic job of improving student attendance, our data shows an overall attendance for 2016 of 86%, which is an improvement over 2015 by 4.7%. We need to celebrate our gains, however, we are still falling short of the 94% which is the expectation that will dramatically improve every student’s level of education. Students will not improve their education to their fullest potential if they do not attend every class every day.

I wish to take this opportunity to highly commend four of our students from 2016 who received the principal’s award for perfect attendance.

These students are: Zachary Somerfield, Samuel Atwell, Charlene Creamer and Savannah Liebich.

Congratulations to these students and I invite every student at Mount Morgan State High to aim for this prestigious award which will be available every year.

Please place foremost in your mind that: “Every Day Counts”.

It is a legal requirement that all enrolled students attend school every day unless they are sick.

We will continue to send Parents/Carers a text each day your child is absent from school and I respectfully request that you respond to the text and let us know the reason for your child’s absence.

If there is anything we can do to support you in getting your son or daughter to attend school every day, please call in and talk with me or phone me.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and I look forward to meeting you throughout the year.

Regards,

Trevor Rickertt - Principal
School Photos are being held on 14 February 2017. Students should be dressed in school uniform as per school uniform policy. Do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Dan Williamson

A NOTE FROM YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

School photos are almost upon us again! The school has engaged MSP Photography to create our school records this year and you are invited to purchase prints of your child.

On photo day, every student will be photographed regardless of whether you are purchasing or not.

Your child will bring home a personalised order envelope from the photographers. Please take care to read and follow all the instructions carefully. This will ensure your order is processed smoothly and efficiently and will help you to avoid any late fees.

For those of you ordering online, you will notice a new, improved version this year. Please take care to follow the instructions carefully and ensure you log onto www.msp.com.au to enter your child’s shootkey.

Additional order envelopes are available from the school office for separated parents, blended families and grandparents. You will need to collect these on or before photo day and give it to the photographer on photo day. Be sure to write “Mum’s order” or “Dad’s order” on top of your envelope.

To order a sibling or friends photo, please collect Sibling and Friends Order Envelope from the school office on or before photo day, or order it online at least 24 hours in advance. Please note: Sibling photos are only for siblings who all attend the school.

If your child has been photographed in a special group (ie sports team or leadership team), order envelopes will be available in the weeks following photo day. Please watch this newsletter for information when they will be available.

As school staff are unable to help with photography enquiries or payments, please direct your questions and comments directly to MSP Photography by phoning 4921 3355.

Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to a great photo day.

Keep smiling!!!

LIBRARY NEWS

Hello and welcome to 2017! This year the Library will be open from 8am each morning and both lunches for students to use for quiet reading, playing board games or to access the computers. Letters went home last week asking for the return of any outstanding resources that students still have from previous years. If you received a notification please either return the items, make arrangements to pay for the item or source and purchase a replacement copy. I ask that this be taken care of as soon as possible as some students may be waiting for textbooks and class novels to use for their study this year.

If there are any concerns or queries please don’t hesitate to contact me at the school.

Kym Crawford
Library

PLEASE NOTE:

This is the first issue of our Newsletter for 2017. In future the newsletter will be emailed home to parents who have provided their home email address. It will also be emailed to student’s school email addresses to enable them to print a copy to take home if their parent/guardian does not receive a copy by email. This newsletter can also be found on the school website and the Mount Morgan Precinct facebook page.
30 January 2017

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Year Twelve is a very important time in your child’s schooling career. Not only will students work towards achieving their QCE and/or OP, but students will be working towards their graduation. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that attendance at this event is not guaranteed for year twelve students and that there are conditions upon participation.

The conditions of attendance at the formal include:
- at least 90% attendance in each term
- overall satisfactory behaviour
- completion of all assessment tasks
- payment of all fees owed (including outstanding camp fees, resource hire fees, bus fees for sport/cadets, jerseys/jumpers, etc.)
- return of all borrowed resources (library books, text books, uniforms, etc.).

The purpose of these conditions is to improve the academic success and career prospects of your child as well as to maintain the resources of the school. It is our hope that all year twelve students will be able to attend this momentous occasion and if for any reason your son/daughter cannot meet the above conditions please contact the school and make an appointment with either the Senior Schooling Head of Department, Deputy Principal or Principal as soon as possible. To attain a copy of any outstanding fees please contact the office. Outstanding book lists can be accessed through the library.

Yours sincerely,

Trevor Rickertt
Principal

Dates to Remember:
06/02/17—School’s 105th birthday
09/02/17—Leadership Induction at TCC Rockhampton
10/02/17—School birthday and Leadership Inductions
14/02/17—School Photos
14/3/17, 23/5, 10/10—Year 7—Immunisations—tentative dates
Free Microsoft Office 365

Did you know your child can get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge, just for being a student at Mount Morgan State High School? All you need is your child’s school email address to sign in.

To help prepare your child for success this academic year, the Department of Education and Training has teamed up with Microsoft to provide free Office 2016 to every Queensland state school student. With Office 2016, your child will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and notetaking, and much more.

You can install a complete version of the latest Microsoft Office on up to five compatible PCs and Macs, five tablets and five smartphones. Your Office subscription lasts for as long as your child is a state school student.

Ask your child to follow these simple steps to get Office:
For PC and Mac, visit portal.office.com, login using your school email address, click through to install and follow the onscreen process.
For tablets and smartphones, download from your app store and sign in with your school email address.

Student Attendance

A report released on July 11 "When a child is missing" Remembering Tialeigh, has prompted the Queensland Family and Child Commission to recommend same day notifications for unexplained absences. This process will apply to all students who are marked absent without explanation, on any given day.

At Mount Morgan State High School, parents/caregivers will receive a text message or phone call if a student is not present by 9.30 am. I urge all parents/caregivers to notify the Student Absence Line on 49 125 555 or register your child’s absence via the QParent Portal prior to 9.00am, if your child is going to be absent.

If your child has a medical or other appointment in the morning session and is going to arrive late, please advise the Office prior to the commencement of the school day. I remind parents that the school day commences at 8.55am. Please ensure that students are at school on time so that teachers can undertake morning roll marking and student attendance is accurate.

As you may know, we have already been doing this by sending a text message on any occasion where your child is marked absent at school and no explanation has been given. To keep our records accurate please respond to this message, on the same day, with your students name and reason for the absence.

Thank you to the majority of parents/caregivers of Mount Morgan State High School for doing an excellent job in letting the school know when your child is away. We ask all families to adopt this policy and let the school know as soon as possible that their child is going to be absent and for what reason.

Parents and Carers need to ensure that their current contacts are up to date and if there has been a recent change in mobile number or street address, alert us immediately.

To update your contact details, please contact the school office on 49 125 555.

At Mount Morgan High the safety and wellbeing of students are our highest priority.

The school target for unexplained absences is 0. Can all parents please ensure that the school is notified of any student absences either through a quick phone call, SMS or a note.

School Expectations:
Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be a Learner
Welcome to 2017! Welcome: students, parents and carers, friends of the school, teachers and all school staff, and wider school community.

For many of our returning students, familiarity with school is a reasonable given, but for all of our new students there are adjustments and discoveries for students and families alike. Following are a couple of articles to support and assist all students and families, but especially for new students and families.

Why connect at school?

Schools can be scary places, and not just for children

Parents and carers also need to feel welcome and at ease to get the most out of being involved with their children’s school. When parents and carers are involved and connected with school, children are better learners and have better emotional and mental health and wellbeing. This is an important emphasis in schools nowadays that may be very different from what parents or carers remember, or what they may have experienced in another country.

Connecting at school

Being connected at school is not about having mobile phones and computers. It’s about knowing you can get support, that you will be listened to, and that you can work together with school staff to help your child learn and develop. Working together to care for children is the best way for schools and parents and carers to support children’s emotional and mental health.

- When schools and parents and carers work together, children find it easier to understand what is expected from them and are better able to manage. They have fewer behaviour problems and do better at school.
- When parents and carers are connected to school it helps them get support when they need it. Support may come from talking with teachers or other school staff, or from making connections with other parents and carers. Schools help families to connect through having lots of different activities that parents and carers can get involved in.
- Being connected to the school helps keep parents and carers informed. Parents and carers who are informed about what their children are learning at school and about opportunities to get involved are able to support them better at home.

School is a place for adults to make new friends too! Having opportunities to get to know other parents and carers, to find out how to support your children’s learning, or to get involved in class activities can help parents and carers feel connected to the school.

How parents and carers can get connected to the school:

- Make contact with your child’s teacher and keep in touch. Ask for help if you don’t understand something
- Check for notices that are sent home and keep informed about school activities through the school newsletter
- Attend information sessions and social activities at the school whenever you can
- Make contact with other parents and carers at your school: perhaps meet up informally with parents or carers of other children in your child’s class, find out about parent social groups that meet at or near the school, or join a parent committee

Take an interest in the school Parents & Friends Association and consider joining it.

**TUCKSHOP MENU**

Open – Monday to Friday  
8.00am – 2.00pm  
Telephone: 4912 5555

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<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hamburger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegie Burger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Burger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chilli Chicken Wraps</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sandwiches, Rolls &amp; Wraps</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese, cheese &amp; tomato, ham &amp; cheese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ham cheese &amp; tomato</td>
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<td><strong>Toasted sandwiches</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ham &amp; Salad</td>
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<td><strong>Salad Box</strong></td>
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<td>available with ham, chicken &amp; swoonies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
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<tr>
<td>– price depends on fruit available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lasagne</td>
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<td>Chicken &amp; gravy roll</td>
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<td>Pizza Rounda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Quiche</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Chippies</td>
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<td>Pies – plain &amp; cheese &amp; bacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sausage Rolls</td>
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<td><strong>Drinks</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paddle pop – rainbow</td>
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<td>Icy Twists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Calippo’s</td>
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Monday, Wednesday, Friday – See notice board outside Tuckshop for specials

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**Homework Club**

The Relationships Australia Mount Morgan Family & Community Hub is facilitating a Homework Club in Term 1, 2017.

Grade 1-5 is held on Monday’s 3:30-3:00pm

Grade 7-12 Tuesday’s 3:30-5:00pm

• Fully-supervised
• Quiet learning environment
• Resources available to help assist with homework

There are limited spots available. Please contact Greta at the Hub or on 4938 2262 for more information or to secure a spot

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...like to keep up to date with what is happening...? facebook.com/MMEdP
Mount Morgan State High School was established in 1912 and is the oldest high school in Queensland. In 2012 the school celebrated 100 years of education and still continues to serve the community of Mount Morgan and its surrounding regions providing a quality education for each of its students.

MOUNT MORGAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL
04 Central Street
PO Box 11
Mount Morgan QLD 4714

P | 07 4912 5555
F | 07 4912 5500
E | office@mtmorganshs.eq.edu.au
W | www.mtmorganshs.eq.edu.au

Community News:

MOUNT MORGAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO OUR STUDENT LEADERSHIP CEREMONY AND OUR 105TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!!

When: Friday 10 February 2017
Time: 11.00 am
Where: Mount Morgan State High School, Multi-Purpose Area

Please RSVP by:
Monday 08 February 2017
Phone: 49125555 or
Email: admin@mtmorganshs.eq.edu.au

Tea, Coffee, Cake and Seating will be available

Looking forward, we would like to invite you to save the date for Defence Force Recruiting’s Parents & Teachers Defence Careers Night in 2017.

Rockhampton Parents & Teachers Defence Careers Night
Date: Wednesday 15th February, 2017
Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Location: Rockhampton Leagues Club – cnr George & Cambridge Streets, Rockhampton QLD 4700

KIDS CAN JOIN THE FUN AND LEARN TO PLAY CRICKET

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY:</th>
<th>T20 9 a Side Fixtures</th>
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<tr>
<td>AGE:</td>
<td>9-11 yrs (U 12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLUB/CENTRE:</td>
<td>Gracemere Bulls - Rockhampton Junior Cricket Fixtures – From Feb 4 to March 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADDRESS:</td>
<td>Kalka Shades Cricket Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME:</td>
<td>1.30 to 4.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONTACT:</td>
<td>Tony Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tony.newman@menai.com">tony.newman@menai.com</a></td>
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