



Parsons Boulevard  
Deception Bay QLD 4508  
Subscribe: <http://moretondownsss.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: [admin@moredownss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@moredownss.eq.edu.au)  
Phone: 07 3897 2666  
Fax: 07 3897 2600



9 February 2017

## From The Principal



### Principal's Message

Schools are places of learning. To ensure learning opportunities are maximised at Moreton Downs State School we implement a deep and contemporary curriculum, continually reflect upon and improve our instruction and utilise a range of systems and processes to manage all resources and people on our school site efficiently. Research indicates that students need and respond to the clear and consistent structure within schools. To that end we have and will continue to promote a range of rules, structures and routines. It does take some time for these to be fully implemented but as we are now deeply into week three of a new school year I would hope everyone in our school can meet all expectations. This newsletter has a few reminders around school processes.

### Lunch breaks

Thank you to the vast majority who have embraced our before school routines and our lunch time play first structure. Both these processes are reaping massive benefits for student's level of engagement in structured learning. As well I wish to celebrate that attendance at the moment is above 94%. Remember every day at school counts and lost school days drastically affect a student's learning outcomes.

### Before School Arrival

Our school seeks to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students. To that end we have staff on duty each morning so that your child is adequately supervised. To ensure adequate supervision it is recommended that **students should arrive at**

**school no earlier than 8:30am.** Before the commencement of classes students should wait in either area A or D. Only the children directly supervised by their own parents may wait in other areas.

### End of Day Collection

The end of the school day is extremely busy and I have noticed some parents attending school extremely early in the afternoon to wait to collect their children. So that we may maintain safe practices and manage all visitors parents collecting students should:

- Enter the school grounds no earlier than 2:45pm (this is when gates are opened)  
This limits the number of unaccounted visitors on the school grounds
- Wait in areas away from the immediate classroom locations  
Waiting too near your child's class causes distraction to some students and interrupts the end of day processes.
- Wait quietly and limit noise, especially in supervising younger children.  
Excess noise, as you would expect, does interrupt lessons

By complying with these simple requests our students will be provided a safe and uninterrupted end to the school day.

### Security – A reminder

Our school takes your students safety seriously. Our recently improved fencing and school processes attest to this commitment.

Please be aware that from **9:15am only gate 3** will be open (the main entrance gate). **All other gates are locked at 9:15am.**

If departing the school after 9:15am please exit via the main gate (gate 3). Gates will reopen at 2:45pm for end of day dismissal.

## School Bus

Please be advised that students travelling by school bus at the end of the day have a new departure time. The bus will now depart from the school at 3:10pm. This will mean it is not necessary for students to leave class early, as they had been, to catch the bus.

If your child travels on the school bus at the end of the day please ensure you speak to them about this change. Class Teachers will also be speaking to the students in their care about expectations.

## Student Resources

### Does your child have all the necessary items as listed on our school book lists?

By ensuring this provision your child has every opportunity to fully engage in the program of instruction offered at Moreton Downs State School. Should you have a challenge providing book list items please have a conversation with your child's teacher, we may be able to assist. Remember label everything as unlabelled items cannot find their way to their owner.

## Enrolment

Day 8 each year is the deadline the Department provides to schools to confirm enrolment numbers. The enrolment on this day determines the school's staff and budget allocation. Day 8 in 2017 sees our school with an enrolment of 681. Through careful budget allocations and reprioritisation of areas in staffing we are maintaining 30 classes for 2017. This will ensure critical areas of the school, especially our prep years have very low numbers of students in each class. We look forward to outstanding outcomes in 2017 with this low student to teacher ratio.

## Parent / Teacher Sessions

Thank you to the parents who took time to attend the parent/teacher sessions this week. This process allows teachers to have an opportunity to ensure all parents understand all that is happening in their child's class. It also allows parents to speak to their child's teacher around concerns and relevant information.

## Tuckshop

Our school tuckshop is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Ordering for meals is the preferred option.

Supporting our tuckshop is one small way to assist our P&C fundraising.

## PBL – Positive Behaviour for Learning

There is no dispute that students who misbehave in class not only interrupt their own learning opportunities but also significantly disrupt the learning of others. These interruptions are not fair on those who come to school and want to learn every day. Our PBL processes, which align to the schools Responsible Behaviour Plan, clearly describe every school

member's responsibilities around behaviour. I make no excuses for ensuring all members of the school comply with their responsibilities and that appropriate discipline consequences are implemented. We want the best for our students and we will work closely with the parents of students who are interrupting others learning.

## Get Started Program - \$150.00

Looking for financial support for your child in sport. The State Government has released additional funds in the way of **Get Started** Vouchers for eligible children and young people. Parents of young people can apply for the voucher online on behalf of their child. **Get Started** Vouchers provide young people with \$150 to engage in sport and recreation activities across Queensland. To be eligible the young person must hold a Centrelink health care card or have been nominated by two referral agents.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/kids/>

## Parents and Citizens Association

Our Parents and Citizens Association provides a very supportive consultation and fundraising role for our school. We need your voluntary help to ensure this committee continues its valuable work. You can help by volunteering. The first meeting for 2017 will be on **Wednesday 22nd February at 6:30pm in the school library**. Come and join this wonderful group.

Have a great fortnight

Regards

**Paul Pickering**  
**Principal**

## From The Deputies

### WORKER OF THE WEEK

I had the pleasure of meeting Worker of the Week P-3 recipients last Friday. I was very impressed with the manner with which they enjoyed their celebratory morning tea. This week I am looking forward to meeting the upper school Workers of the Week from years 4 – 6. To be a recipient, students are nominated within their classes for their great work around our "Positive Behaviour for Learning" program which focusses on our School Expectations. A special morning tea is organised on alternate Friday mornings whereby Student Leaders wait on our students who have demonstrated Moreton Downs State School Expectations.



### Our 5 Bees



**Respectful**

**Responsible**

**Safe**

**Resilient**

**a Learner**

## Meeting Teachers before School

The time directly before formal classes commence each day is valuable time for teachers in preparing for their day and ensuring student's lessons are well organised. Teachers welcome regular communication with parents but please be aware that should a catch up with the teacher before school require more than a minute or so it is best to make an appointment with the teacher for a convenient time when both parties can be devoted to the topic.

## Parent Information Sessions

We have had great support with parents making time to attend their child's information session, as it is here that we can work together and inform you as to class expectations around behaviour, homework, upcoming camps and excursions etc.

If you missed your child's session, please contact your child's teacher to catch up

Hi All

Great start to the term by the students however these last few weeks have been especially hot at school which is a timely reminder that all students should have a wide brim hat and freshly filled water bottles each day to help keep them cool and hydrated. They should be wearing closed in shoes with a good arch support for running, jumping and playing. Socks are also needed in this hot weather as 25 sets of feet can be quite smelly in a classroom.

Also to start the year off well it is important to note the below information.

### "It's not OK to be away"

All students are expected to come to school every day, on time and to be in attendance throughout the whole school day. There is clear legislation around this expectation. If a child is absent parents/carer should immediately contact the school and provide advice of the reason for their child's absence. The school monitors attendance for all students. Serious sustained absences may even attract a fine.

5 Days or less absent in a Semester means your child's attendance is on or above 95%. This means your child is being provided the very best chance to perform at their highest level, as well as having excellent attendance. They will most certainly achieve the best grades for their ability and have real opportunities in further education or in the world of work as a 'life-long learner'

However if your child is absent through illness or incident, please always remember to contact the school. The student absence number is 3897 2660. The school office number is 3897 2666.

**Have a great week**

## Spotlight on the Classes

After the Sheena Cameron PD, **4 TH** tried a quick writing activity. The students were given a stimulus picture of a girl about to swallow a wriggly worm. They had to write what the worm heard, saw and felt.

This is the criteria they were given:-

### STIMULUS PICTURE

Girl about to Swallow a Worm



### GOAL

- Write as if you are the worm
- What do you hear?
- What do you see?
- What do you feel?

### Swap your work with a partner

Partner needs to identify one (1) noun in each sentence.

When this is done swap books back and **YOU** need to add a describing word/s (Adjective) to each noun.

### WORM by Ishall

I heard the monstrous girl gulping when I got picked out of the ground and saying, "AAHHH!"  
I saw the terrifying human pick me out of the wet, squishy dirt ready to munch on me.  
I felt very worried and terrified by the human's sharp teeth.

### WORM by Madison

As I was sleeping, I heard noisy laughing from the giant who then picked me up.  
When I was ready to be lowered down, I could see trees, flowers and a moving mouth.  
I felt my life was about to be ruined.

### WORM by Itieli

As I was about to be eaten, I heard people laughing around the whole place.  
I saw HER teeth and huge mouth.  
I felt terrified as the human was about to gobble me up and my heartbeat was fast.

### WORM by Aleah

As I was pulled out of the ground I heard heavy breathing from the scary, terrifying girl.  
I could see an open, watery mouth ready to eat me.  
I felt terrified as my awesome life was coming to an end.

## Hive News

(The Hive is the new name we have given to the SEP Unit)

Beginning this week the Support Team are proud to offer, an 8 week **Jungle Memory Program** with identified students in Years 2 and up. The Jungle Memory program promotes their

computer-based activities as "training students to use their Working Memory. Working Memory allows us to make mental scribbles of multiple pieces of information or processes we need to remember and think about".

## Sports Report

### Date Claimers

**Fri 10th Feb** - Deception Bay Table Tennis Championship  
MDSS swim team training

**Thu 16th Feb** - Redcliffe District swimming carnival

**Friday 3rd Mar** - First week of interschool sport

**Tue 28th Mar** - Moreton Downs Cross Country



### Our Students in the Community



Lucinda Wolfe met Australian football Player Katrina Gorry at the W-League Game



See story on next page at the OzTag State Championships  
Isabella McDonough and Ari Tuialii



Ngairie Harris has qualified for the State Lifesaving titles as part of the Bribie Island team. She will be part of the swim team

### Interschool Sport

Interschool sport for year 5 and 6 students commences on Friday 3rd March and concludes on Friday 19th May. This makes the seasons 9 weeks long.

Interschool sport is a competition against the other schools in Redcliffe District. It gives our students the opportunity to test their skills against others in friendly competition.

Interschool competition builds school spirit and promotes working together and belonging to a team

Bus cost for the season is \$40. Due to an ever increasing bus cost we have had to raise our cost to cover the bus price rise. Full payment prior to the start of the season would be great or 2 x \$20 payments (one prior to the season and the second straight after the Easter holidays) would be acceptable.

Options for interschool sport and requirements are as follows;

| Gender       | Sport                     | Coach                                     | Requirements         |
|--------------|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>Boys</b>  | Rugby league              | Ms Keates (Yr 6)                          | Boots and mouthguard |
|              | (Talobilla Park)          | Mrs Lord (Yr 5)                           |                      |
|              | Football (soccer)         | Miss Box                                  | Shin pads            |
|              | (Frawley Field, Clontarf) |   |                      |
| <b>Girls</b> | Netball                   | Mrs McDonough (Yr 5)                      | <b>Nil</b>           |
|              | (Association courts)      | Mrs Archibald (Yr 6)                      |                      |
|              | Football (soccer)         | Mr Dunn                                   | Shin pads            |
|              | (Southern Cross College)  |   |                      |
| <b>Mixed</b> | Basketball                | Mrs De Ryck                               | <b>Nil</b>           |
|              | (tba)                     |   |                      |
|              | School activities         | Miss Patterson (Yr 5)<br>Mr Gamble (Yr 6) | <b>Nil</b>           |

We would love to see all of our year 5 and 6 students attend interschool sport. A reminder, if paying the whole bus cost amount is an issue, please give me a ring and we can organise a payment plan. We don't want to see any child who wants to attend, miss out.

Permission notes have gone home. Please return these quickly to your child's coach.

Please take note of the code of conduct for interschool sport on the next page

### OzTag Champion

Isabella McDonough from year 6 recently played in the OzTag Junior State Championships on the Sunshine Coast. She was a part of a strong North Lakes side that also included Ari Tuialii from year 4.

At the conclusion of the Championship, Izzeey was named MVP, most valuable player in the whole u/11 division. She has also been named in the City rep side for further games in June. We are very proud of Issey's efforts.

We all know where she got her skill from.....her father obviously.

### Past Students....

Two past students are making it big in their chosen sports. Josh Kerr, on his 21st birthday is a chance of making his debut for the St George Illawarra Dragons this Saturday. Josh signed

for the Dragons from Melbourne Storm at the end of last year. We wish Josh a happy 21st birthday and best wishes for the game....unless he's playing against the Broncos.

Rhiannon Kemp who experienced her first game of softball for Moreton Downs in year 5 has just been selected for the Australian u/23 side to play a tournament in the US. This is even more remarkable as Rhiannon has only just turned 18.

These are just two examples of the great player to have come from Moreton Downs. Will your child be the next.....

## Moreton Downs Magic Interschool Sport Code of Behaviour



**"WIN WITHOUT BOASTING..... LOSE WITHOUT EXCUSE"**

### Team Members Code Of Behaviour.

- Always play by the rules.
- Never argue with the Judges, Referee's or umpires decision.
- Control your temper - no criticism by word or gesture.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team-your teams performance will benefit and so will your own.
- Be a good sport. Encourage and support your own team members.
- Cooperate with your coach and team mates. Show respect for your opponents and their skills.
- Be friendly to all participants.
- Going to bed at a reasonable hour will assist your own and your team's performance.
- Be courteous.
- Be responsible - you are representing your family and your school.
- Say THANK YOU - often.

### Parents' Code Of Behaviour.

- Remember that children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by all teams.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.

- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation of volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.

## Chappy's News

A big welcome to you, especially new families to Moreton Downs State Sschool.

I started here in the last term of 2016, and am enjoying my time, getting to know the students has been quite an adventure, and settling into my role as School

Chaplain is proving to be very rewarding.

I'd like to take this opportunity to reiterate my role in your child's/children's school as there has, in mainstream society been some misunderstanding about a chaplain's role.

SU QLD chaplains, or 'chappies', provide social, emotional and spiritual support to school communities. They are in the prevention and support business:

Helping students find a better way to deal with issues ranging from family breakdown and loneliness, to drug abuse, depression and anxiety. They provide a listening ear and a caring presence for children and young people in crisis, and those who just need a friend. They also provide support for staff and parents in school communities.

The department of education website has lots of great information about chaplaincy, you'll find it here:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/healthy/chaplaincy-student-welfare.html>

Scripture Union also has an informative snapshot report of a chaplain's role in schools, you'll find it here:

<https://www.suqld.org.au/snapshot/>

If you are in need of any support, please feel free to come and see me. I'm here for you too. I am located in G Block.

**Chappy Leanne.**

## P&C News

### Parents & Citizens Association

#### NOTICE OF Annual General Meeting

**To be held on:** Wednesday 22 February 2017 at 6:00 pm

**Located in -** MDSS School Library

#### Business to be conducted:

- Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held 2016
- Receiving of the Auditors Report
- Appointment of the 2016-2017 Auditor
- Appointment of 2017 Committee

## Committee Positions available (renewed annually):

**President** - currently vacant

**Vice President** - currently vacant

**Treasurer** - currently vacant

**Assistant Treasurer** - currently vacant

**Secretary** - currently vacant

## Renewal of positions:

Uniform Convenor

Fundraising Officer

We also need general committee members to help volunteer throughout the year.

<http://www.pandcsqld.com.au/>

We welcome all new and existing parents, caregivers, students and teachers to join us in welcoming in the New Year.

We will be looking for new ideas, helping hands and volunteers to share in the experience of making our school great.

## Interested?

Come to our first General Meeting of 2017

To be held on: Wednesday 22 February 2017 at 6:00 pm

**Located in** - MDSS School Library

- Meet the team from 2016
- Ask them questions
- Find out how the P & C works
- See how a monthly meeting is run
- Dip you toe in the water
- Have some fun

Recently questions have been asked around the roll-out of air-conditioning in the school.

The P & C committee is very aware that every classroom is equally important and that every teacher thinks their students are more deserving than others. However here is insufficient funds to do all classes at the same time. The P&C is working the best it can to budget and pay for air-conditioning as soon as the money comes to hand without over stretching our funds or causing financial stress. \$60,000 has already been spent and we need \$80,000 to finish the air-conditioning of our school.

Other funds being spent at present on upgrading the Tuckshop has been sourced from grants applied for and it can only be spent on those specified works.

All staff, parents, caregivers or students are invited to attend the monthly P & C meeting to present any concerns or opinions or discuss this in detail.

Please find below the air-conditioning installation roll-out plan. This schedule is based on several meetings and opinions, noise considerations and of course heat effecting classrooms. The schedule has not changed since its inception.

MDSS P & C Air-Condition the School Program Schedule 2017

1. B Block Prep completed
2. M Block Prep completed
3. O Block Music completed

4. F Block (currently Year 4) completed
5. C Block (currently Year 2) completed
6. Library Computer Room – fix to appropriate capacity completed
7. L Block (currently Year 6) completed
8. K Block (currently Year 6) completed
9. D Block (currently S.E.P.)
10. E Block (currently Year 5)
11. H Block (currently Year 3)
12. N Block (currently Year 3)
13. A Block (currently Year 1)
14. I Block (currently Year 1)
15. G Block (currently Lote & Chap)
16. LOTE Room
17. Chappies Room
18. Hall Meeting Rooms (currently Helping Hands & Instrumental)
19. J Block (currently not in use) asbestos allowance

## Uniform Shop

### Uniform Shop

**Tuesday mornings** 8:30 to 9:30

**Thursday afternoons** 2:30 to 3:30

Hats can be purchased in the Tuckshop (cash only)

Orders can be placed online

<http://www.flexischools.com.au/>

For delivered directly to your student in their classroom.

## Tuckshop News

Have you received your new updated tuckshop menu for 2017? If not then please collect a copy from the tuckshop or the office.

We are open Mondays- first lunch, Wednesday – both lunches, Thursdays & Fridays – first lunch.

\*\*\*Iceblocks and slushies can no longer be pre-ordered. Over the counter sales only for those items.

**Flexischools** is a quick easy way to order tuckshop, school uniforms, buy tickets to school events.

To update your student's details for 2017, follow these steps:

**Login** [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

Find Current or Create New Student

**Select:** "Edit" button next to the classroom (small pencil button)

**Select:** Year and Classroom

**Select:** Change Class

MAGIC !

## Community News



Looking for a sports equipment that also benefits our school?

<http://www.amartsports.com.au/>

Amart Sports is located in The Zone, Rothwell with a fantastic variety of sporting equipment to choose from.

When you get to the checkout mention Moreton Downs State School "Community Kickbacks" before you complete your purchase and 5% of all purchases goes directly to our school. This is at no cost to you and of great benefit to our school.

The more credits our school accumulates and the more products we can buy at Amart Sports to help improve school facilities

