



An Independent Public School

Morawa District High School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2, June 2020



Tonia Carslake

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to school. As you know we are living in unprecedented times right now, a totally changed world. I want to thank you all for your support in this COVID pandemic – it is certainly one of the most unusual times at school we have ever seen. Together, we have been able to make the best of this situation and ensure your child's safety and continuity of learning during this time.

As regional restrictions have now been lifted, it is important we remain diligent and follow the AHPPC guidelines for schools. I encourage you to please make sure you keep your child home if they are unwell and, if you or your child have fever, cough or cold symptoms, get tested for COVID-19. We have had several students at school with cold like symptoms. In order to keep everyone well and safe, students will be sent home if they are unwell. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Out of every challenge comes great learning and positivity. Suddenly staff were connecting with students in many different and innovative ways to teach them. Setting assignments and learning tasks on Connect, using Zoom for videos and Webex and the Learning at Home packages. It has certainly made us rethink the potential for how we teach and communicate. What I have really loved about this time is the care that has been shining through from all staff. We all care about our students and each other. Thank you for your support of your children whilst learning at home and for returning your students to school as soon as possible this term.

Congratulations to the Year 3/4 class on their

wonderful Superheroes Assembly held via Zoom last Thursday. This is a first for our school, with more to come. Thank you Mrs Atkinson and Ms King for facilitating this wonderful event and to the parents that joined us online.

We have had a few staffing changes this term. I would like to officially welcome the following staff to our team:

Mrs Glassford-Hill as our Primary Deputy whilst Mrs Tapscott is taking some leave.

Ms King who is the Year 3 /4 teacher, job sharing with Mrs Knox-Atkinson,

Miss Courtney Kollmann is now teaching the K/PP

Miss Eleanor Simpson as an AIEO whilst Miss Marrikka Hill is on Maternity Leave

Ms Cheryl Bell as an AIEO as Mrs Maxine Simpson has retired.

We look forward to working with you. I would like to congratulate Maxine on her retirement after 20 years of wonderful service and wish her all the very best for her retirement. I would also like to wish Miss Hill all the very best on the upcoming birth of her baby boy.

We are pleased to be currently writing your child's Semester 1 Report for 2020. Students who have attended school regularly when we have been open and returned learning at home packages for staff to mark, giving them enough evidence to make a valid judgement, will be graded with an A-E grade on their reports. This is not a requirement, but something our staff feel they want and can do. If students have not completed enough assessments for a valid grade to be made, then they will receive a not assessed grade but still receive report comments. It also means that your child's attendance is not reported, and some written comments may provide less information on student progress than usual.

As part of our PBS strategy for Term 2, we held

a whole school team building activity day on Tuesday last week. This was a great way to promote positive relationships amongst staff and students, and assist in building resilient, optimistic and responsive students who can work as part of a team. Students from each of our house factions, Ruby, Emerald and Sapphire, were vertically grouped into 6 groups. They worked as part of a team, and needed to display all 3 PBS expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Achievement in order to achieve maximum points at each activity from the Student Councillors and House Captains allocated to each activity. The students are to be commended on their fabulous team work throughout the day, as well the fabulous leadership from our Student Council and House Captains. Thank you also to our Health and Wellbeing Team, Miss Katona, Mrs Knox-Atkinson, Miss Kollmann and Miss Pearson for their fabulous organisation of this event.

Staff had a busy bee on Saturday painting new games for the students around the school, including Sevens, 4 Square and Twister. It is lovely to see the students having fun in these areas and learning new skills.

The Year 7 Transition Program for 2021 will begin next term for students in Year 6 from Morawa DHS and surrounding schools. I will be visiting local primary schools to talk with prospective students and parents early next term about what great educational and extra-curricular opportunities we offer. More information regarding the Year 7 Transition Program will be sent home to parents and out to schools in the coming weeks.

Parking arrangements outside the Performing Arts room have been reviewed after a near miss accident a couple of weeks ago. This will come into effect starting next week. It will revert to Staff Only Reverse parking outside the PA room and parents will need to park in the allocated fenced off area behind the bus assembly area to drop off and collect their children. There is a fenced off path in front of the Pre-primary building for students and parents to walk along to access this parking area. Thank you for your support of this. The safety of our students must come first. Thank you for your understanding of this matter.

Best wishes,
Mrs Tonia Carslake



SECONDARY MATTERS

Year 9 OLNA Our Year 9 students were provided with the opportunity to sit the OLNA tests after NAPLAN was cancelled for 2020. Students who achieved Band 8 or higher in the relevant Year 7 NAPLAN writing assessment will be considered to have met and prequalified for the writing standard. Year 10, 11 and 12 OLNA activities begin on August 31.

Externally Set Tasks All students enrolled in General and Foundation Year 12 courses must complete externally set tasks (ESTs) developed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Teachers are busy preparing students for the ESTs which have to be sat during Week 7, 8 and 9 of this term. The tests are used to compare performance levels in each subject in all schools across the state.

Let's go Lego Science and PE teacher Mr Zwaan is registering a school team to enter the Lego League activities which are being run through Curtin University. He has put out a call for spare Lego blocks to the school community, so if you have any at home, they would be prized by Mr Zwaan and his teams!

T. Michael McGann
Secondary Deputy



PRIMARY MATTERS

With the current situation, we welcomed 'back to normal' and had most primary students start the term as usual. It was very pleasing to note the eagerness of students to get back into learning at school.

To brighten up the play areas and provide more games for students, a bunch of very enthusiastic teachers volunteered their time at a busy bee recently to re-paint and introduce new games. We now have more Four Square games, Twister, Dance With Me and Sevens. A huge thank you to those staff members who attended. Thank you also to Mrs Shirley Katona for her support.



Last week we introduced '**Friendship and Kindness Week**' - to ensure inclusivity, build resilience, tolerance, self-esteem, patience and positive relationships between students. Students were grouped according to Year and gender and were to stay with their group at every break for the whole week. They were also 'caught being kind' with kindness slips given out throughout the week by all staff. The Shire generously opened the Youth Centre to allow visits from every class and we thank John Van der Meer and Renee King for their support. The week culminated in a dress-up day where each group decided how it dressed. We had a 'farmer' group, a 'denim' group and a 'pyjama' group, just to name a few. We hope all students enjoyed the week's activities.

Our first primary assembly was held last week and

this was run by the Year 3/4 class through Zoom. The class presented two items about Superheroes – a delightful song with actions then words from each student about why they are a hero. The class is to be congratulated on a 'super' assembly. Congratulations also, to those students who received an honour certificate.

Last Wednesday, Miss Katona organised an activity for the Junior primary for Simultaneous Reading day. The classes enjoyed a delightful story called 'Chicken Divas' and this was followed by the making of some stunning masks.

Coming up is the **Public Speaking Competition**. This year the students will deliver an information report and classes are currently involved in the process of writing this. A Year group competition will be held in class and the top three students will participate in the Final in Week 9. This will be held in the Performing Arts room and parents will now be able to attend. More details of the competition will be sent home soon so that parents can support their children.

Just a note on stationery – please ensure your children have all the necessary equipment at school to ensure ease of learning. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Wendy Glassford-Hill Acting Primary Deputy



Year 3 friendship group -
superheroes

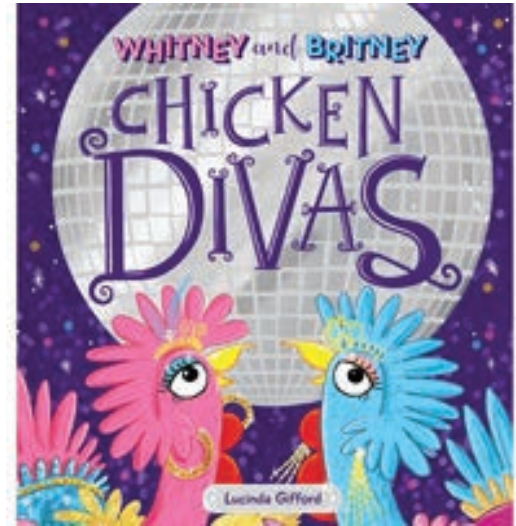
Year 4 friendship group
dressed in denim



YEAR 3/4 ASSEMBLY SUPERHEROES



NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME



This year **National Simultaneous Storytime** (NSS) took place on Wednesday 27 May 2020 at 11:00am. The Australian author & illustrator, Lucinda Gifford wrote this years book called Chicken Divas. The two main characters, Whitney and Britney are two gorgeous chooks who sneak out at night to the local jazz club and they are in fact, Chicken Divas! The Pre-primary & Year 1/2 class met in the library to watch this super entertaining story, read to us by Emma Wiggle. We then relocated to the Year 1/2 classroom where feathers flew, glitter dazzled and colours splashed about, while we made our very own Chicken Diva masks... and how fabulous do they look!



What's been happening this term....

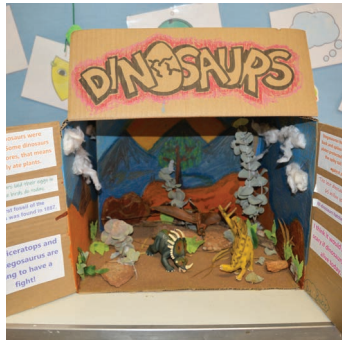
Year 7's @ Morawa Youth Centre



Year 5/6 Cooking



In the classrooms



Kindness Week Activities

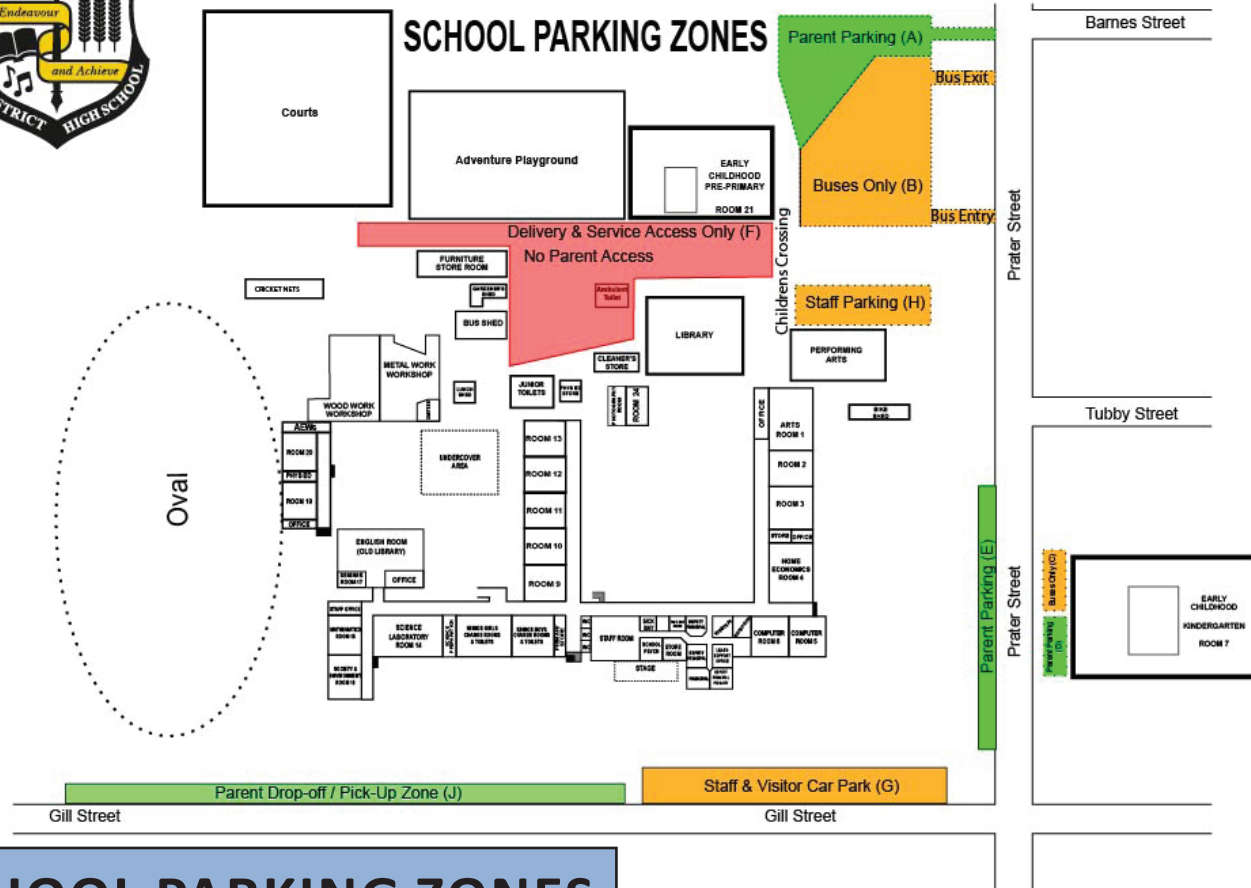


AROUND THE SCHOOL....





MORAWA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL PARKING ZONES

In order for students to move safely and reduce the risk of accidents around the school grounds, there have been some modifications to parent/visitor school parking, drop off and pick up zones as outlined on the **School Parking Zones Map**.

(A) This parking zone can be accessed via the entrance opposite Barnes Street. Students will access the zone using the Children's Crossing as marked on the map.

(F) Please note this area is for deliveries and service vehicles only. This is a high traffic area for our students and parents/visitors are not to access this area to drop off and pick up students.

(H) This area has been re-zoned Staff Parking Only to limit the risk to students arriving and leaving the school grounds.

We look to your support to follow the parking rules and to exercise care when accessing the school grounds to ensure the safety of our students.

YEAR 3/4 ANZAC DAY PERSUASIVE WRITING

At the beginning of Term 2 the year 3-4 class learnt about ANZAC Day. We discussed what the day was commemorating and why ANZAC Day is important for Australians. Students completed a persuasive writing task explaining why it is important to continue celebrating ANZAC Day.



ANZAC Day is Important By Anna Collins



ANZAC Day is celebrated on the 25th of April. ANZAC stands for Australia and New Zealand Army Corps. ANZAC Day is celebrated by Australians and New Zealanders in many ways such as lighting candles, marching down the street and dawn services, listening to the last post and one-minute silence.

Firstly, we must never forget the people who died and fought in the war. The people who went there fought for us to be safe and have a lovely country.

Secondly, we need to show respect because all the people who went to war were doing it for us they all didn't have a choice. If they didn't go, we would not have a safe country.

Finally, we must never forget because they had such a hard time with shooting and violence. Their families must be very sad for the people who died and went to war. They must have been very scared.

In conclusion we should keep celebrating ANZAC Day. Because it is important that we keep our country safe and our people safe. We must continue to remember the people who died and went to war that's why we should keep going.



KINDY ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR 2021!

Is your child excited to start their first day of school? Now's the time to get your child school ready and apply to enrol them in Kindergarten for 2021! If your child is four years old by 30 June 2021, you can apply to enrol them in our school. Contact us by 24 July 2020 to apply.

Apply now to enrol your child in Kindergarten.

If your child is four years old by 30 June 2021 you can apply to enrol them in Kindergarten for 2021.

Contact your public school or community kindergarten by 24 July 2020 to apply.

At the time of enrolment your child will need to have an 'up to date' AIR immunisation history statement.

Every day of a child's education matters.



To find a public school in your area visit
education.wa.edu.au/schoolsonline

A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

My name is Kathryn Anthony. I am the Community Health Nurse who visits your school.

Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of our work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program.

Community Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. The services provided are free and confidential.



If you have a concern about your child's health or development, please contact me on **9927 0200** or via email on kathryn.anthony@health.wa.gov.au

Grounds and Security: Parents are asked to remind students that the school grounds are out of bounds out of school hours. In the event of vandalism, please report to School Watch on 1800 177 777 or the local Police on 99 601 666.

MORAWA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL BUSINESS PLAN 2019-21

Vision

Growing good people

Positive Behaviour Support Expectations:

Respect - We treat others with consideration and respect.

Responsibility - We are accountable for our own actions, resolving differences in constructive, peaceful ways; we contribute to society and we take care of the environment.

Achievement - We have high expectations of students and staff and endeavour to achieve our best.

School Priorities

PRIORITY 1: Success for all students

PRIORITY 2: High quality teaching

PRIORITY 3: Effective leadership

PRIORITY 4: Strong governance and support

