



An Independent Public School

Morawa District High School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, March 2021



Tonia Carslake

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the year. The students and staff have settled into classroom routines very quickly and the school is happily humming with positive energy. Congratulations to all students for a fantastic start and for completing some amazing work over this first half of the term. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year.

Thank you to all parents who have sent their children back to school wearing the school uniform. It is wonderful to see our students dressed in their black and gold sports uniform, or black and white formal uniform.

Welcome new staff to Morawa District High School

We are delighted to welcome two new staff members this year, and fortunate to retain the majority of our staff from 2020. Please welcome them and wish them the very best:

Miss Amber Ritchie - Year 5/6 Teacher
Miss Alisha Madurun - School Psychologist

Every Day Counts 100% Attendance

A reminder to all students and families that every day counts at school. If students miss one day every fortnight by Year 9 they will have missed a whole year of learning. The effect of absence accumulates over time. Academic achievement, not only in the current year, but in future years, is severely affected and this can impact on an individual's learning for life. We are going to continue our strong focus on attendance this year and support students and families at risk in as many ways as possible to ensure they come to school every day. We will continue to celebrate the 100% attendance winners each week at assemblies and look forward to improving our overall regular attendance. If you require assistance to get your child to school, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Connect – DOE online learning and communication platform

Administration staff and teachers continue to use Connect as a main form of communication. It has student work, home work, notes and programs in each year group on Connect.

Connect trouble shooting –

- Connect Now App - You can only access notifications via the Connect Now app. You need to make sure you have the latest version of the app downloaded. This will give you regular updates from your classroom teacher as they post them.

- To access Submissions, Content, Discussions and the library in your children's classes, you will need to log into Connect through the browser e.g. chrome or internet explorer. The address you need to go to is <https://connect.det.wa.edu.au/>

This will take you to the Department of Education sign in page. In here you need to enter your P number and password. If you haven't logged in before you can create your own password. There's also a "Forgot password" button if you do not remember your password and you can re-set your password.

Student enrolments

As of Census, held Friday 12 February our unaudited student enrolments showed we had 188 students enrolled. We have welcomed twenty two students from Morawa and surrounding towns into our Year 7 classroom which is very exciting.

School Development Days

For the first two school development days at the start of the year, school staff reviewed our commitment to the school's priorities and undertook operational planning for 2021 and strategic planning for the Business Plan's strategic direction. This included the identification of focus areas based on our school performance data and strategic documents provided by the Director General for this year.



Miss Katona and the Year 1/2 class in the Library

Endeavour & Achieve

Our focus areas for 2021 include:

Success for all students – Attendance; writing; digital technologies

- High quality teaching – Targeted, explicit teaching; evidence based feedback; professional learning
- Effective Leadership – Aboriginal Cultural Standards Framework; positive health and wellbeing for staff and students
- Strong governance and support – school review process

Student Assessment

Students across the school have been involved in a **number of assessments** since the beginning of the year and these will provide the basis for measuring our school performance this year. On entry assessments (Pre-primary to Year 2); PIPS (Pre-primary), OLNA (Year 10 – 12) and SOCS (Kindergarten) have been underway. Course and assessment outlines have been shared with students and parents. Progress reports for secondary students will be available at the end of term. NAPLAN has been scheduled from the 11-21 May 2021 for students in Year 3, 5, 7 & 9. Please see details further in the newsletter.

School Nurse

We are pleased to have appointed to Morawa District High School a School Nurse, Kathryn Anthony. Kathryn has been holding fortnightly clinics every second Tuesday at 8.30 am recess and lunch, as well as immunisation clinics. Students and parents can book through the front office or can wait outside the School Nurse/Medical room to see Kathryn or referrals can be made through the front office.

ABC's Media Literacy Program

We were excited to welcome Katie to our school to run Media Literacy workshops for our secondary students from Years 7-12 with ABC Heywire Producer Katie McAlister throughout Week 5. Katie brought her extensive knowledge and creative skills into classrooms through a suite of interactive workshops that focused on telling fact from fiction in the news, and empowering students to think critically about the media they consume.

Scitech Years 1-6 on Wednesday

Scitech's **Move It** and **Prove It** show and workshops were held in our town hall on Wednesday last week. The shows were fantastic, educational and engaging. Thank you to Mrs Glassford-Hill for organising this.

Teachwell

We are very excited to be involved in the Teachwell professional learning program for 2021. We were offered 2 places for teachers to attend and upskill in these research based teaching practices for Term 1 and an extra 3 Positions for teachers in Terms 2 and 3 in Perth. The Teachwell program builds beautifully on the explicit teaching model we have in currently in place. We are very exciting to see the positive impact this professional learning has on our student participation, engagement and achievement.

Swimming Activities

Students are involved in a number of swimming activities this term including preparation for the Swimming Carnivals.

Interm Swimming for students in Years P-7 begins Week 6 from the 8-18 March at the Morawa Pool. The **Interhouse Swimming Carnival** is being held at the Morawa Pool on **Friday 19 March**. The **Interschool Swimming Carnival is being held in Carnamah on Friday 26 March**. Thank you to Jane Pearson, Tom Zwaan, P&C President Haylie Cosgrove, class teachers, Sandy Reardon, Shire of Morawa Pool, and the Interm Swimming Teachers for providing this opportunity to the students.

Voluntary Contributions and Charges

Student statements will be sent home to parents and guardians this week. Payments received by Week 7 can benefit from the 10% early payment discount and your child can have the maximum benefit from the resources and consumables this enables us to provide. **SAS and Abstudy** forms available from the school office, **applications close 9 April**.

I look forward to meeting with you all over the coming weeks.

Kind regards

Mrs Tonia Carslake

Principal

SECONDARY MATTERS

Congratulations Peta Humphreys ...

MDHS Year 9 student Peta Humphreys recently took delivery of the new high-quality laptop (with 4G SIM and 22GB Wi-Fi per month), awarded to her as part of winning a 2021 Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship.

Scholarship winners from every State and Territory were identified as having the potential to achieve academic excellence and significant professional success.

Besides the laptop computer, Peta will also be given access to remote IT helpdesk support, up to \$2500 for tutoring, a \$650 pre-paid card for educational expenses, an online study help provider, a volunteer coach to provide guidance and JobJump career support.

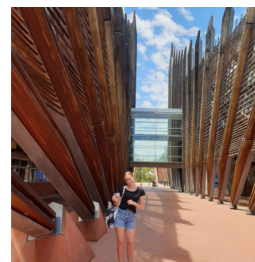


Peta is pictured showing her new laptop to the Principal, Mrs Carslake

Hitting the books ...

After a year of hard work at the local IGA and on the farm, 2019 MDHS Head Student Danielle Letton has now headed to Perth to begin her university studies in Primary Teaching.

Danielle has enrolled in a bridging course at Edith Cowan University in Mt Lawley.



She has already had one home break and impressed her family by spending much of her time in Morawa deep in her studies.

Our other 2019 Head Student, Darcie Parker, is in her second year of Nursing at Notre Dame University in Fremantle.

OLNA 2021

Our Year 10, 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to complete the writing component in the first series of the 2021 OLNA activities this week.

To achieve the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE), students need to demonstrate minimum standards of literacy and numeracy. These standards cover the range of skills regarded as essential to meet the demands of everyday life and work. For example, it would be expected that a young person leaving school can write a good job application, read and follow instructions and complete the sorts of maths adults encounter all the time when shopping or balancing the family budget.

There are two ways students can demonstrate the minimum standards:

- prequalification through the Year 9 National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), or
- performance in the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).

Example tests on the SCSA website (<https://seniorecondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/olna/practice-and-example-tests>) can be used by students and parents/guardians/carers to sample the types of skills assessed and to experience a complete assessment in the reading, writing and numeracy components.

The Numeracy and Reading tests will be held on set dates at school up until March 26. A second series of 2021 tests will be held in September.

Breaking Fitness Records

High school students have been all out to set initial records on the new gym equipment, which was installed by members of the school's P & C recently.

The P & C team worked with the help of Linda Jenkins and Primary Deputy, Wendy Glassford-Hill, to cement in the equipment at the edge of the oval and to install a new wall of sleepers to help enhance the secondary area being set up in Zone 2 at the school.

Have you got your USI Number?

All Year 10, 11 and 12 students need to a USI Number (Unique Student Identification Number).

The USI is a reference number made up of ten numbers and letters. It's free, easy to create and stays with you for life.

Without one, students won't be able to receive their statement of attainment, qualification, or award for Vocational Education and Training courses (VET). They also won't be eligible for higher education support like HECS-HELP after they leave school.

To get their USI students need to go online to the USI Registry System with a valid form of ID such as a birth certificate or Medicare card and enter their personal details.

The application should take only a few minutes of their time.

The USI gives students access to an online record of their nationally recognised training in the form of VET transcript which can be used when applying for a job or seeking a credit transfer demonstrating pre-requisites for future training.

Once each student has their USI number they need to register it at school with Mr McGann.

PRIMARY MATTERS

We have had a fabulous start to the new school year and we welcome our new Year 5/6 teacher, Miss Ritchie. We hope she enjoys her time in Morawa and with her lovely Year 5/6 class. We also welcome many new students, including those that have started Kindergarten.

Teachers have had a very busy first few weeks, testing and preparing for the year ahead. They are always learning and keen to keep up-to-date with best educational practices so some staff have been attending professional learning which will greatly benefit our students.

Interim Swimming has started this week. Parents would have received a letter with the timetable and an enrolment form for each child. Year 5/6 and Year 1/2 students will need to wear their bathers to school under their uniform so that they are ready to go in the morning. Another reminder please, to make sure your child has a hat and a water bottle to take with them.

Beginning again in Week 7 is e-mentoring for some students in Year 5/6. This will take place on Thursdays from 2.10 – 3.10pm in the library. Students are mentored by university volunteers and the topics covered, are aligned to our health and wellbeing curriculum.

Last week, Scitech visited the school and primary students from Years 1-6 participated in shows and workshops down at the town hall. A great day was enjoyed by all and it was good to see many students inspired to ask some very interesting questions.

Congratulations to those who have been elected as Student Councillors and House Captains for this year. Miss Katona and Miss King are our

Primary Year Coordinators and they will be working with this great leadership group.

Coming up is our first assembly for the year. The Year 1/2 class will be running the assembly on Friday of Week 8.

Finally, a reminder to parents, to ensure all children are prepared for school every

day, with the necessary stationery. Thank you in anticipation with this matter.

Kind regards

Mrs W Glassford-Hill



NAPLAN 2021

A nationally coordinated practice test will be held on Thursday, March 25, to help the school and our students prepare for the 2021 NAPLAN tests.

Schools across Australia will run the practice tests, which will help students become familiar with the test platform and allow the test organisers to see how the platform operates with a high volume of users.

The National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year.

This year, NAPLAN will be held during Week 4 (May 11 – 21) of Term 2.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas of:

- reading
- writing
- language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals that can be used to improve student achievement.

During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days.

Later in the year, you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards.

The information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the NAPLAN website at <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site> which allows students and parents/carers the opportunity to view and interact with test items.

Tonia Carslake
Principal

2021 STUDENT LEADERS



Secondary Councillors

2021 Head Student

2021 Head Student

PRIMARY

2021 Student Councillor Yr 4

2021 Student Councillor Yr 4

2021 Student Councillor Yr 5

2021 Student Councillor Yr 5

2021 Student Councillor Yr 5

2021 Student Councillor Yr 6

2021 Emerald House Captain

2021 Emerald House Captain

2021 Ruby House Captain

2021 Ruby House Captain

2021 Sapphire House Captain

2021 Sapphire House Captain

SECONDARY

2021 Student Councillor Yr 7

2021 Student Councillor Yr 7

2021 Student Councillor Yr 8

2021 Student Councillor Yr 9

2021 Student Councillor Yr 9

2021 Student Councillor Yr 10

2021 Student Councillor Yr 10

2021 Student Councillor Yr 10

2021 Student Councillor Yr 11

2021 Emerald House Captain

2021 Emerald House Captain

2021 Ruby House Captain

2021 Ruby House Captain

2021 Sapphire House Captain

2021 Sapphire House Captain

2021 District Diamonds House Captain

2021 District Diamonds House Captain



Primary Councillors

Teagan Parker

Kasey Green

Sophie Lawrance

Jaycob Twomey

Chloe Lawrance

Summer English

Lakeisha Little

Samantha Tomlinson

Tanami Forbes

Gabrielle Yewers

Cheryl Chipper

Samantha Tomlinson

Evie Chappel

Felix Andrews

Justice Golby

Tyler Robinson

Cameron Tomlinson

Peta Humphreys

Aimee McGlew

John Oreo

Gemma McLevie

Emily Traylen- Witt

Dion Jefferies-Patterson

Sophie Scott

Gemma McLevie

Wrey Haimona

Tealishia Taylor

Corin Campbell

Emily Traylen- Witt

Adrianna Clayton

Kasey Green



"BUCKLE UP" FOR SAFETY SALUTE

On Friday 19th Feb, the school had a visit from Ben Ludlow, driver of a WA Pro Modified and Peter Griffiths, Chief Steward from the WA Speedway Commission, to promote a "Buckle Up for Safety" campaign.



Students from Years 5, 6 and 7 learnt all about the importance of wearing a seatbelt, whether it be on the road, or in a race car. Many lives have been lost by not "buckling up".

During the presentation, Ben Ludlow introduced, for the first time ever, the "Buckle up for safety Salute", which is potentially going to be promoted through Channel 7, Channel 9 and even over to America. This Salute can be seen live on the Western Australian Pro Modified Facebook page.

After the presentation, students viewed Ben Ludlow's Pro Modified vehicle on the school oval, and some students sat in the car, with the engine running to experience the sounds of race cars.

The men thanked Morawa District High School for giving the Morawa Speedway the opportunity to launch their new campaign with Morawa DHS students.

Shirley Katona, President of the Morawa Speedway



Gabby Yewers gets into the driver's seat!

ASTRO TOWN NEWS

Did you know we're an Astrotourism Town on WA's dark sky network? We have world-class dark night skies revered by many around the world. @DPLH.WA (the Dept of Planning) has released a draft Dark Sky and Astrotourism Policy that will help keep our dark night sky asset for tourists and visitors for years to come. You can add your support too!

<https://consultation.dplh.wa.gov.au/land-use-planning/dark-sky-and-astrotourism-position-statement/>

The amazing Astrofest Astrophotography Exhibition is up on show and it features several images taken in Astrotourism Towns. The winners of the Astrotourism WA Award sponsored by the Shire of Mingenew and the Heights, Jurien will be announced soon. In the meantime, catch the exhibition at the John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University until 13th March.

How about four Supermoons in a row! Yes, throughout the first half of this year we have Supermoons galore! Supermoons occur when the Moon is at its closest distance to Earth and this coincides with a full moon. Enjoy the lunar views.

<https://astrotourismwa.com.au/supermoon/>

FUN FACT

The Constellation of Leo the Lion

The constellation Leo is one of the zodiac constellations and one of the biggest in the sky. It represents the Lion and Greek mythology tells the story of Leo being the Nemean Lion, which terrorized the citizens and had a hide that could not be punctured by iron, bronze or stone.

Zodiac constellations lie along the plane of the ecliptic or path of the Sun, so the Sun appears to pass through these constellations throughout the year.

The brightest and 'Leading' star in Leo is Regulus, Alpha Leonis. Two other bright stars in the constellation are Al Geiba, meaning "the lion's mane," and Denebola, which means "tail of the lion."

Leo is associated with two meteor showers. The Leonids is a popular shower with high meteor rates and peaks mid-November and a minor shower that peaks in early January. Meteor showers usually take the name of the constellation they appear to radiate out from.

Here's how to find Leo in the night sky.

<https://astrotourismwa.com.au/march-moon/>

INTRODUCING.....

Miss Amber Ritchie

Where did you come from?

Bullsbrook

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Take my dog for a walk, do a workout, paint, watch Netflix, listen to music, read a book.

Something people might not know about you?

I am a horse person, I have been riding all my life and have a horse in Perth.

What's your favourite dinner?

Tricky question! Tacos or lasagne.

Are you a netball or hockey player?

I am a netball player!

First impression of Morawa?

The Morawa community is very welcoming and kind. Lovely small town.



BACK TO SCHOOL

ABC Heywire Producer, Katie McAlister workshops with MDHS secondary students



Year 3/4
Class



Year 7



Year 11/12



Year 1/2 Music with Mrs Haeusler



2021 CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Students from Kindergarten – Year 8 will have received student statements outlining contributions and charge requests for this year. Thank you for your patience while options and subject selections were finalised for the middle and upper school students, statements will be mailed home this week and the **early payment discount will be extended until the end of first term.**

Thank you for payments received to date, your support is appreciated as the school relies on the collection of contributions and charges to assist in supplying your children with the best possible materials and resources.

Voluntary Contributions

In Western Australia the cost of schooling a student in a public school has not increased since 2003.

As approved by the School Board, Morawa DHS asks \$60.00 for students in Kindergarten to Year 6 and \$235.00 for students in Year 7 to 10 for the school year.

Senior School Courses

The School Education Act 1999 states that **charges** apply to all Year 11& 12 courses and payment is expected. Morawa DHS makes every endeavour to keep course costs to a minimum to ensure maximum participation.

Certificate Courses Studied at WA College of Agriculture –Morawa (WACoAM)

It is wonderful that the school can offer a range of work ready Certificate courses that count towards WACE attainment for our students to study through the school campus and offsite at WACoAM. These courses are high cost electives and parents need to be aware that payment is required. Where students have elected to study Certificate courses through WACoAM the school is billed by the college for these courses and the school needs to recoup these costs from parents.

School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE)

Course fees collected by the school for students enrolled in SIDE subjects are paid directly to SIDE and early payment is appreciated. The school charges an amenities fee to cover the cost of stationery, photocopying, postage and the provision of technology.

Where do contributions and charges go?

The contributions and charges paid by parents and caregivers are budgeted to purchase consumable items used directly by the students.

Some examples include: ingredients in home economics, printed and electronic materials, photocopying, art materials, timber, metals and consumable tools, consumable sporting equipment and

text books.

Who should pay?

Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges. Parents of students who choose the more expensive option subjects need to consider the costs during the subject selection process.

Payment Options

The school understands that families may not be in a position to pay the full amount all at once. Part payments, early payment discount, deferred payments and credit card debits are all available to support parents experiencing difficulties.

Collecting Contributions & Charges

The school will take a positive approach to collecting contributions from parents and caregivers of students in Years in Kindergarten to Year 10. In particular, the school will highlight the benefits to students if all parents meet their contributions. With respect to charges for Years 7 to 12, the school will actively seek full payment of charges where appropriate.

If you would like to organise a payment plan, please contact the Manager of Corporate Services, Linda Jenkins on 99712500 to arrange.

Payment of Accounts

Fees may be paid by the following methods:

Cheque, cash, credit card or direct deposit to

Morawa District High School Headmasters Trust Account

BSB: 306-024

Account number: 4176384

STUDENT MEDICAL DETAILS

Updating student medical details & action plans

Could all parents and carers with children who have a medical condition please provide a medical update.

Updated action plans for asthma, anaphylaxis/allergies and diabetes are essential so that staff can administer the appropriate medication and care to your child if required.

These can be obtained from your GP and a copy given to the schools front office.

THIRD PARTY SERVICES INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Our school provides access to Department of Education online services. These enhance the contemporary learning opportunities available to students and the range of teaching tools available to staff to deliver the Western Australian Curriculum.

The Department's online services currently provide students with access to:

- individual email and calendar accounts;
- the internet, with all reasonable care taken by central office and schools to monitor and control students' access to websites while at school;
- online teaching and learning services such as Connect, web-conferencing and digital resources;
- online file storage and sharing services; and
- these online services at locations other than school.

Please note that while every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content

when using Department provided online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure.

You should be aware that the Department has the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose messages created, received or sent over Department online services. Logs of email transactions and internet access data are kept for administrative, legal and security purposes and may be monitored. Similar to other corporate records, emails and internet access records are discoverable in the event of legal action and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1992. (www.foi.wa.gov.au)

If you agree to your child using these online services, please click on the link below and complete the information on the following pages and then click submit ASAP. This will enable students to continue to access all school services.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-RaA4P3Ru0yDsLdutDYWJ_5QbqiqYDVAnNN1qH1nrxJUM1dOVjU2TTg2OUFFT1IYR0MxN0RYUUxNSiQIQCN0PWcu

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

Welcome to the 2021 school year. 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**

We're a mentally healthy school

act belong commit

Provide opportunities
for individuals to be mentally, physically, spiritually and socially active

Encourage individuals
to join and actively participate in the school's activities and those of the wider community

Encourage individuals
to become a volunteer for the school, to set personal goals for achievement in the activities of the school and wider community and to be more broadly involved in other community events and environments

Visit actbelongcommit.org.au to find out more about being mentally healthy.





News from the P&C uniform shop...



We now stock long sleeve Kindy shirts

Available in size 4, 5 & 6

Range of colours available

\$22 each

Contact the front office on 9971 2500 or come in and see us.



TERM 1, 2021

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT/SUN
6	8 Interm swimming OLNA	9 Interm swimming OLNA	10 Interm swimming OLNA	11 Interm swimming OLNA	12 Interm swimming OLNA	13/14
7	15 Interm swimming	16 Interm swimming	17 Interm swimming	18 Interm swimming	19 Interhouse Swimming Carnival	20/21
8	22	23	24	25 Naplan practice test	26 Interschool Swimming Carnival, Carnamah DHS	27/28
9	29 Final Assembly	30	31	April 1 End of Term 1 Attendance Rewards	2 Good Friday	3/4

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

Endeavour & Achieve