

Newsletter

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From the Principal's Desk

NAIDOC Day Celebrations

Last Tuesday we were treated to a wonderful day of NAIDOC Celebrations. The day began with a special assembly involving a Welcome to Country by Philip Toby, a flag raising ceremony by Anna Saltner and Stephanie Hawkins as well as Jonah Clancy and Tim Meyers. The NAIDOC Day address was given by Rachael Briggs. Margaret Briggs gave a reflection of her life at Moura State High School and living in Moura.

The day was organised by Jenny Wragge, Ray McCann and Debbie Palmes. Other parents like Leasa Saltner and Margaret Briggs assisted with the day. Many organisations from Rocky, Gladstone, Biloela and the local area had representatives here.

Newcrest Mining provided financial support for catering for the day. Anglo Coal Dawson Mine representatives were here to help advise local students with employment opportunities.

It was a great day of celebration. People had the opportunity to mingle over food prepared by Kathryn Clancy and served by the students. Many thanks to Jenny, Ray and Debbie and I look forward to many more parent meetings.

Anglo Coal Dawson Mine Work Experience

Management at the Dawson Mine have made it clear to me that they want to employ local people as a priority. To achieve that goal we have agreed to work together to ensure our students have every opportunity to impress while at school to boost their employment chances once they have finished school.

This week Leah Brosnan from the HR department was here to talk with all Year 10, 11 and 12 students about employment types, opportunities, applying for scholarships and applying for employment.

To assist students she spoke to them about work experience, not just what the mine offers but also how students are to apply. Students will apply for work experience, if there is a vacancy and if the students' application is satisfactory, they will be given work experience opportunities. They will need to attend an induction day at the mine prior to work experience. It is possible that if students impress, this could lead to a school based traineeship or employment after leaving school.

Students will not be given work experience automatically. They will have to earn it by putting in a quality application and also demonstrating at school that they are a worthy candidate. I believe that policy will continue into employment opportunities. Students will be given opportunities while at school to prove themselves in school and in the workplace. Worthy students will get the first offers for opportunities like work experience.

I am really impressed by the opportunities being offered by Management through Leah Brosnan. This is a real life and professional approach. The message to students is - *Earn the right for consideration for work experience through hard work and responsible and respectful behaviours.*

Thanks to Anglo Coal Dawson for this opportunity.

Parent Teacher Interviews

On Tuesday afternoon this week, parent teacher interviews were conducted here at school. Thanks to all parents and teachers involved. When parents and teachers work closely together it usually will benefit students.

If you missed these interviews, or at any time you wish to meet with teachers, please ring the school to make an appointment to meet with teachers.

Triennial School Review

This process is a strategic planning process to consider what went well or not so well in the last three years and then what will be our priorities for the next three years.

I will be consulting widely with staff, parents and students. To do this I will be inviting some parents to the school. In my invitations I will be ensuring I select parents who have wide experiences or interests in the school. For example, parents who have had a number of older students through school, those who have a number of children still in primary and still to come through, parents of learning support or special education children and so on.

Unfortunately I can't invite all parents and I appreciate many parents work but if you would like to be involved please ring the office and ask them to advise me if you would like to come to school and participate in one of our consultative meetings.

Science Centre

Over the holidays the Australian Government announced we would receive a \$1,170,000 Science centre. This is great news for us as our science facilities are older and one laboratory is not very functional.

I have had the first meeting about it. It will be a new building consisting of a Science laboratory and a preparation room. It will be set up to be able to handle all sciences at a senior level. It will be constructed out from the office block and down from the present science block so will be in a very convenient location. Construction is to start later this year and it is due for completion mid way through 2010

Alan Campbell – PRINCIPAL

Let your bright sparks shine

This year is the Year of Creativity in Queensland schools and students are being asked to explore what inspires them to be creative.

They are also being asked to share their creative ideas, songs, lyrics, poems, musical moments or inventions through the Bright Sparks program.

Make sure your child's creativity shines by encouraging them to participate in the Bright Sparks at the Library, where they can talk to camera about their passion for creativity. Library tour dates for Bright Sparks are available on the Year of Creativity website.

There is also a school based Bright Sparks competition with plenty of great prizes to be won for the school.

Students can also share their creative ideas by posting them for free on the Launch Your Ideas limited edition postcards.

Teachers can order class sets of postcards and students can design the postcards and mail them to friends and family for free. Postcards are also available at the Education on Show Pavilion during school hours at the EKKA, thanks to Australia Post.

For more information on these and other Year of Creativity activities visit the website at: www.yearofcreativity.deta.qld.gov.au

Disability Action Week Awards

Nominations are for groups or individuals that deserve to be recognised for great work that they do. If you know of anyone who deserves to be nominated for such an award, the forms will be available from the School office. Nominations close Friday 7 August, so you better be quick.

Disability Action Week will be celebrated 13-19 September 2009

INTRODUCING: Michael Findlay


Hi there!!! I'm **Mick Findlay**.

I have recently moved to Moura from Brisbane.

I have spent the last few years travelling around Europe and living in Ireland. Being a Physical Education teacher, I enjoy playing most sports.

I'm pleased to be here at Moura High and am looking forward to the remainder of the year.

INTRODUCING: Josh Cresswell


My name is **Joshua Cresswell**.

This year I will be teaching
 Year 8 & 9 HPE,
 Year 8 Maths,
 Year 10A Maths
 Year 9 Life skills.

I have lived in the town of Ipswich for most of my life. I am a sports orientated person and enjoy participating in most physical activities.

I look forward to teaching at Moura State High School

INTRODUCING: Tony Kodel


Hello Moura.

My name is **Tony Kodel**. I have recently returned to Central Queensland after having lived in the UK for four years. I am now teaching Senior Science and also have one year 9 Science class. It is a big challenge learning a new syllabus, not to mention everyone's name, but it should be rewarding. I have really enjoyed living in Moura for the past month. Of course the best part is the school and its students, but I try to find a few hours per week to go canoeing or fishing at the river. Hopefully I will be part of the community for years to come.