Last week Monto State School hosted the District’s Athletics Carnival. I was impressed with student behaviour, the many helping hands and the level of sporting talent we have at this school. There was also a great feeling of community involvement and support.

Encouraging our children to be active and involved with sports, supports them to become well adjusted adults. When children take part in sports, they develop cooperation and team work skills, leadership skills and an appreciation of different abilities. I was very proud of the students who ‘just gave it a go.’ These children demonstrated as much courage as the children competing at a high level. Well done!

I have had interesting conversations with many parents in the last few weeks, thank you. If you have any concerns or feedback you’d like to provide me, regarding the school, please make an appointment.

Last Thursday I attended my first P&C meeting. What a friendly dedicated group. I would love to see more parents or community attend. It’s your opportunity to have a say in the school’s direction. 15th of August is our next meeting, see you there!

Kind regards
Matthew Silvester
NEWSLETTERS ARE A KEY COMMUNICATION TOOL

Not one form of communication fits all, so the school is keen to be adaptive to family needs. A hard copy of the newsletter is sent to the oldest student of each family. If you would, also, like the newsletter sent to you via email, please pass your information on to the office and we can add you to a group email list.

Did you know!

- There are about one billion cattle in the world of which 200 million are in India.
- The oldest breed of dog is the Saluki.

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Prep News

Firstly, a big thank you to Ms Kay Dunwoodie for taking the prep class whilst I was away on leave. I had a great time travelling both north and south and catching up with all my extended family. It is great to be back and especially to see the progress that everyone is continuing to make.

In English we have been looking at the concept of rhyme and how it can help us with our reading. This week in our phonics sessions we covered the ou – as in mouse, and oi - as in oil, sounds. We have now finished all 26 alphabet letters and are working on the remaining vowel blends. We should be finished all our sounds by the end of week five with only 4 more sounds to cover. It is also really encouraging to see the children using this knowledge when they are writing. Many are beginning to automatically recall some words, letters and sounds as they are required.

In Maths we are continuing to practice our counting and patterns as well as looking at the process of addition. We have also introduced using a ten frame to help us determine whether we have more than, less than, or exactly ten items. The ten frame is also used to help combine two groups to achieve a total.

In Science this term we are looking at the weather, and isn’t it putting on a good show lately. Just this week we have been able to use the windy, sunny, rainy, cold, hot, cloudy and clear pictures to describe our daily weather.

The children really enjoyed the opportunity to work with Mr Silvester on Wednesday afternoon. Mr S will work with the prep class every Wednesday afternoon to provide myself with non-contact time to enable me to organise and plan class learning and activities for the coming week. If at any time you would like to discuss your child’s progress with me, this time is also available for parent teacher interviews. Remember family members are most welcome to come and visit and spend some time with us at any time during the week, whether it be for 10 minutes or a whole day.

Tuckshop Waste - please check in with your child about how much tuckshop they eat. It may be a better option to order a larger morning tea as the children get as long as they need at morning tea with Sue and I to supervise. Big lunch eating time is 10 minutes before the play bell goes. Obviously they can take as long as they like to eat but the temptation of needing to go and play often overwhelms them. The playground duty teachers often report a lot of food being dumped in the bins rather than being eaten.

1/2 Classroom Happenings

This week our class has been exploring narratives and questioning characters, with our main focus being “Stellaluna” by J. Cannon. We have been concentrating on the language used to create characters or images, while also discussing the differences between narrative and informative texts.

The class has started to visit the computer lab on a weekly basis. We are learning to use “Powerpoint” in order to prepare our selves for our assessment of creating an informative text, about a character in a literacy text.

In maths, we continue to enhance our knowledge of basic number and place value. This week particularly, we have been looking at number fact families again to revise the connection between addition and subtraction. The class has also been writing numbers as words up to hundreds. Please encourage your child to practice their fast facts regularly.

In SOSE, we have started a unit on “People in the Community”.

Reading Groups will start this Friday, for those parents who are volunteering to help out again. Thank you!
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

Year 2/3

Week 3 has seen the Year 2/3 class continuing their study of narratives. In particular we have been looking at different story genres and beginning to describe scenes using the five senses. Hopefully, they can remember the five senses to tell their parents! We have been continuing to complete spelling activities each day relating to each year level or spelling group focus. Reading groups have started and all children seem to be enjoying these times working in small groups/pairs developing their reading/comprehension skills. Feel free to pop in and help if you have time available.

In Maths the Year 3’s have been examining sharing and division, as well as looking at the relationship between addition and subtraction. We have also looked at mass (kilograms) and capacity (litre) – although we had trouble saying “capacity”! The Year 2’s have had a quick introduction into sharing and groups of and have now learnt to use the multiply sign. They have also looked at mass and capacity, as well as using tally marks when gathering information.

In Science, Mr Silvester has started looking at objects and materials – although with Sports Day and meetings, we have only had one lesson. In History/SOSE we are continuing looking at how things have changed over time.

Year 4/5

Year 4/5 had a great time at the sports day last Friday and it was excellent to see the number of participants and the extra helpers from our class around the place.

We are continuing to look at recounts and developing our knowledge of convicts and the First Fleet. Mathematically we have been reviewing our knowledge of decimals and fractions from last week, and expanding what we know about place value and number patterns.

If anyone has any small jars they can spare, we will needing a few for some of our science this term. Bottles smaller then a jam jar would be greatly appreciated.

Table focus: 4X
Maths: place value, number patterns
SOSE: Country study/assignment

Word of the Week: serenity
English: Recounts (structure, tense, noun groups, and descriptions)

Year 6/7

In Maths the students are working with equivalent fractions and operations using fractions.

Science studies continue with the seasons and the universe and now we are looking at weather and droughts.

Our study of cartoon animations has the interest of all the students as we analyse "The Lorax" and other examples of cartoon animations.

HAPPY CAMPERS

Congratulations to the winners of our raffle. Matthew Williams won the 1st prize and Nathan Quinn 2nd and 3rd (lucky Mum).

I would like to thank the wonderful Mums and Grandmums of Aimee, Kristal and Savannah, who created these beautiful prizes and so kindly donated them to us.

Well done students and families who helped in the selling of the tickets.
Remember we have a PJ Day on Wednesday, gold coin donation and prizes.
**MUSIC NEWS**

**Instrumental Music News**

The primary and high school combined Instrumental Music Camp was a great success. The students can be proud of their behaviour and attitude throughout this camp. We participated in the World’s Biggest Orchestra World Record Challenge with a total of 7224 musicians, beating the previous record of 6452 set in Vancouver. So a huge congratulations to Claire, Jasmena, Kalena, Lana, Matthew, Mitch, Rebekah, Saxon and Seb who are now participants in a World Record!

Please be aware that from now on band rehearsal will run from 5.30pm – **7.00pm** on Tuesday evenings in the music room. This is also a community ensemble, so if you have an instrument hiding under your bed, I encourage you to dust it off and come along.

It’s also time for students who will be in year 4 to 7 next year to consider learning an instrument through the school instrumental program. Aside from being a great skill in and of itself, learning a musical instrument has also been associated with enhanced verbal ability and non-verbal reasoning.

Paperwork was distributed yesterday and students will be asked to indicate their top three preferences for which instrument they would like to learn. Each child will then get the chance to try out each of these instruments and change their preference order if they wish. I will also be taking into account the physical ability of the child to play the instrument (eg. Are their fingers long enough to reach all the keys?).

Many instruments can be hired through the school (for the small cost of $50 for a year). Instruments offered through the program are:

- Flute
- Clarinet / Bass clarinet
- Alto Saxophone / Tenor Saxophone
- Oboe
- Bassoon
- Trumpet / Cornet
- Trombone
- French Horn
- Euphonium / Baritone
- Tuba
- Bass Guitar
- Percussion (Drums and Xylophone / Glockenspiel)

Students who have hired a flute, clarinet, trumpet or cornet from the school this year should start looking at purchasing their own instrument, as preference will be given to the beginning students for 2014. Students playing the more expensive instruments (tenor saxophone, oboe, bassoon, trombone, baritone, French horn and bass guitar) can continue to hire from the school.

**Choir News**

On Monday the junior choir performed the sea shanty “Leave Her, Johnny” on parade. On Saturday 24 August the Senior choir will be participating in a workshop run by the Voices of Birralee, a Brisbane based youth choir. This is an excellent opportunity for young singers to learn from professional choral directors. The choir will also be performing with Voices of Birralee at the “Voices@Cania” concert held 25 August. Paperwork was sent home about this last Tuesday. The workshop is not limited to school children, so parents/guardians are also welcome to participate.

We are also looking for families to billet the 80 choir members we are expecting for this event. Information about this should have gone home with the eldest child in the family last week. If you are interested in providing dinner, one night accommodation (mattress on the floor is fine) and breakfast for two or more choir members, please contact Miss Hawkins. The choir members have been asked to provide their own pillow and sleeping bag.
The junior choir singing “Leave Her Johny, Leave Her”.

Rob and Bernie the Brisbane Lions. The mascot came talk about Auskick. Auskick will be held on a Monday Afternoon at Jaycees Park. Sign on day is on the 29th July at 3:15pm. For more information contact Rob on 0450909267.

Nathan Quinn and Matthew Williams the winners for the raffle of the 5/6/7 camp. On behalf of the 5/6/7’s, we would like to thank Mrs Goody for donating a handmade knee rug, also Mrs Wolff for donating a colourful bag and last, but not least, we would like to thank Mrs Brown for donating a knitted scarf. Also, congratulations to Matthew and Nathan.

Monto District Sports Carnival.
I would like to thank the ladies for the delicious food made. Overall it was fun and we hope that all of you had lots of fun on Friday too.

Next Week on Wednesday the 31st of July is a PJ day. There will be prizes for the best onezie, the coolest slippers and the craziest PJ’s. Judging at 9am. Parents are invited. See you there in your PJ’S!!!
A well attended meeting last Thursday welcomed Mr Silvester to his first Monto SS P&C meeting. Thank you to our regular parents who attended.

We received exciting news that we have been fortunate with our recent grant application. Thank you to Anita Salisbury for her hard work in preparing this application.

We have organised a working bee at the school. Jobs to be done include gardening and a general grounds clean up. We will be focusing on prep this working bee for the gardens. It would be most appreciated to have as many parents attend as possible to get in. The date is Sunday 4th August beginning at 9:30am. Bring gardening tools, gloves etc.

Some fundraising events that we are involved in are:

Saturday 31st August – Manning the gates at the races. If you are able to volunteer an hour or two, please contact the office to put your name down.

Saturday 7th September – Family Afternoon – Our major fundraiser for the year. An afternoon of entertainment, fun and great food. Make sure you keep this date free. More info to come.

This year we are looking at forming a primary school team for the Mt Perry Dump Truck Pull. This is on the 7th September. Let Matt know if you are interested in supporting this as a parent and assist with transport.

A big thank you to Helen Hutton for coordinating the recent design a plate fundraising activity. We are looking to making this an annual event for each prep class to commemorate their start to schooling.

Next meeting –

Thursday 15th August 7:30pm at the staffroom of Monto SS. Hope to see you there!

Donna

P&C President

Date Claimers:

Big Day Out: 26th of July @ Monto Shire Hall
Date for working bee:  Sunday the 4th of August @ 9.30am
Mt Perry Dump Truck Pull:  7th of September - details to be advised.
Monto Races:  31st of August - gate duties
Afternoon Tea fundraiser @ Monto High School for Monto Primary School: 7th of September.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

A huge thank you goes out to all of the Mums, Grandmas and Students that helped out with the setting up and the successful running of the tuckshop at the athletics carnival last Friday. Without your help the day would not have been possible. Thanks also to the people who donated the yummy cakes for us to sell on the day.

Tuckshop Roster

31st July Karina Maketon and Lita Morrison
7 August  Kylie Queale and Ann Egan

If you are on the roster but have not yet received a copy of this terms tuckshop roster please contact Kelli-Sue on 0438890964 so that she can get a copy to you.

Yours in Tuckshop
Kelli-Sue Dent
SPORTS NEWS

The Monto District Carnival was a great day, all students from around the district gave 110%. I would personally like to thank all parents/families who attended the day the feedback that I have herd in the community has been very positive. I would also like to mention Mrs Dent and her team of tuckshop workers who work hard on the day to keep us all fed. A big thankyou as well to all staff who attended on the day. Without the help and support of these people we would not have had such a successful day.

Our age champions for the day were:
Chelsea Knight (9yrs Girls, Monto SS), Owen Pattie (9yrs Boys—St Therese), Lailah Mitchell (10yrs Girls—St Therese), Ethan Grubb (10yrs Boys—Mulgildie), Laney Ariens (11yrs Girls—St Therese), Daniel Phillips (11yrs Boys—Monto SS), Kalena Egan (12yrs Girls—Monto SS), Aidan Queala (12yrs Boys—Monto SS) and Zane Reti-Maketon (13yrs Boys—Monto SS).

Our Overall points winners for the day were Monto State School.
Mulgildie State School won the Average Points and the Sportsman Trophy donated by the Hindmarsh family went to Darcy Mortimer from Abercorn State School.

Records that were broken on the day were:
- 13yrs Boys 100m (13.28s) by Zane Reti-Maketon (Monto)
- 11yrs Girls Shot Put (10.01m) by Jessie Moscrop (Milgildie)
- 9yrs Girls 200m (36.66s) by Chelsea Knight (Monto).
- 9yrs Boys 200m (33.31s) by Owen Pattie (St Therese)
- 9yrs Boys Shot Put (7.86m) by Kayne Mitchell (St Therese)
- 13yrs Boys Shot Put (7.9m) by Zane Reti-Maketon (Monto)
- 9yrs Girls 800m (3.09.62) by Chelsea Knight (Monto)
- 9yrs Boys Discus (19.01m) by Kayne Mitchell (St Therese)

Again another huge thanyou to all volunteers, parents, supporters, staff and most of all to the students for making the day such a success. Students who made it in through to North Burnett will be sent the paper work this week. The North Burnett carnival will be held on the 7th of August.
MONTO ANNUAL RACE DAY
AUGUST 31ST, 2013
Gates open at 11:00am
5 Local Races
Book your Corporate Table for 8 at Monto Cattle and Country
(Be quick—Limited numbers)
Bus Service—PO starting at 11am/Duck Inn 11:10am
Licensed Bar—BBQ—Luncheon—"Fashions on the Field"
Great Family Afternoon—Support Country Racing
The Party goes on with a FREE BUS to the
FOOTBALL GROUNDS AFTER RACES—Support the Monto Roo's in the
MAJOR SEMI FINALS—Live Band after Match at Sports Grounds!
"Local Community Groups Supporting Each Other"

MONTO JUNIOR CRICKET CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
29TH JULY
5:30PM
MONTO COMBINED SPORTS GROUND
ALL EXECUTIVE POSITIONS AND COACHING POSITIONS WILL BE VACATED

Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6?
In 2001 (over 12 years ago) the Government introduced the 'Child Tax Offset' and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have NOT claimed any benefits.

HAVE YOU MISSED OUT ON THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS?
If your child was born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004 you may be eligible to receive up to $12,500 of entitlements.
The government has now put a deadline on this entitlement so please email childoffset@twelve.com.au to receive more information or call us on 9524 2744.