Dear Family and Community,

Welcome back everyone. ...Term 4 has started and what a great term it is shaping up to be, with sporting/ cultural and academic events already marked on the calendar.

The first of which, is occurring on Friday, with our Prep Open Day!

The Government’s ambition is that every Queensland child will have thirteen years of schooling, from Prep to Year 12. This means that Prep is the first year of school.

Once enrolled prep is a full-time, five day per week program, and it is expected that students attend every day unless there is a legitimate reason to be away, such as illness.

With the introduction of the new Australian Curriculum in 2012, full-time attendance in Prep gives students important foundational learning that they will need for successful learning in Year 1. No Queensland child can afford to miss out on this important year.

Starting school is a major life transition for children and their families, which can be both exciting and challenging. Change is a critical feature of transition periods and while most children make the transition to school successfully, it may sometimes be associated with anxiety, uncertainty and confusion.

Research highlights that when families, schools and communities work together in positive and collaborative ways, a child’s capacity to achieve their learning potential is significantly enhanced—and so is their general health, wellbeing, positive outlook and sense of purpose in life.

The staff at Monto State School, are very committed to supporting our families during this important transition. The Prep open is on Friday the 18th of October and all families with 5 year olds or 4 year olds turning 5 before the 30th of June 2014 are strongly encouraged to join us.

If you are not able to attend please contact the school some time this term so we can make other arrangements to show you around, talk about the programs we have in place and answer your questions.

We are very much looking forward to the Prep Open Day and meeting our new students and their families.

Warm 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. Unfortunately at this time we are unable to email the newsletter out to families. We are working to rectify this.

Did you know!
1. Camel's milk does not curdle.
2. Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from blowing sand.
3. Giraffes have no vocal cords.

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Prep News
Term 4 and down the hill we speed towards the end of the year. However we still have plenty of work to do. This term has seen us start our Japanese lessons and swimming lessons. So far Japanese has been a great success with a few words, songs and some origami created already. Let’s hope the swimming went as well today, also.

The Prep class have begun taking home a reading and sight word folder to enable us all to practice our skills and continue our learning at home. We already have some fantastic readers so keep up the good work.

Tomorrow, Friday the 18th, we welcome the parents and students of 2014 to our class. The pre-preps will then attend on a rotational basis every Friday for the rest of the year. If anyone knows anybody who may be ready for Prep next year, pass on the invitation for Open Day, everybody is most welcome.

Remember if ordering texts for next year order forms and deposit need to be in by Friday 25th October – next Friday.

Year 1/2
Welcome to Term 4! The last and perhaps the busiest of the Year…..

This term, our class will read, view and listen to a variety of literary texts to explore how stereotypes are used to persuade audiences. The students will create a persuasive response after they compare how the representations of a character are depicted differently in two publications of the same story. To add an extra element to this unit, the class has decided to present a play at the end of this term called “Little Red Rocking Hood”. We have already started discussions around costumes and props etc, with more details to come in future newsletters.

In maths, we will continue to apply a variety of mathematical concepts in real-life, life-like and purely mathematical situations through the sub-strands of: Number and place value, units of measurement, fractions and decimals, shape and patterns, and Algebra. We are hopeful to incorporate ICT’s into our maths program this term also.

In Science, we are looking at a unit called “Toy World”, which has the student excited already! In this unit, the students understand that science involves exploring and observing using the senses. They use their senses to observe the movement of objects and to investigate sources of light and sound. The students will gather information about factors influencing movement through hands-on investigations, and will have the opportunity to apply and explain science knowledge in a familiar situation, such as making a toy.
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

**Year 2/3**

We have continued to work hard since returning to school. In Maths we are focussing on learning our times tables by doing a Times Table Challenge several times a week – all have now brought home at least one certificate to say they have passed a level. The 3x table is proving challenging, as is the 4x; so any extra practice with these would be appreciated. Students have to complete 50 tables in 3 minutes (4 minutes for the younger students!)

In English, we are studying poetry and are about to write an adaptation of a verse from “My Country” using different adjectives.

**Year 4/5**

Well the holidays are definitely over and we are back into work. This week has seen our new homework program begin with homework coming back in of a Wednesday and being sent out Thursday. I was very happy to see the number of folders that came in yesterday...but would love to see more. It has also been really great to see the continuing development of our class as spellers. The Words Their Way Program will continue this term to ensure our continued progress. Our English this term will centre around learning about quest novels. Keep up the hard work year 4/5!

**Year 6/7**

**Confucian values**

- Respect of children for their parents
- A sense of humanity (Emphasising compassion and mercy towards fellow humans)
- The importance of rituals (This did not mean religious rituals alone but also proper manners and acceptable practices in one’s daily life)

This has created much discussion in our history lesson. Our 3 values were trust, respect and being funny.

For Maths I have placed some large, colourful Maths Placemats around the room. These are a quick and easy guide for information on the current Maths topic.

English, Science and History units from last term are being finalised and we will soon move on to new work.

**English** - constructing a persuasive article

**Science** - Physics (the properties of light and the formation of shadows, electrical circuits and balanced and unbalanced forces)

**SOSE** - Our Australian Identity

Students are reminded to bring in their Homebake orders and money by Friday 1st November. As soon as I know a delivery time on 13th November I will be seeking willing assistants.
**MUSIC NEWS**

**Instrumental Music News**

The Junior Band (Monday lunch time) is continuing to practise “Old MacDonald Had a Band”. Please encourage your children to practise their part, as we are hoping to perform it on parade in the upcoming weeks.

The Senior Band (Tuesday evenings) has a number of concerts this term. A note has been sent home with all this information. But here is a summary:

- 5 November – Monto State High School Awards / Speech Night
- 29 November – Community Carol Service
- 11 December – Monto State School End of Year Concert

As Monday 21 October is a student free day, Monday instrumental music students may bring their instruments on Tuesday and I will squeeze as many students as possible into the middle session on Tuesday.

**Classroom Music and End of Year Concert**

Most of the classes have begun learning their songs for the End of Year Concert (November 11). Students have been given copies of the lyrics for the songs they need to learn. Students who would like a recording of the songs they need to learn can bring in a USB.

Many of the 6/7 students still need to perform their recorder composition for assessment. I will be pulling individual students out of class for a few minutes over the next few weeks to complete this task.

**Choir**

The choir performed two pieces on parade last Monday. They did an excellent job and I was very pleased with their performance.

Two notes have recently gone home with choir members. The first note was asking if your child is allowed to learn Christmas repertoire during choir rehearsals. The second note was information and permission slip about the choir performing at the Community Carol Service held Friday 29 November. Due to a mix up, some students may have accidentally taken home the first note twice. If you require either of these notes, please contact me (Jane Hawkins) at the school.
Dear Parent/Caregiver,
These students have put all their hard work into getting these awards.

Well done Taylor Carberry, Tully Delaney O’Reilly, Dustin Heaslip, Michael Laughton, Allee Silvester, and last but not least Grace Swallow.

The Monto State School was lucky to have Tyrone O’Reilly to perform a show for us and we would like to thank Ty O’Neil, Jespar Delaney O’Reilly, Luke Howkins, Taylor Bolton and Tasha O‘Sullivan for being great performers.
RIDGEHAVEN RESIDENTS & FRIENDS invite you to join them and watch the big race

Melbourne Cup Luncheon
of Chicken/Salad/Dessert/Tea or Coffee

When: Tuesday 5th November, 2013
Time: Doors open – 11.30am Lunch – 12pm
Where: Ridgehaven Sanderson Lounge, 32 Stuart St., Monto

Sweeps: $2 and $5
Prizes: Lucky Door, Raffle, Jockey’s Colours, Best Dressed Lady and Gent, Best Lady and Gent Hat

FASHION PARADE by HEILBRONN’S FASHIONS

Admission: $20 with complimentary glass of champagne

Please Book: Phone 41661082 - between 9am

PLEASE HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR

MONTO STATE SCHOOL – YEARS 5,6 & 7 CAMPS & YEAR 7 GRADUATION

Let people know they are buying meals that are:
Easy! & Tasty meals    Convenient! – for busy households
Handy in the freezer    Ready to Heat & Eat

Take a Night Off!!

Our products come fresh, if not consumed or distributed on the day of delivery, please freeze immediately!!

Due to circumstances beyond our control, an Australian company that have been supplying our mushy peas for many years, had to close their doors due to pressures from overseas. As a result of this, Homestyle are unable to provide a mushy pea mixture in the pea pie. As an alternative, we will be placing a whole pea in the pie instead. We ask that you mention this to your customers so they are aware before purchasing their products. We apologise for any issues that may arise from this situation.

SPORTS TRIVIA NIGHT
Help raise funds for Monto State High School’s Year 12 Formal and the Physics, IT and Business Excursion
Friday 25th October 2013
6pm for a 6:30pm start
Monto Shire Hall

$7 per person—6 people per team
Teams must be given to the office by Friday, 18th October 2013
Payment at door
Soft drinks, tea and coffee available on the night
BYO Food and Nibblies
Any enquiries, please call Monto High School on 41669555
Does your Child order their lunch?

We now have re-usable lunch order bags available to order:

Stickybeaks “Lunch Wallets” come in black with your choice of pink, blue, green, red, grey, yellow or purple binding.

Stickybeaks “All Rounder Insulated Lunch Wallets” come in black with your choice of grey, red or blue binding

Whether it is daily, once a week or once a month, most children will get the opportunity to order their lunch. If this is your child, we would like you to consider purchasing a Stickybeaks Lunch Wallet.

Not only will you help us raise much needed money for our school, you will also be rewarded with the ease of using the lunch wallet along with helping to reduce our paper waste.

Keep and reuse the lunch order slips. They are available to print for FREE from the Stickybeaks website. Most children like to order the same lunches over & over. Why not keep your order tags in a draw and simply place the relevant tag in the zippered pocket along with the money.

Product features include:

- Holds a substantial amount of more food inside than brown paper bags.
- Collapsible sides and a Velcro tab that secures the bags in a closed position.
- Sturdy flat base makes them easy to pack and stack.
- Stylish design which folds conveniently to fit in every child’s school bag.
- Clear pocket to display name and class.
- Clear pocket to display order and place money away from your child’s lunch.
- Free name & order tags are available to print from the Stickybeaks website www.stickybeaks.com.au
- Easy to clean. Simply remove base then wipe clean with a damp soapy cloth after each use just like you would your school lunch box. It’s that simple!!
Student Order Form

Dear Parents,

We are raising money for Monto State School P&C Association and we need the help and support of all parents.

Please support our school and your children by selecting from the product guide below. Simply write the quantity of each bag you would like to order then add the total amount of money.

Please fill in the name and class of your eldest child below:

Name: ___________________________ Class: _________

**Don’t forget to ask family, friends & neighbours if they would like to order as well.

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<th>PRICE</th>
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<td>Insulated All Rounder - Black/Red</td>
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</tbody>
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TOTAL AMOUNT $

Final orders are due by 29 November 2013
No orders will be taken after this date. Please return this Order Form, along with your payment in an envelope clearly marked 'Stickybeaks Order'

Payment (please circle): CASH  CHEQUE
Please make cheques payable to: ________________________________

For more information visit www.stickybeaks.com.au where you can also print out your free name / class and lunch order labels.