Monto State School is coming round the final bend for the term….and heading up the straight. We are out in front and looking strong. It is going to be a big finish ladies and gentleman and an enormous effort from everyone at the school!

Across the school, students and teachers are churning through assessment, wrapping up units of work and beginning to prepare for NAPLAN. This involves explicitly teaching test skills, the generic structure of persuasion and revising key literacy and numeracy concepts.

Our teachers are continually marking and adjusting their programs to cater for individual needs. They are a dedicated team, and have a clear understanding of your child’s strengths and weaknesses. Furthermore they are available to discuss these with you. Please just arrange a time that suits both of you.

Mrs Hockey, once again you have done a marvelous job with running the swimming. On my last visit to the pool, I was proud to see the great improvement that my own daughter and others in her class have made this term with developing stroke skills and water safety knowledge. Mrs Hockey this is sometimes a very long and hot day for you at the pool and we appreciate your dedication to teaching the students this very important life skill.

Our grounds are looking really smart, many of the large trees have been cut back, the watering systems have been repaired throughout the school, the tired gardens have been removed and replanted and with this rain, we may even get the grass green on the oval. Colin you have done a great job this term giving the front of the school a fresh look.

It is important for students to feel proud of their school. Research shows that this transfers directly into students taking pride in themselves as learners and achievers. It encourages them to feel smart, think smart and respect that this is a special place of learning and a place where adults care and work hard to ensure they have a great future.

On that note…..I’ll see you at the gate on Saturday. Please donate generously. Monto is a top school and our children are our future!

Kind regards
Matthew Silvester
NEWSLETTERS ARE A KEY COMMUNICATION TOOL

QSchools App
All school newsletters are available on our website at montoss.eq.edu.au
If you have an android, apple or windows 8 smart device (phone or tablet), consider downloading the free QSchools app. Once you add Monto State School as a ‘favourite’ school on the app, it will integrate with our website and allow you to view news, events and newsletters that are posted to our website.
QSchools Version 2.0 for iOS and Android are available for free download from the iTunes store and Google Play. QSchools Version 1.2 for Windows 8 phone and tablet is available from the Windows Store. An update to the Windows app is coming soon.

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Prep/YR1
Well here we are at day 43 of school and it is almost holidays. I know lots of Prep/Year One brains have been very busy and are probably looking forward to a rest. The Preps have covered all but 2 of the alphabet letters and these will be learnt by the end of next week. The Year Ones have also been busy establishing correct hand-writing practices and reading and counting regularly. Next week the children will be presenting a short presentation to class members to talk about their favourite book choosing from a selection of texts that have been read in class. The two focus authors have been Margaret Wild and Bruce Whately. The children will be asked to identify their favourite, tell/draw about the best part for them and write/scribe a sentence or two about the story. The year ones will also be asked to add another idea/page to the story. They will of course be helped and directed by myself and Mrs Shultz throughout this process.
Thank you to all the family members at home who have been helping and encouraging with the sounds, words and reading activities. It has been very pleasing to see the progress that all the children are making. Remember to bring the Folders back every Friday so we can check and update readers if necessary.

YR 1/2
Only a week and a half remains of what has been an extremely busy term. The students are looking forward to a well-earned break!
Some highlights of this term have been: Weekly Swimming lessons, Dangerous Australians, Arts Council, The Hand-washing Program, The School Captain Induction and the Broncos visit. Amongst all this of course, we have been busy with our everyday lessons where we have continued to enhance our knowledge and skills in many areas of Literacy and Numeracy.
This term, parents should have been receiving weekly updates on their child’s learning progress via the blue notes handed out each Friday. I am hoping to continue this communication throughout Term 2, as I have received a lot of positive feedback about this. Please feel free to call in for a chat if you wish to discuss your child’s learning progress further.
Our class will begin some Easter activities over the next week as we prepare for the holidays, so keep an eye out for some fantastic craft and cooking heading home soon.
I hope you all have a wonderful and safe Easter break!

Facts
A “jiffy” is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
A male emperor moth can smell a female emperor moth up to 7 miles away.
A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.
A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

**YR 2/3**

Well the end of term is nearly upon us and our class is busily writing persuasively. They have just finished writing about whether vegetables are good or bad for you - a 50/50 split, which was surprising! This week we start our assessment piece on whether homework is a health hazard or not. That should be interesting! Most are remembering their full stops and capital letters and we are getting better at writing in proper sentences.

In Maths we have been consolidating our number facts and counting patterns - I have found that many have forgotten them or are slow to recall their number facts, so daily revision at home would be beneficial. If you are a Year 3 parent, you would have noticed that on the maths homework this week I have added some sample Naplan questions to solve. This is to prepare the children for the Naplan tests next term. We will be looking at Naplan questioning more next term in class, as well as practising questions for homework. Any queries, please see me.

**YR 6/7**

Students are currently researching a topic of Aboriginal rights. Soon they will then write a petition or speech to support their case and then they will present their project in a narrative form of their choice.

In Geography we have identified countries and capital cities and marked them on maps.

On Monday students who have paid for a senior shirt will be choosing the style and artwork. I will then make the order which will take 5-6 weeks. If students would like to have this memento of their senior Primary School year then please ensure monies and sizes are in by then.

Letters for 5/6/7 camp have been handed out so please check for them.

I will be on long service leave the 1st 2 weeks of next term. Miss Kristi and I are planning work for her to cover while I’m away.

MUSIC NEWS

**Classroom Music**

All classes have been reviewing music concepts covered throughout the term. There are still a few students who do not have a recorder. Providing it is looked after, a recorder will last right throughout a child’s schooling and beyond.

**Choir**

Well done to both the main and senior choirs for their performance at parade two weeks ago. The main choir is open to all students from prep – year 7. The senior choir is open for students in year 4 to 7.

**Instrumental Music**

Useful apps – Families with access to a smart device should consider purchasing a tuner and a metronome app. A tuner will tell the student if they are playing each note in tune and a metronome will provide a steady beat for the student to practise with. A quick search of your app store (eg. Google Play, iStore, Win8 Store) will provide you with many to choose from, some free, some paid.

We are well on our way to having a uniform for the Monto Instrumental Community Ensemble (MICE) junior and senior bands. All members of MICE senior (Tuesday afternoon band) will require their shirt as soon as they come in. Members of MICE junior (Monday lunch time band) will not require their shirts until later in the year, but will need them frequently next year when they move into the senior band. To reduce the price, we will be ordering both the senior and junior bands polo shirts at the same time. All instrumental music students have received a note with size information. Please use this information to determine the size you will purchase and return to Miss Hawkins by the end of the term.
Student news

Parade Awards

Parade award winners for week eight.

This week’s parade award winners.

Classroom Happenings

Last week we had the Senior Choir and the School Choir sing for us on parade. The School Choir sang ‘Rainbow Nation’, and the Senior Choir sang ‘Let it go’ from Frozen. Mrs Salisbury came last Friday to talk about hand washing and how to keep germs away, in everyday life.
MONTO ANNUAL RACE DAY

29TH MARCH, 2014

Gates open at 11am til 6pm

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

Enquiries Phone
Anita: 0741 665 202
Henry: 0741 667 121

COMPUTERS FOR SALE

Used Computers
Wiped harddrives.
No programmes installed.
Flat Screen Monitor.
Mouse
Keyboard.

AS IS
$50.00
Contact 41669555
Confused about food and fed up with diets that don’t work?
If you’re unhappy about your weight join accredited practicing dietitian and nutritionist, Fienke Wilkie for a discussion on the non-diet approach. Would you like to enjoy your food without feeling guilty, improve how you feel about yourself and achieve a comfortable weight that’s right for you? Then don’t miss out on hearing one of Queensland’s leading experts discuss the ‘Health at Every Size’ approach to dietetics.
Join women in regional towns around Queensland for a live, statewide health workshop videoconference.

Enjoy a free lunch with other women in your town on Tuesday 8 April, from 12:30pm – 1:30pm.

Local viewing venue: Monte.
Cost: Free community health service provided by Women’s Health Queensland and funded by the Department of Social Services.
Lunches will be delivered by Queensland Community Foundation.

To book locally contact: Tracey Patte
tracey.patte@health.qld.gov.au or 0741650300.

www.womhealth.org.au

BOYNE VALLEY ADVENTURE CLUB CANOE TRIP ON CANIA DAM

3 Days of canoeing and bush camping
Cania Dam April 13-15
New members welcome

For more information contact Wayne Dingle 0447 859 850
Dennis Morris 0418 281 861
Boyne Valley Adventure Club

INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY

Monday 12th May 2014
Theme: ‘Nurses a Force for Change’

The Origins and History of Nurses Day:

Even though a National Nurses Day was first planned in 1955, it was not until 1974 that the International Council of Nurses declared May 12th as International Nurses Day.

The reason the Nurses Day is observed on the 12th May every year is for the reason that it is the birth date of Florence Nightingale, who is considered the founder of modern nursing and is called the mother of nurses. The Nightingale Day was introduced to public in the United States in 1955.

The Royal College of Nursing was founded in 1966 to be a body of nurses who believe that Florence Nightingale was a woman of great courage and conviction and was truly a moral leader and a role model for women in her time. She is celebrated on the 12th May as the International Nurse Day.

The event is organized by the Nurses of the World who believe that nurses are the true heroes of the world and they are the backbone of the healthcare system.

The event will be held at the Brisbane Hospital to celebrate the day.

When: Monday 12th May 10:30am
Where: Brisbane Hospital Grounds
Event: 2 Course sit-down Lunch
Cost: $35

Guest Speaker: Sue Strahan
(Need to contact for more details)

And the amazing news is that the event is free for all nurses and those who are working in the healthcare sector.

The event will also be held in Auckland on the same day.

红军 by the 12th May to confirm your seat.

We are looking forward to seeing you then.