Dear Families

It is Week 7 and things are HOTTING up ….(quite literally)… there are only three weeks remaining in this school year and a number of events still on our calendar. Please take note of the many important dates coming up!

Last Monday, our school cooled things down at the pool, as Mono State School held its swimming carnival. The students and staff of both Monto and Mulgildie had a great day, with each student having the opportunity to get wet and compete in a number of races. It was fantastic to see many of our children keen, supporting each other and swimming with skill and determination. Well done every one, it was a fun and rewarding sports day! A special thank you the Active Aquatics and staff for all your hard work.

Across the school all teachers are busy finalizing assessment, tests and writing end of year student reports. Staff conversations reflect that students have shown great improvement this semester. Good to hear!

It is important to understand that if your child receives a C in any subject area this is a great result! It means that your child is operating at his or her appropriate level for their age. They have a sound understanding of content and the thinking skills required to work well in this subject area. A’s and B’s are ONLY given when students have demonstrated a high level of achievement; a level that exceeds the benchmarks set out for the subject and grade level.

At university it was frequently quoted amongst graduates “…P’s (pass) get degrees!” The same goes for our school students. If students are achieving C’s we know that they are operating well and have the foundations in place for future success.

A special Thank you to our P & C team, who recently worked the gate at the races, ran a Cake Stall and a Gardening Day at the school.

At the Working Bee, we cleared the gardens of weeds, wood chipped the beds, cleaned out the Green House and began preparing the space in front of the toilet block, to soon establish a sensory garden. Whilst we had a happy and productive morning, it was disappointing to only have three parents supporting us on the day. PLEASE really consider joining us as a volunteer when you can. WE NEED YOU! Together, we can continue to make our school great!

Final notice regarding book lists and equipment for 2015. This year families will be able to purchase text books and school supplies from either the local Newsagent (All order must be made by the 20th December) or online at www.backtoschoolbooklists.com.au. The book lists will be sent out next week.

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.

INTERESTING FACTS
A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
A jumbo jet uses 4,000 gallons of fuel to take off.

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Prep/Yr1
This week has seen the Prep/One class very busy working on our letter exchange letters. Schools all over Queensland are participating in a Christmas/End of Year letter writing activity. We each write a letter to be sent to a particular school and in turn should receive 24 letters. The big Post Off is today before we get to swimming. We have already received letters from Canungra SS, Upper Coomera SS, Murgon SS and Petrie SS. Each time a letter arrives we will be plotting the location on our map of Queensland. This is an excellent way for children to participate in the letter writing process with a quick return of mail. We await anxiously to see what mail turns up for us today.

Although we are getting close to the end of the year lessons are still running and children are still working on a variety of on-going activities. Please ensure that if your child is to be absent from school that you phone the office to advise us.

Yr1/2
We are STILL busy finishing off assessment pieces. We hope to have most assessment finalised by mid next week.

The class and I have decided to celebrate Christmas for the last few weeks of term. I plan to bring in a Christmas tree and some decorations to make our classroom festive. I also plan to organise a Secret Santa for the students, where students secretly buy a small gift ($5.00 value) for another student (picked at random). More information about this will be sent home over the next few weeks for parents.

Yr2/3
Year 2/3 are continuing to focus on letter writing in their English lessons. They are becoming familiar with writing in paragraphs for particular topics within their letters. They have also looked at how to make their sentences more exciting, by writing longer more complex sentences. They have also been doing testing for the end of the year.

In Maths we have also been doing testing to see how much they have learnt (and remembered) during this semester. Subtraction with trading is causing the most troublesome - but with further practice, most students should become competent at this.

In Science this week, they looked at what happens when two materials are mixed together - like jelly crystals and water. They learnt that jelly doesn't set well if the fridge's temperature is turned down! A science test is yet to be completed.
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

Yr4/5
The last week has seen us busily working away on work to prepare us for assessment or to complete assessments. Over the next week to 10 days, we will have a number of assessment items to be completed, so it is vital that children attend school so that they can maximise their time spent on these items.

While we only have a few weeks left at school, quiet a large number of students in our class presently are in need of lead pencils (writing), rubbers and glue sticks. Could you please check with your child to see if they need these items.

A cool science fact we have found out this week,,,,, the largest seedpod in the world is called the Sea Bean.

Yr6/7
Graduation will be Tuesday 9th December from approximately 6ish to 9ish. Exact times are not available yet but I will notify everyone as soon as I can.

2/3/4 CAMP UPDATE
Camp is nearly upon us and a letter will be coming home soon with what to bring listed on it. As it is only an overnight camp - the list won't be too long. We intend to visit Bert Hinkler Aviation Museum, Sugar House, as well as Mon Repos to see the turtles lay eggs. We will be leaving around 7:30 on the Thursday and return by about 5 on the Friday.

TUCKSHOP NEWS
Just letting all families know that the tuckshop will NOT be operating in the last week of school. We hope you have enjoyed the service we have provided for 2014 and look forward to 2015. Thank you very much to our wonderful volunteers, without your help we could not provide tuckshop to our students.

St Therese P&F Presents
The Amazing Race
Saturday 22\textsuperscript{nd} November 2014 @ 2.00pm
Please contact Bec 0459226637 or grevans1@bigpond.net.au
MUSIC NEWS

Next week there will be two performances for choir and junior band students.

Monday 24 November – Performance at Biloela Shopping World

Students Involved:
Junior Band (Monday lunch time)
P-7 Choir
4-7 Choir

We will travel to Biloela by bus (the cost is being covered by the Rural and Remote Education Access Program [RREAP] so there is no cost for parents). The bus will be departing at 9am. All students to meet at the music room before school. Students MUST have parental permission to attend this trip. If you have lost the permission note, a hand written note will suffice. Please return this on Friday or, if this is not possible, at the very latest, Monday morning.

Friday 28 November – Christmas Carol Event at Monto Community Hall

Students Involved:
Senior Band (Tuesday afternoon)
P-7 Choir
4-7 Choir.

Parents are to transport students to the community hall.

Band Students: arrive at 5.30pm to set up for a 6pm start. We will complete our performance at approximately 6.30pm. Please wear blue MICE shirt with appropriate shorts / trousers and shoes. Optional Christmas flair (eg. Santa hat, earrings).

Choir Students: arrive 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start. Each choir will perform one song towards the beginning of the evening. Please wear school uniform with optional Christmas flair (eg. Santa hat, earrings). Students who are in the band may continue to wear their blue MICE shirt.

2014 QRL Junior Maroon Camp
December 15th—19th
Capricorn Coast (PCYC) Leadership Development Camp, Cooee Bay
Contact Dominic Draper—NRL Game Development Officer Qld Central
0438336907 ddraper@nrl.com.au
**REMEMBRANCE DAY**

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Monto State School students and staff celebrated Remembrance Day. This time marks the signing of the Armistice to signal the end of World War 1. On this date in 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare.

The Yr 4/5 students lowered the flag to half mast and held a ceremony for the school, during which they spoke about the history of Remembrance Day and read the poem, ‘In Flanders Fields’, written by Dr John McCrae.

Here at Monto State School both staff and students support and recognise the importance of celebrating, thanking and remembering those that served and often gave their lives, to allow for our freedom and the way of life we value today.

Mrs Dow and the Yr 4/5s did an incredible job in organising the ceremony. Thank you Mrs Dow and your awesome students!!!

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**DENTAL SERVICE**

The QCoal Community Dental Service will be in Monto from 1st—13th December. Residents of Monto and surrounding areas are encouraged to book an appointment during this time.

To book an appointment please call 1800 002 507.
In the last two weeks all classes have attended Life Education with Harold the Giraffe, talking about alcohol and how smoking can harm you. The year 6/7’s went to their second transition at the high school, to get ready for next year and trying all the different subjects. Last of all we had a swimming carnival which was lots of fun for all.

Some Boys in year 6/7 doing drama with Miss Burgess.

The Age Champions (from left to right)
Anna Phillips 11, Lucas Splett 9,
Hannah Stephan 12, Blake Barnett 11,
Mitch Salisbury 12, Chelsea Knight 10,
Molly Salisbury 9, Mac Aisthorpe 10.

Mitch Salisbury and Gus Kenny from Abercorn doing an activity in Home Economics at High School transition.

Harold from Life Education.

Some kids for Grade 2 giving the 25m a try.

12 year old girls age champion
Hannah Stephan doing 50m butterfly.
Student Awards

These two weeks have passed so quick and last weeks award winners were very excited to except their classroom or playground award. The award winners have won because of the excellent spelling, amazing participation in Japanese, outstanding working in class, Mathletics or Studyladder and class and playground manners.
Next week our school is holding a Scholastic Book Fair. This fair has a wide selection of books available for children, parents and citizens to purchase. The fair will be open from 1:00 to 3:30pm Monday 24th to Thursday 27th November.

As Christmas draws near, it is a great time to have a look at the selection on offer. This is also a great way to encourage our children to continue good reading habits. Our school library will benefit by gaining a commission from the purchases to continue to resource our library. The theme for this book fair is "Book Fair Garden...Catch the Reading Bug!" There will be some displays of the children's competitions for this theme for you to share while at the book fair. Look forward to seeing you there! Happy Reading!
Monto State School  
P&C Association

Raffle
P&C are holding a Christmas Hamper Raffle. We are asking for donations of products for our Christmas hampers. If you can contribute to our raffle, please drop your goodies at the Monto State School Reception. Your support is really appreciated.

Raffle Tickets
Raffles tickets were sent home to students, last week. These need to be returned to school sold or unsold by Friday 5 December. If you would like more tickets please let the office know.

Skorts
The girls skorts have arrived. If you would like to order these please place your order in an envelope with correct money and hand to the office. Order form is attached.

Working Bee
Thankyou to those families that supported our working bee. We had a fun and productive morning. We look forward to more of these in 2015.
Christmas School Holidays Swim Program

Great opportunity to develop water confidence & strengthen swimming skills

Dec 15th-19th, Jan 5th-9th & Jan 12th-16th

$55 per child/ per week.

Half hour lesson every morning for one week
(Mon–Fri Morning)
Toddlers lessons: Mon, Wed and Fri mornings

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Don’t miss out and book in NOW!!

Contact Active Aquatics: 41661787
2015 Uniform Order Form

Name: ___________________________  Class: ___________________________

Prices:  
- Shirts $28.00 each  
- Skorts $25.00 each

I would like to order the following:

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Please find enclosed Money/Cheque for this order.

Cheques to be made out to: Monto State School P&C Association

Signed: ___________________________

Name: ___________________________

Please provide a contact/email in case we need to contact you regarding this order.

Phone: ___________________________

Email: ___________________________