Term One has certainly gone by very quickly and children are very busy completing assessments during the next few days.

Matt Silvester has decided to extend his long service leave until the end of Term 2 so I have been asked to continue in the Acting Principal role for this time. I am extremely excited to be here for another term and look forward to working with the students and parents of the Monto community.

**Band Performance**

This coming Saturday, the band is performing at a community concert that is raising money for Blazeaid. This is an important opportunity for our band to show off their skills and perform in a public arena. Please come along and support our students at this event. I wish to sincerely thank Miss Jane Hawkins for the fantastic job she does teaching the students instrumental music and conducting the band each and every week. Much of this is done in her own time after school and goes well beyond the duties expected of her.

**Behaviour**

Behaviour is a high priority at Monto State School and I believe every child has the right to be safe at school. I encourage parents to please ring me if your child is reporting behaviour issues to you. If I do not know about it, I cannot follow it up. All behaviour issues that are reported are fully investigated and if necessary consequences are given.

We have a Better Choices Room in use at big lunch. This room is manned by a teacher and children are required to complete a reflection sheet and action plan on how they are going to improve their behaviour next time. Any staff member may refer a child to the Better Choices room by completing a written referral form. Parents will also be notified by letter that your child has attended the Better Choices room that day. In some cases, a phone call may be made to the parent instead.

Next term, staff will be discussing options for positive behaviour rewards; particularly for those students who are constantly well-behaved but believe they may never get recognised for this.
School Photos
A reminder that school photos are being taken next Tuesday. Please return the photo envelope on Tuesday. Full school uniform is expected to be worn.

Cross Country
Next Thursday is the Monto District Cross Country at the Monto Combined Sportsground. All of our students will attend this event. An information letter and programme for the day went home yesterday with all children. If you did not receive one, please ask your child to collect one from the class teacher.

Show Display
During the weekend of 26 and 27 April, the Monto District Show will be held. Monday, 27 April will be a public holiday for the show so school will be closed. At the show, the school will be displaying some fantastic high quality work completed by our students. Please go along to see what our students are excelling at.

District Sports Events
I wish to congratulate Chelsea Knight, Britney Staines and Tarah Staines who were selected to play in the North Burnett softball team and Mac Aisthorpe and Blake Barnett who were selected to play in the North Burnett AFL team. These 4 students have spent the last 2 days playing games against other teams in the Wide Bay region. I look forward to hearing how they played.

A number of our students have been selected to try out for the North Burnett netball and soccer teams next Monday in Gayndah. Best of luck for Monday, but more importantly play fair and show great sportsmanship.

Sara Wittington

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Year Prep/1
Wow hasn't the term flown by. The Preps have been super busy learning all our alphabet sounds and after the holidays we will be able to kick off with the vowel and consonant digraphs. They have also recently started on their reading homework. The Year Ones have been working on improving their writing and making sure that all our sentences are good ones. What's a good sentence I hear you ask. Just ask any Yr 1 and they will be able to tell (and show) you:

- Capital letter,
- Full stop,
- Finger Spaces and makes Sense (who? what?)

All library books need to be returned for next week (no borrowing for the holidays). I do however intend to send home all reading folders for the hols so that there will be plenty of time to practice the sounds, words and books over the two weeks.

We have been training daily for our cross country adventure next week. I am very proud of the effort all the children are putting in to have a go to walk/run/jog our top and bottom oval. A big effort for small legs.

Year 2/3
Today the Year 2/3 and 3/4 classes visited the Monto Historical Complex. It was a wonderful learning experience for all! A big thank you to Mr Col List, Mr Ray Brown, Mr Graham Sanderson and Mr Ware for volunteering their time to show us around and to share with us what past life was like for the Monto Community.

In English, students have finished their Narratives (see further in the newsletter for these). Each narrative was to have a beginning, a problem, a solution and an ending. Students were also asked to explain the characters of their story so that the reader could get a “mental picture”. We look forward to continuing and enhancing our Narrative writing throughout the year.
Year 3/4

Year 3 / 4 have been examining the Roald Dahl book “The Twits” this term and have now finished writing their own chapter to go with this novel. They have tried to include noun and verb groups using interesting adjectives and adverbs. They have also incorporated direct speech and are becoming familiar with how and when to use speech marks. We are working on improving the use of paragraphs in our writing.

In Science we have been discovering how seeds are dispersed in nature and today examined which food group the ants in our school are most attracted to. In History we have been looking at Early Explorers in the 1400s – 1700s. All students have chosen one explorer to write a paragraph about and present it as a mini project to share with the class. They have enjoyed their “first” project and the finished projects returned so far have been terrific.

Today we visited the Monto Historical Centre with the 2 / 3 class to discover more of Monto’s past – which we all enjoyed. Thank you to the Historical Centre volunteers for allowing us to visit.

The class has worked very hard this term and are ready for a break. Enjoy the holidays at the end of next week – spend precious time with your family and friends.

Year 5/6

The term is quickly coming to a close and the 5/6 students have already completed a maths assessment last week. Today and over the next few days, the class are completing a History assessment and an English assessment is due next Wednesday.

Parent Teacher Interviews
The 5/6 teachers will be offering parent teacher interviews in week 2 and 3 of Term 2. Please keep an eye out for the information letter that will be sent home in week 1 of Term 2. I encourage all parents to take this opportunity to meet your child’s teachers and discuss your child’s progress.

High Expectations; High Achievement
At Monto State School, every teacher works diligently to ensure each and every child is achieving to the highest possible standards. It is a very clear expectation of the Australian Curriculum that all students in Year 5 and 6 are writing in Queensland Cursive (or running writing) consistently for all written tasks. This will be an expectation in the 5/6 classroom next term. Children will be practising hard to complete neat, legible cursive writing for all written tasks. Another focus will be ensuring all sentences start with a capital letter and a full stop.

During the last 5 weeks of the term, the children have been working on achieving some individual goals to improve their achievements at school. These goals were developed by the children in week 5 and are reviewed through the 5 week cycle. The goals were sent home last Monday for the children to discuss with their parents. Please ask your child about their goals and what they are doing to achieve success at them. Next week, we will conduct a final review of the current goals to determine if they have been achieved or if further progress is needed. In week 1 of Term 2, we will write a new set of goals for the first 5 weeks of the term.

In addition to the individual goals, we also have a class goal. This is goal has been identified as an area the whole class need to work together at to achieve. Our current class goal is to be organised for Parade each Monday afternoon and set a positive example for other classes on Parade. I am very pleased to say that as a whole class we have achieved this goal 3 out of the last 4 weeks and I am sure the class can achieve it again on Monday.

Homework
Homework tasks are handed out each Monday and then collected and marked the following Monday. Homework reading is marked every day. Homework is very important in helping children learn to organise themselves and develop responsibility towards completing commitments. In High School children may be given homework that will be expected to be completed the very next day and they need to be able to manage this.

Although we do not set a huge amount of homework each week, there is a very clear expectation that it will be completed and returned on Monday of each week. Children also have the opportunity to complete homework before school or at lunchtime, particularly if they do not have access to computers at home. If you have any concerns about homework, please contact the Principal to discuss.
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.

MUSIC NEWS

Classroom Music
With a few exceptions, all students in year 2 – 6 have completed their Term One classroom music assessment. The Prep/1 students will continue their individual assessment tasks next week.

Instrumental Music

MICE Senior – Blaze Aid Fundraiser Variety Concert
A reminder to all MICE Senior band members that we are performing THIS SATURDAY 28 MARCH at the Blaze Aid Fundraiser Variety Concert. Arrival at the Monto Community Hall at 6pm. The students have been practising marching and playing their instruments at the same time and will incorporate this into our Saturday performance.

MICE Junior (Junior Band)

The Junior band has continued to improve. When we first started at the beginning of the year, it would take a couple of weeks to learn a two line song. The students are now able to learn a two line song in just one rehearsal. We will soon be moving onto music that is an entire page!

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Wow where has the term gone! Term One is almost over; Term Two will see a new menu for our tuckshop with a few slight changes and some price rises brought about by the rise in prices from our suppliers. These menus will be sent home with the children early next week. Term Two will also see a new face in the tuckshop (although not an unfamiliar face) as the convenor. Amy Spletter is taking on the job of convenor while I take some time out for work and family reasons, however I will definitely not be a stranger, still popping in to see what is happening. I hope everyone has a fantastic Easter holidays; see you all in term 2.
1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Parenting Program

The 1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching program aims to teach parents how to deal with their children’s difficult behaviour by using an easy-to-learn and easy-to-use signalling system to manage children’s difficult behaviour. The system requires the parent to use less talk and less emotion, which in turn encourages the development children’s ability to self-manage their emotional reactions to parental boundaries.

Age From: 2 – 12 years

Who is it for: Parents/Carers

How is it delivered: 3 weekly sessions (2 hours each)

When: Thursday morning 9:00-11:00am

Date: TBA

Cost: Free

Delivered by Shauna Cameron (Guidance Officer)

What people are saying about this program:

● ‘An end to the yelling and arguing!’
● ‘It saved our lives’
● ‘Simple, sane, effective’
● ‘What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember at those times when memory is the first thing to go’
● ‘I realised quickly that 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later on down the line needs excessive discipline or grows out of control.’

If you are interested in attending this program, please complete the form and submit to the school office.

Expression of Interest Form

Name: ___________________________________________PhoneNo: ___________________________________________
3 DAY CANOE PADDLE ON LAKE CANIA

11-13 April 2015

BOYNE VALLEY CANOE CLUB

Camping on Lake Cania

NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

Cost: non members
adults $30 children $15
members
adults $15 children $7.50

For more information contact:
Blair Smith
4974-1121 or
0413056820
blairsmith31@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: Boyne Valley Adventure Club
Year 2/3 Narratives

Emily's Story: A DAY ON THE FARM
Once upon a time there was a horse, a boy named Kimmy and his dad named Bob. They lived on a farm.
The horse liked to buck and kick. His name was Tiddy and he was brown. Kimmy was not a nice boy. He was mean and bossy.
One day, Kimmy stole Tiddy and he got bucked off. Bob came to the rescue and Kimmy got better.

Libby's Story: IN THE BIG WILD WEST
Once in the big wild west there were three horses.
Spirit was a yellow stallion. He got scared easily.
Flicker was Spirit’s mum. She was a slow poke. She was white and kind.
Spirit’s dad, Snowflake, was fast and powerful. He bucked a lot.
One day, Spirit bumped into a tree. Flicker bumped into a tree too. Snowflake came to help his son and his wife. He gave them some food and water. They soon felt better and galloped away.

Will’s Story: THE CASTLE OF DEATH
Once upon a time, there was a mad Scientist who lived in a lab. He was old with fuzzy black hair. He wore white clothes and liked to make Jet Packs.
One day he decided to go to a scary castle to get an ingredient for his latest invention. He did not know that a Vampire lived there.
The Vampire had big fangs and was scary. The Vampire saw the Scientist in his castle and he was not happy. He caught the Scientist and picked him up and dropped him. He said “you’re coming in my castle for some dinner!” The Scientist fainted.
When he woke up, the Scientist was tied up. The Vampire slammed his hand on the table and said “well, well, well you are awake”. “Now you are awake I will go get our dinner”. While the Vampire was gone, the Scientist cut the ropes with his pocket knife and escaped. He ran and ran all the way back to his lab.

Daniel's Story: THE SMELLY NINJA AND THE GHOST
Once upon a time there was a ninja and he lived in a cave. The ninja was black and smelly because he didn’t like taking a bath. The ninja smell so bad that he was often teased by a ghost. The ghost had to wear a peg on his nose from the bad smell.
One day, the ghost got tired of wearing the peg on his nose so he decided to get rid of the ninja.
When the ninja was in his cave training, a hundred ghosts appeared suddenly. The ghosts killed the ninja.
Then the ghost was happy because he no longer had to wear the peg on his nose.

Mia’s Story: THE HAUNTED HOUSE
Once upon a time there were two animals. One was called Owl and the other one was called Snake. One night as they were sleeping, two ghosts appeared. The ghosts were the meanest and cruellest ghosts in the world. They grabbed Owl and started taking him away. Snake came and threw boiling hot water on the ghosts. They disappeared and Snake and Owl lived happily ever after.

Grace's Story: DUSTY AND THE THREE LITTLE KITTENS
One day there was a horse called Dusty. She lived in a paddock and liked to play tiggy with three cheeky kittens called Lucy, Lucky and Lily.
One day while playing tiggy, Lucy fell over and hurt herself. Lucky got her some water and she felt better. They then all played tiggy again. Then they went home.
Ainsley's Story: THE PUPPY RESCUE
One day there was a horse named Pepper. She was black. There was a puppy named Sally. She was brown.
One night when Sally was in bed, she heard Pepper jump over the gate. Sally got up and ran after her. She chased Pepper to her owner, who was out in the yard. Sally had rescued Pepper.

Jay-Anna's Story: THE PRINCESS FIGHTS THE GHOST
Once upon a time there was a princess and a horse. There was a ghost too. The ghost was jealous and did not like the princess. So he started to chase the princess. The horse came and the princess jumped onto the horse and ran a way to safety. But the ghost followed them back. They started to fight! The princess won the fight. Afterwards, the horse and the princess went back to the castle. They were safe and the ghost left the town forever.

Kolter's Story: TIM VERSUS THE GOBLIN KING
One day there was a young boy named Tim. He was brave and he liked to wear black.
One day, Tim fell into a land beneath the ground and found a dragon! Then he saw a lab and ran in. He saw purple people studying goblins. ‘Goblins are real!’ said Tim. ‘Yes’ said the Purple Man King. Tim fainted.
The Purple Man King took him to the hospital and Tim woke up. Then the Purple Man King told Tim the story about the land beneath the ground and how they wanted to escape.
Suddenly, a goblin flew in and took the Purple Man King! Tim ran out of the lab and followed the goblin into its lair. He saw the Goblin King and fainted again. He woke and saw he was about to be turned into an ice cube! So he tried to run so fast that he broke free and rescued the Purple Man King. So the Goblin King sent goblins to get Tim. But he got in the purple man lab in time. They were safe.

Kristin's Story: THE BIG FLOOD
Once upon a time in South Africa, there was a lion named Simba. He liked to play with his kids. There was also a leopard named Beautiful, who liked to play with a cheetah named Beauty. Beauty lived with Simba and she liked to sleep a lot!!!
One day there was so much rain that it flooded the whole land. The animals could not get any food. They were very hungry!
After a while, the sun came up and quickly dried the land. The animals could get food again. They lived happily ever after.

Lilly's Story: THE FOREST OF HORSES
One day there were a group of horses who lived in a forest. There was a boss stallion that was in charge. Some boys named Tom, Mat and Mac wanted to catch the horses to have as pets.
One day, Tom, Mat and Mac went hunting. They found nothing until they saw the horses. Mat chased the horses into the yards. Then they went home and went to sleep.
While they were sleeping, the stallion went into the yards.
The next morning when Tom, Mat and Mac returned to the yards, the Stallion broke through the fence. All the horses escaped! The horses lived happily ever after.
Noah's Story: ADAM AND THIS EXCAVATOR
Once upon a time there was a man named Adam. He worked at a construction site and drove an excavator. His excavator was very slow.
One day, Adam heard the dynamite warning siren go off, so he started to walk his excavator to safety. He was too late... BOOM!
The dynamite blew up and covered him with dirt. The boss saw that Adam was stuck so they ran to the excavator and dug and dug until they found him. They got him out and Adam was safe.

Mercedes' Story: THE PRINCESS AND THE UNICORN
Once upon a time there was a princess riding a unicorn. Her name was Rosie and she lived in a castle. The unicorn was colourful and soft with a golden horn.
One day while Rosie was riding her unicorn, an ant bit her on the leg. She screamed and raced home in pain. She quickly got an icepack from the fridge.
It soon felt much better so Rosie and her unicorn went off riding again.

Corey's Story: THE TWO NINJAS
Once upon a time there were two ninjas named Ninja Rhianna and Ninja Bad Corey.
One day while they were swimming, a big shark swallowed them. They were angry about being trapped and they began to fight.
Ninja Bad Corey found a sword and two swimming suits. He cut the shark's fin off and both the Ninjas swam to land. Then they went home.

Hugo's Story: THE ULTIMATE SPIDERMAN
It was dawn in New York. Splat, splat, whisp. "Great trapstar" Boom! "Run!" said Nova. "Get down" said Iron Fist. "Where is Spiderman" said Nova. Vroom, Vroom "Ahhh!" They all looked up and saw Venom! "To the ship" said White Tiger.
They went to Venom's Cave and Spiderman was trapped. They went in. Venom's men were watching them and they told Venom. Venom told the army to attack Ironman. Ironman killed ten of Venom's men. He jumped up and flew to Nova. Nova ran up the hill. They were close to Spiderman. Nick Fury ran into Doctor Doom and ran back. There was a porthole to Spiderman's cell. The Hero's went in to the porthole and save him.

Travis' Story: THE GHOST AND THE GRAVEYARD
Once upon a time, there was a ghost name Captain Skeleton. He liked to fight and he lived in a grave yard. He had two friends. One friend was Snake, who was also a wizard. His other friend, named Frank, was a Knight. Frank liked to save people.
One night, Snake accidentally did a spell and the grave yard disappeared to a distant place. The spell made all the ghosts come out of their graves, including Captain Skeleton. They wanted to go off scaring people. They started to scare Frank, when he stumbled back and sat on a secret button. The button made all the ghosts go back into their graves. The grave yard was back to normal.

Jesse's Story: BLACK NINJA DEFEATS THE VAMPIRE KING WITH HELP FROM THE CHEEKY GHOST
Once upon a time there was a black Ninja and a cheeky ghost who were friends. They lived in a secret cave. There was a Vampire King who lived in a faraway castle. He wanted revenge on the Ninja.
The Vampire King was so angry that his power blew the roof off! He was ready to fight! He called out to the black Ninja to come and fight. Black Ninja came to fight. While they were fighting, the Vampire King seemed to get stronger and stronger. Just when the Black Ninja thought he would lose, the cheeky ghost appeared and grabbed the Vampire King and threw him into outer space.