North Burnett Athletics Age Champions Tarah Staines—10 yrs Girls (Monto SS), Lailah Mitchell—12 yrs girls (Monto SHS), Melissa Birch—11 years girls (Mulgildie SS—Absent for photo)

Monto District also took out the Overall Points Trophy as well as the Aggregate Points! Well done athletes!!! Congratulations to all that competed!

In the future, all newsletters will be sent via email. This way you can easily send the good news from Monto State School onto extended family and friends in full colour. Also, you might get lucky and receive an unrumpled newsletter at the time it was sent, and we can look after our environment better. We will be updating our school “banner” in the coming weeks and we hope you like our new look.

If you would still like to receive the newsletter in print, please contact the office and leave your details.
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

You will have heard, I hope by now, that when your child puts on their school uniform they are ready to learn. When they come to school, they can expect that their teacher has prepared appropriate learning experiences for them so that if they are ready to learn, they will grow and have success at school. On parade I spoke about how a leopard seed pod can look good, like wearing a uniform, but if it doesn’t rattle, it doesn’t have seeds inside the pod and it won’t grow. The seed can be compared to motivation – the will to learn. I extended the analogy to say that once the seed pod opens and the tiny seed begins to grow, it needs water, sunlight and good soil to continue to grow to a beautiful, healthy mature tree. Parents, teachers and community are the ones who will help them grow. They do this by providing positive learning experiences, encouragement, a safe and happy environment and specific feedback on their work so that they know what exactly they need to do to improve.

I always enjoy reading tips on parenting in any magazine I pick up, especially when it relates to enhancing the school and education experience. This article snippet outlines some ways to motivate your child to do well at school. Just as teachers give feedback in class to help your child improve, you too can provide feedback that will motivate and encourage your child to succeed at school. It is easier than you think. Read on…

Share your child’s successes

When your child demonstrates competence, let him/her hear you telling other people about what was accomplished.

“Ella has been making such a big effort at school, and today she received an award for it.”

“Jack got 22 out of 25 on his weather project.”

“Matt just did his first serious high school exam. I’ve never seen him put in so much effort before. We still don’t know what he scored, but I’m so proud of him for working so hard.”

By telling people about the successes your child experiences, and by finding the good in what they do, your child will be more motivated to continue to work hard, practice, and develop good academic outcomes.


Warm regards,

Lisa Roach

Acting Principal/Teacher

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On Wednesday 5 August 2015, the Monto Instrumental Community Ensemble (MICE) Junior and Senior participated in the Bundaberg Eisteddfod.

MICE Junior (which consists of Monto State School students with less than 12 months playing experience) participated in the "Concert Band: Level C Beginners" Section. I was particularly proud of this small group’s first performance outside of Monto State School. They received 82 out of 100 points with some very positive feedback from the adjudicator.

“Well disciplined group on the stage”

“A nice sound from this small group.”

“Good intonation, particularly in the softer sections.”

“Well supported tone and clean articulations.”

“The band is developing well and has good fundamentals established at this early stage.”

MICE Senior (which is a combined band with students from Monto State School, Monto State High School and Mulgildie State School) participated in the "Concert Band: Level B Intermediate" Section. They tied for highly commended receiving 88 out of 100 points (only one point lower than second place at 89 points and two points lower than first place at 90 points). MICE Senior also received some positive feedback from the adjudicator.

“Well played flutes, you held the long notes.”

“Great percussion work to establish the ethereal mood and maintain the ‘tribal’ focus of the piece.”

“Ensemble playing worked well.”

“Intonation quite good in all sections of the band.”

For more photos of the eisteddfod, please visit https://montoss.eq.edu.au
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

Prep/Yr1

The Prep and Year One class have been very busy this term.

In writing we have really been trying hard to remember that a GOOD SENTENCE needs a Capital Letter, a full stop, finger spaces between our words and oh of course very importantly ….it needs to make sense! The Year Ones are also working on self-editing their work by trying to locate any words they think may need a fix-up. It is very encouraging to see the progress we are all making with these tasks.

In maths we have been looking at different 2D and 3D shapes and identifying the number of sides, corners, faces and edges for each shape. We have also been looking around the classroom for shapes that fit into one of the 3D categories and whether they will roll, slide or stack. We have also been investigating the idea of partitioning numbers. Each number can be split into different parts. Eg 7 can be made into a group of 4 and 3 or 2 and 5 or 6 and 1. The Year ones have also been using partitioning to help with their addition eg 7 + 6 is the same as 7+3 +3 which is 10 + 3 = 13.

Finally, if handball was to become an Olympic sport we are ready. Well ready to start training. In the past few weeks we have been bouncing and catching and moving with a basketball to improve our hand eye co-ordination. Yesterday was our first attempt using a tennis ball for the same drills. THEN we moved onto a few handballs. Wow! Some people showed great improvement even in half an hour. So handball championships here we come!!!!

Yr2/3

The 2/3 class is on track and are ploughing through our various units of work.

In English, we are writing reports on Australian Animals. The students are using their research to put together a Powerpoint Presentation. They are enjoying this process as they have an opportunity to be creative with their page designs and formats. We hope to have a shared morning tea at the end of term for each student to show their presentation to everyone.

In maths, we are looking at some new addition strategies, including “bridging to 10” and the “Split Strategy”. These strategies are being practised within the classroom and will be part of homework in the upcoming weeks. Multiplication concepts are being revised often - students are learning their x2, x5 and x10 tables if you wish to practise these at home also.

In Science, we are investigating different types of toys and how they move. We will begin to design and make our toddler toys soon, so please keep bringing in cardboard boxes, plastic containers etc for our construction box.

The Yr2/3 recently made plastic bag parachutes for a science project
Yr3/4

Term 3 is moving along quickly and the Year 3 / 4s are beginning to write their own traditional story to share with others. We have been studying traditional stories all term from Asia as well as the Dreamtime stories from Australia. We have discovered similarities between all traditional stories like their time setting (e.g. Long ago), characters (like animals or villagers) and that they all have a reason; whether it be to teach us how to live, to educate or to warn others of danger. The kinds of morals and messages that traditional stories contain include being kind and caring, not being greedy, being honest and respecting your elders and the universe, as well as courage. Hopefully we will publish these as a Power Point display.

In Maths we have been working very hard on learning our times tables as well as basic number knowledge. Adding and taking away 10/100/1000 from various numbers is proving challenging for some, but we will continue to focus on this. Year 4s have been working with improper fractions and mixed numbers, which has also proved challenging. We will continue to revisit this concept. Year 3s have been revisiting measurement this week, as well as basic number facts.

In Science we are looking at forces and defined gravity and friction. We enjoyed looking at the BBC Kids site on the internet for Science Clips on this topic.

In Geography we have discovered the continents of the world and revisited the BOLTSS concept of mapping (Border, Orientation, Legend, Title, Source and Scale). We have used legends to find various places in Africa and South America.

We are working hard at finishing our Aboriginal dot paintings of an animal. The finished ones look great. We have some very creative people in our classroom.

Yr5/6

Well, I can’t believe that it is already Week 6. Hasn’t this year flown? Over the last week students have been busy completing assessment for Japanese, Geography and Maths. This week they have been busy completing assessment for Science and English-Writing.

In Geography this Term we have been studying mapping, and the location of the major countries in Europe and North America. The Quiz yesterday was a mapping exercise.

In Science this Term we will be studying the main features of the solar system and natural disasters. The students will be sitting a quiz next week on the main features of the solar system. We have really enjoyed exploring our galaxy.

This Term the students are studying the Performing Arts, in particular Dance. Over the last five weeks the students have been exposed to different types of dance – Line Dancing, Bush Dancing, Latin and Ballroom Dancing and Traditional Aboriginal dancing. Next week, they will learn the basic skills of Hip Hop/ Street Dancing. In Week 9 the students will be required to choreograph and perform a dance routine. I’m looking forward to seeing their masterpieces.

In English this Term we have been looking at cartoons and comic strips. This Friday the students will need to hand in a comic strip of 4 – 6 panels, which deals with an ethical dilemma.

By Jasmine Smith
CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS (continued)

Yr5/6

Monto SS Gardeners. It began as just a clean up of the green house, but the enthusiasm and commitment has continued. You could say the project is organic as it stemmed from student initiative and interest and is not teacher driven. Students are busily digging, potting, watering and planting all sorts of plants and seeds and placing them in the green house or the warm sun to grow. The children are keen to grow both vegetables and flowers and have brought seeds and cuttings from home to nurture in the greenhouse. Thank you to the parents, who have contributed to the enthusiasm by supplying resources for our green thumbs. On Tuesday we had a quick trip to the nursery to pick up a few more plants. There will be a few more trips as not every child was able to go on Tuesday.

Years 5 and 6 News  On Friday 14th August, the students who were not competing at the North Burnett Athletics, organized their own sports event here at school. In pairs, they set up and coordinated rotational skill development activities for every child in years Prep to 4. Soccer, basketball, obstacle courses, football passing, novelty relays and overarm throwing with ‘foxtails’. It was impressive to see every child engaged and active and every leader teaching the group using clear instructions and positive encouragement. It was an opportunity for teachers to step back and see the potential and the capabilities of our year 5 and 6 students.
Sport

For sport this Term, I have been teaching the students how to play hockey. We have been working on their fitness, agility and their dribbling skills. Many of them have the potential to make great little hockey players.

Ms Smith