Year 5/6 Camp

Our 5/6 Class went to Camp Fairbairn Outdoor Education Centre last week. The students had a fantastic time by all accounts. A huge thank you to Helen Goody and Jenny Williams for coming along and making sure we were all well fed. More news and photos further in the newsletter.

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.
I have been at Fairbairn Dam with the Year 5 and 6 students. What a pleasure it was to be with your children for the week 24/5. A huge thank you to parents Jenny Williams and Helen Goody who catered. Also Sonya Clarke who volunteered all of her spare time last week and add value to our camp, Ann the bus driver, and Jasmine Smith for leading and teaching in a positive and encouraging manner.

The central focus of camp was to build resilience. As I do, I have googled some of my favourite parenting sites to search what building resilience might mean to you as a parent. These tips align exactly with the goals and methodology of the camp. Here are 8 ‘hot tips’ for building resilience in your children. You can see the details at this web address: http://www.kidspot.com.au/school/secondary/peer-pressure/teaching-your-child-resilience

#1: **Listen with your heart** Children feel validated and worthy when we listen to them. When children are upset, sensitive listening provides emotional first aid. Listening with your heart allows you to be empathetic, take your child’s perspective, or see the world through his or her eyes.

#2: **See the world through your child’s eyes** Giving advice when children are upset makes them feel frustrated, or foolish. “I can see it’s been a tough day for you today.” Or “Wow, that must have made you feel really disappointed.” Makes them feel valued and secure.

#3: **Accept your children for who they are** Continual fault-finding is a sure-fire way to create questions about self-worth in children. In contrast, children whose parents affirm their children’s efforts feel useful. When children are validated they feel worthy and acceptable as people. When they encounter setbacks they will have the confidence to try again.

#4: **Develop strengths** Parents who identify their children’s strengths and help them develop those strengths will see their children become increasingly competent. Their children will experience success and be inspired and confident.

#5: **Teach that mistakes are an opportunity to learn** When you make a mistake, what do you do? Are you likely to throw your hands in the air and say it’s too hard? Or do you see the mistake as a chance to learn something new, and try again? Your children will follow your example.

#6: **Promote responsibility by giving responsibilities** Lectures will not promote responsibility. Instead, responsibility comes from opportunities to be responsible, a chance to help, and by being part of a family that is involved in doing things for others.

#7: **Teach your children to make their own decisions** When our children struggle, we often want to tell them what to do to fix things. Constantly making decisions for our children can undermine their decision making skills and confidence. Ask them, “What do YOU think we should do?” Let your child know that you are willing to help and support, and gentle guidance as needed.

#8: **Discipline, but don’t denigrate** Children will make lots of mistakes, even when trying their best. When our children do things that are wrong, we can focus on teaching them rather than punishing them.

If you have read this message and enjoyed the newsletter, please send me a “Got It” reply.

Warm regards,

*Lisa Roach*

*Acting Principal/Teacher*
Welcome back to term four.

We have been busy getting back into routine as well as welcoming some Pre-prep visitors last Monday morning. We will be welcoming them again next Monday as well. If anyone knows of any families who may have a child eligible for prep in 2016 let them know about this great opportunity to come and visit.

We will be very busy this term with Maths and English as well as during this term we are using the **You Can Do It** program to look at **Emotional Resilience**. So far we have discussed some of the things that can happen to us and how bad are they really. We are going to investigate some ways to help us calm down/cope when things don’t go as expected and hopefully put some strategies in place to help us cope better with the ups and downs of daily life.

In **Science** Ms Dunwoodie is looking at a unit that is titled **Toys** this unit involves students using their senses to observe and explore the properties and movement of objects and the sources of light and sound. The **Geography** unit for this term focus is on **Caring for Special Places**.

Towards the end of the term we will again be participating in the **Holiday/Christmas letter exchange program**. Each student will write a letter to a nominated Prep/One class from another school in the state. In return each child should receive a letter in return from their nominated class. When all our letters are written we will post them and then keenly await our replies. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to find out some more about different schools and classes in the state as well as gain an understanding of the letter writing process.
Yr2/3

Welcome to Term 4!
The Year 2/3 Class are studying the following units of work this term:

English – Our main focus for the term will be on “Persuasive Writing”. This is where the students learn how to convince others to share their point of view or opinion on numerous topics. They must be able to use appropriate reasons and explanations for their arguments. Some students seem to have good “convincing” techniques already – so look out parents!

Maths – Our main focus will be to extend and consolidate concepts we have already learnt throughout the year. Problem Solving strategies will also be implemented.

Science – “Mix, make and use”: In this unit students investigate combinations of different materials and give reasons for the selection of particular materials according to their properties and purpose. We are starting to look at the properties of paper and are going to try to recycle some for ourselves.

Geography - How are people and places connected?
In this unit students will investigate the inquiry question/s identified from the Australian Curriculum: Geography.
• How are people connected to their place and other places?
• What factors affect my connection to places?

PARENT INTERVIEWS
I will be available for parent interviews in weeks 4 and 5 this term. This is a good opportunity for parents to come in for a chat to see how their child is progressing at school. Keep an eye out for the appointment sheet early next week.
We are now into week 3 of Term 4 – not long to go now. This term swimming has returned and Mr Malcolm Miller is taking my class on a Friday while I am at the pool assisting with swimming lessons. Science and Technology are being taught in my absence and this term we are concentrating on Materials and in particular the children have been asked to bring in materials to help them create an insulated water bottle cooler. If they could start bringing in their materials this week, Mr Miller would appreciate it.

In English we are looking at Humorous Poetry and the various poetic devices used in these poems such as rhyme, nonsense words, alliteration, onomatopoeia, spoonerisms etc. We have had fun reading a variety of poems so far. This week we are looking at the poem *The Ning Nang Nong*. In Maths we have been furthering our knowledge of number and shapes.

2/3/4 camp is this week. Please remember we leave at 8 am on Thursday– so be at school by 7:45 am. If your child gets car/bus sick, please ensure she/he has had their necessary medication before getting on the bus and not had any milk products for breakfast. Any medication needs to be handed to me before we get on the bus with instructions and signed permission. The chemist label needs to be attached – even for Panadol tablets. We are due to return around 3 pm on Friday – but do not depend on the bus to get your child home in case there are any hold ups.

Below please find attached some photos from our Science and Technology unit last term on Forces. The students had to design a game for a Minute to Win It show using some sort of force. They had some terrific ideas. There are more photos up in the school window display in the Newton Street; as well as their boomerang and animals designs from our Aboriginal Art unit we worked on in Term 3.
We did outdoor group and individual challenges led by the outdoor teachers, and developed performance/presentation confidence through drama, writing and speaking activities with Louise Moriarty, a specialist in these areas. The two components of the camp melded and complimented each other beautifully and the evidence of the success of the program could well be measured by many comments from kids that they could easily stay on for an extended time. The personal growth experienced by both children and adults on camp, will strengthen and empower us to take on future challenges that require stamina, creativity and resilience.
YEAR 5/6 CAMP

In the moment Mary and Cody

Left—Helium stick challenge
Right—Group work on low ropes

Above—Listening intently to the hot tips for abseiling,
Right—Louise Moriarty—the poet, writer, creative artist in residence
On a special parade on Tuesday, Paul Dare and Jan-adele Hotz from the Mundubbera Community Bank presented our school with a cheque for $500 as part of their "Dream and Do" project. Last term the year 5 and 6 class wrote letters to the Board of the Bank, suggesting ways to spend the money. After brainstorming many ideas from jumping castles to chooks to robotics, it was decided that some of the money could be spent on the greenhouse to generate more funds. Our gardeners have been busy potting, planting, fertilizing and growing plants to sell at the local markets. The profits would be used to buy robotics and other technology for use in the classroom.

If you have any cuttings, pots or expertise, we would welcome you to come to school and support our gardeners in their greenhouse at lunch time. Please contact the office if you would like to help.
MUSIC NEWS

Please see below for a list of music events and performances involving Monto State School students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Who</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Monday 2 November 9.30am</td>
<td>Music: Count Us In Minto Community Hall</td>
<td>all students P - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 November 6.00pm – 6.40pm</td>
<td>Monto State High School Awards Night</td>
<td>MICE Senior</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Tuesday 10 November Evening</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Showcase</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Students [MICE Junior, MICE Senior, MICE extension, solos, duets, trio etc.]</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Friday 4 December 6.30pm TBC</td>
<td>Community Christmas Carols Monto Town Hall</td>
<td>Monto SS Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wednesday 9 December Evening</td>
<td>Monto SS End of Year Musical (Old King Cole) and Year 6 Graduation.</td>
<td>all students P-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Biloela Shopping Mall – Christmas Carols</td>
<td>Monto SS Choir</td>
<td>Monto SS Choir</td>
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Music: Count Us In

Monto State School will be joining forces with Mulgildie State School and Abercorn State School to present a massed celebration of Music: Count Us In. Music: Count Us In is Australia’s biggest school initiative, with more than 500,000 participating students from over 2,100 schools nationwide. Every student sings the same song at the same time right across the country. You may have seen the advertisements on television for this event, featuring the song Gold! Each class will also perform a song they are preparing for the end of year musical.

Musical: Old King Cole

The end of year concert and graduation will be held on Wednesday 9 December at the Minto Community Hall. This year we are presenting a whole-school musical Old King Cole – a humorous twist on an old tale. If your child would like a copy of music they are learning for the musical, please send a named USB to Miss Hawkins.

I would like to inform the students and parents of Monto State School that I have accepted a transfer to the Scenic Rim area commencing the beginning of 2016. I have really enjoyed working with all the students over the past four years (and will continue to enjoy this term). I wish all the best to the students and the school.

Last week our very own Tarah Staines travelled to Townsville to compete at the State Athletics Carnival. Tarah competed in the Multi Event in which she placed 11th in her age group! Well done Tarah!!

Her individual results in each event was Shot put -3rd (with a PB of 7.66m), 800m—8th, Long Jump—14th (tie), 100m—18th.

Tarah also competed in the 10years girls relay in which they placed 10th. Tarah thoroughly enjoyed her time at the carnival.