Special Dates

Break Up Day! 9 Dec
Term 4 ends 9 Dec
School Starts 23 Jan
Australia Day Public Holiday 26 Jan

Safe, Happy, Learning

https://montoss.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx
Principal’s Report—a summary of the last 3 semesters at Monto SS.

Curriculum
- Reporting and teaching aligned with Australian Curriculum Achievement standards.
- Aligning assessments to standards.
- Professional development opportunities - Writing Focus
- Teachers provided PD for all staff in Reading, Technology, Writing and Maths.
- Naplan improvement – positive gains for all students.
- School Opinion Surveys very positive 100% across student, parent and staff.
- Development Performance Plans enacted and revisited.
- TA assigned to one classroom to support teachers creating a ‘teaching team’ approach to learning.
- De privatizing classrooms - classes sharing and celebrating milestones and achievements with each other, welcoming classroom visits from other classes, supervisors and teachers. Sharing resources.
- PKP Personal Knowledge Pursuit – celebration of curriculum extension opportunity to develop higher order thinking in years 5 and 6.

Technology
- Wider broadband network via wireless upgrade throughout school ($15,000) installed and operating.
- 26 Laptops for teachers to use in classroom at student desks– flexible learning
- Lap top charging cabinet
- Computer Lab maintained and monitored
- LED touch screen for Prep One room

Extra Support
- Counselling provided free of charge at school and with parents for students experiencing emotional trauma or needing extra support.
- Learning adjustments and support – consulting with parents, adapting expectations of attendance, behaviour and differentiated learning with excellent outcomes for students with social, behavioural, academic difficulties.
- Upgraded plan for Speech Language in 2017 to include TA training to deliver programs for more substantial delivery to groups and individual students.
- Learning Support Teacher working with higher achievers to extend and broaden their learning, NAPLAN early intervention.
- Teacher Aides included in PD for knowledge whole school curriculum foci including National School Improvement Tool.

Classroom Enhancements
- Classroom furniture – colourful, fresh and suitable for flexible learning and teaching.
- Removal of outside awnings to allow natural light and air into classrooms for wellbeing of students and staff.
- Staff room – new furniture, handwashing facility, hot water.
- Principal’s office upgrade – chairs, blinds, carpet
- Cleaning out old library and garage sale (over $3000 raised) providing new space available for counselling and classes to use when in computer area.
- Library – colourful soft furnishings, 3D construction kits, large screen for presentations, PFD meetings, Parenting course, movies, LOTE lessons, lunch time, hot day, Melbourne Cup, PKP celebrations.

Sports
- Go and Run – incentive badges, support charity, increase student fitness and wellbeing.
- Sports Days – athletics and swimming carnivals efficiently coordinated to enable full participation and include parent and preschool children participation in events and organizing events.
- Sports Uniforms sold by P and C and worn on Fridays – supporting running badges.

Student council
- Greenhouse, discos, soccer tournament, senior shirts, under 8’s day support, sports day support.
Grounds and Outside Enhancements
- Top Oval irrigation
- Nature garden including blackboards (P and C) edging, plantings, pathway to and from.
- Raw Art – created by students and displayed at entrance to school buildings.
- Picnic tables for children to eat lunch.
- New equipment to ensure cleaners andgrounds person can do their job efficiently.

Finance
- Flexible budget to allow school funds to be accessed allow judicious spending to enhance learning outcomes and create a welcoming school environment. Employment of extra TA and Admin time, pay for sports, creative performance, camps, swimming, classroom resources, professional development available to all staff, new furniture throughout the school, inside and outside, upgraded technology, grounds enhancements.

Public confidence and Positive School Environment
- Prep Open Days promoted and new parents welcomed with informative and well organized activities.
- School enrolment increased from 89 in 2015 to 109 in 2016. Will be 104 at the beginning of 2016 increasing teacher allocation to 5 classroom teachers.
- Banners, new signs, postcards, balloons, advertising in shop fronts, Dairy Festival, Monto show, Foodworks sausage sizzle.
- Parade – Monday mornings – set up and led by seniors. To set the scene for the week and celebrate achievements of the previous week, parents welcome and attended.
- Adjustment of playground areas to provide better supervision and safety for all students.
- Natural light, open plan flexible learning spaces (in 2017), colourful furniture.

Digital Communication
- Website – person employed solely to keep website up to date as a point of information available to all and to create newsletters
- Newsletters – to celebrate students and their learning.
- School Notes – emailed directly to parents to inform and provide information in a timely manner.

Thank you to the P and C members who have enthusiastically supported me in my time at Monto State School. You have been a pleasure to meet with, to work with and to consult with. Your energy, drive, commitment and positive “can do” attitude is inspiring. I wish you all the very best in the future and the future of Monto State School.

Ever Onwards!!

Lisa Roach
Principal

HAPPY SAFE LEARNING
Parade Awards—Term 4

More parade award photos can be viewed on the Monto SS website.

Monto State School  Ever Onward
Year Prep/1

Just want to wish everybody a safe and Happy holidays. Mrs Shultz and I are really looking forward to our brand new batch of Eyre and Oxley supporters in the Prep families of 2017. See you all then & Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and keep smiling.

Carol, Sue & Kay

Year 1, 2 & 3

We are at the end of another fantastic year!

The Year 1/2/3 class has had an excellent year full of many exciting learning opportunities. We have all progressed academically and have witnessed each other grow physically, socially and emotionally. We have all faced challenges (teacher included) and have persevered and survived!

The Year 1/2/3 students have had a wonderful support team from staff and parents throughout the year. A very big thank you to Mrs Staines, Miss Meagan, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Atkinson for their assistance.

I’d like to wish all my students and their families a very happy and safe holiday and I look forward to seeing some of them return to my class next year.

Megan Sinclair

Year 3 & 4

Year 3 / 4 have worked very hard all year and are all looking forward to a long holiday. I am very pleased at how far the students have progressed this year both scholastically and personally and I hope they are proud of themselves.

I wish you all a very happy holidays and all the best for 2017.

Karen Hockey

Monto State School

Ever Onward
KP stands for Personal Knowledge Pursuit. At the beginning of semester two, each child in the year 5/6 class began their journey to gain knowledge in an area that interested them. They began with a couple of thoughts – what do I want to be able to do? How do I find out how to do it? What can I make to show that I can do it? This last one would be their ‘artefact’.

After they had decided the answers to the first questions, they then began to ‘make and do’. They created their artefact – something that they wanted to pursue, something they wanted to learn about.

The next step, was to explore in different directions, more things about their artefact. For instance, if they were learning to make halters, then they would explore other types of saddlery. Find out about how different cultures have different saddlery. Where in the world are these places? They might also find out about ropes, and all the uses of ropes (rock climbing, sailing) and what ropes might be made of and how and where are they made. The pursuit of knowledge had to show investigations into maths, science, geography, history and they had to show their literacy skills in a written assignment and using technology (eg. slide show). They had to create something that they could interact with the visitors to their ‘market stall’ and be ready to talk about what their pursuit was all about. Posters, 3D constructions, brochures, business cards, board games – the list went on and on!

It is one thing to listen and remember, but also the easiest. The PKP was an entirely different way to learn that involved higher order thinking – a challenge to make connections, apply the knowledge and create! Creating is the highest order of thinking. (Bloom’s taxonomy).

The big finale was a huge success. Congratulations to the students of years 5 and 6. What an amazing night we had. So much variety, so much talent, so much creativity, and so much knowledge gained. A huge thank you to the parents who supported and endured the pursuit. Your contribution was both essential and appreciated. You can be very proud!

Lisa Roach
Monto SS musical was an energetic, action packed and fast paced evening involving all grades. Miss Purkis and her group of helpers produced an amazing show, which included fist pumping, ‘KISS’ inspired face art, air guitars, back flips off the stage, colourful lights and a smoke machine! The enthusiasm from the kids was infectious, and it was great to see the enjoyment on their faces.

To view more photos from the night please visit the photo gallery on Monto SS website.
Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

To view more photos from the night please visit the photo gallery on Monto SS website.
Monto SS is looking for a motivated and energetic person to become our Tuckshop Convenor for 2017. The school operates tuckshop once a week on a Wednesday and also for Inter-house and District Sports Days. The tuckshop Convenor is a voluntary position, giving you an opportunity to learn food prep requirements, time management skills and most importantly socialise! Having small children is not a problem, as the tuckshop has a large covered play area and also a lovely nature playground to entertain your non-school age children while you prepare the tuckshop orders. If you are the person we are looking for please contact Helen Goody on 4166 5280 or Kellie-Sue Dent on 4166 3319.

Christmas School Holidays Swim Program

Great opportunity to develop water confidence & swimming skills

LEARN TO SWIM

Dec 12th-16th, Jan 9th-13th & Jan 16th-20th

$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

Monto State School Ever Onward
A Christmas/New Year Road Safety message from your Wide Bay Burnett District police

It won’t be long until you have a rest from the routine school drop-offs and pick-ups for the year.

At this time of year we also know how excited children are preparing for end-of-year celebrations and their concentration may wander away from road safety.

We’d like to remind you about road safety around schools and ask you to revisit this with your children again at the start of the 2017 school year.

Adopt a Cop visit schools at various times and encourage everyone to use the safe environments provided to help keep the flow of traffic moving.

The children pictured above can teach everyone some safety tips:
- Designate the rear door closest to the keft to be a safety door for children to enter or exit
- Use the drop-off and pick-up zones like a quick moving taxi rank
- Learn to recognise your vehicle and to get in and out quickly and safely when the vehicle has pulled into the signed area.

Parking safely around schools is what the majority of parents and carers do, although if you’re rushed and not focused, you may find you parked contrary to road markings or signage.

This behaviour may result in a traffic crash, reduced visibility for other road users and cause traffic congestion.

We also need to remember that children are unpredictable and may not understand the dangers associated with roads and vehicles.

The yellow line pictured in the next column is an area NOT to park or stop.

Failing to obey this can result in a $46 Traffic Infringement Notice for Stop contrary to continuous yellow edge line.

The sign below says it all – NO stopping

Failure to obey this can result in a $46 Traffic Infringement Notice for Stop contrary to ‘NO STOPPING’ sign.

Some additional tips from our colleagues at Transport and Main Roads are:
- Remember to say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road – never get them to cross the road alone to their school entrance
- Walk across the road and meet your children after school – never call out to them from the other side
- Always single park.


Be observant of school zone speeds and times when travelling as a parent, carer or general motorist.

Why not see if there’s a difference between this sign and the one at your school.

Police officers will be highly visible in and around school zones, especially at the commencement of the school year, and ask community members to be on their best driving behaviour to ensure all students and teachers get to their playgrounds and classrooms safely.

Remember to say “Hi” to your school crossing supervisor when they are there to assist you cross the road safely to and from school.

Policelink

Many families are now using mobile electronic devices and we know technology is continuously improving. As a result you can now contact police via Policelink on 131 444.

Policelink is the easy and convenient option for community members to take an active role in improving frontline policing response times and enhanced client service by using the Policelink service or reporting matters online.

For example, if a community member chooses to report their stolen power tools from the back of their ute via Policelink, online via the Policelink App instead of an officer attending the scene, this will directly enhance community safety through time being reinvested into other operational priorities.

You can contact Policelink by:
- Phoning 131 444
- Using the Policelink Smartphone Application to make an online report
- Visiting policelink.qld.gov.au to access online reporting. Fill in the form and hit submit. It’s that easy!
- Online reporting can also be accessed via the Queensland Police Website at www.police.qld.gov.au

Photos and videos can also be uploaded to include in reports, as well as a number of reporting options including:
- noisy party reporting
- ‘track-my-crime’
- stolen property updates
- hooning
- wilful damage
- taxi fare evasion
- graffiti and
- withdrawal of complaint terms.

The Policelink number to remember for non-urgent police contact is 131 444.