Principal Welcome

Welcome back to another year! It’s been a terrific first two weeks back, let’s hope the year continues in such a positive way.

You will see a few changes to the newsletter this year and for the first term we may continue to adjust pages. Each class will have their own page to keep parents better informed about what is happening at school. We have also added a photo collage page at the back with snapshots of the amazing fortnight we have had. Our newsletter will go home fortnightly and include a calendar to keep families up to date with all of our school events.

Parent Information Afternoon

It was great to see so many parents come along to our parent information afternoon. At Monto we believe in the importance of having good relationships between home and school and endeavour to keep all families informed about school and classroom activities.

Attendance

Attendance is important for not only student learning but social and emotional wellbeing too. At Monto we aim for all students to have a 95% attendance rate or better. Each fortnight I will keep families informed about our school attendance goals and how we are tracking.

Sports Captains

On Monday parade (6th Feb) our Year 6 students will be presenting their house captain speeches and voting will take place. Parents are welcome to come along and support the students as they start the process of being elected as a house captain for 2017.

Swimming

Swimming will begin next Friday and run for five weeks. It’s fantastic to hear that some parents have already volunteered to help out. The cost of swimming for the term will be $7.50 per student to pay pool entry. Invoices will be sent home to families who do not already have a season pass for the pool. Below are the times for swimming:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30—10:15</td>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15—11:00</td>
<td>Year 4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00—11:30</td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30—12:15</td>
<td>Year 2/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15—1:00</td>
<td>Year 1/2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Soccer

Next Wednesday, Football For Children will be starting a soccer program at Monto. They will visit each Wednesday for five weeks and run games and coaching sessions for all of our students. The program will run during lunch time with both p-3 students and 4-6 students getting a 25 minute session with the coaches. The students are very excited about this program.

Camp Fundraising

The year 5/6 students have been busy brainstorming ideas to fundraise for school camp. We will start by having icy cups each Friday for 50c each. This will begin next week. As the term progresses we will have different fundraising activities run by the students for camp.

CALENDAR

February

6 - House Captain Speeches
8 - Soccer
10 - Swimming/ Icy Cups
15 - Soccer
17 - Swimming / Icy Cups
22 - Soccer / NB AFL & Softball trials
24 - Swimming / Icy Cups

March

1 - Soccer
2 - Heat Cricket visit, Yr 2-6
3 - Swimming / Icy Cups
8 - Soccer
10 - Swimming / Icy Cups
14 - School Photos
16 - NB Basketball & Touch Football
Parade Awards—Term 1, Week 2

Back Row: Cody Dent, Sean Monk, Lilly Scutt, Ainsley Zieth

Front Row: Jack Spletter, Silas Mason, Freddy Milton, Ruby Forsyth, Patrick Schulte, Lana Chapman Walker

**Cody Dent:** For your terrific effort towards maths and completing all set tasks.

**Sean Monk:** A great start to the new year at a new school.

**Lilly Scutt:** For quickly settling into a new school and being a positive learner.

**Ainsley Zieth:** Settling back into routine well at Monto State School—welcome back!

**Jack Spletter:** For their great effort in using their whole body when listening.

**Silas Mason:** For their great effort in using their whole body when listening.

**Freddy Milton:** For hard work and active listening.

**Ruby Forsyth:** For hard work and active listening.

**Patrick Schulte:** For a great start to the year!

**Lana Chapman Walker:** For a great start to the year!

**Dakotah Zieth:** For hard work and active listening.
Prep News

Sounds
s, a & t
i, p & n
will follow shortly

Maths
Sequencing, counting &
recognising the numerals
to and from 10

Science
How to be like a scientist
and observe living things
using our senses.

In our Literacy sessions:

We have started to investigate how texts written by authors can be imaginative or informative. We have also looked at how texts can often reflect things that have happened to ourselves, and we have begun to talk about our own experiences may relate to a story?

We have also started to learn about predicting what a book may be about by investigating the cover and looking carefully at the pictures in the story to give us clues about the story.

In our Numeracy sessions:

DAYS OF THE WEEK (Sung to the tune of The Addams Family)

Days of the week (click click of the fingers) Days of the week (click click).

There’s Sunday and there’s Monday, there’s Tuesday and there’s Wednesday, there’s Thursday and there’s Friday then there’s Sat-ur-day. Days of the week (click click)

We have been singing this song regularly to help us learn the correct order of the days of the week and also practice our finger clicking.

Student Awards:

Silas Mason & Jack Spletter

For their great effort in using their whole body when listening:

Eyes looking, Ears listening, Mouth closed and
Body sitting still.
Science: Living Things
For the first 5 weeks we are investigating living things and their needs. We will be identifying features and their purpose and exploring habitats. In week 5 we will be creating our own shoe box habitats so have your child/children begin thinking of what they may wish to create and what features they may need.

Spelling and Sounds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Initial ‘r’ sounds (br, cr, dr, fr, gr, tr)</td>
<td>Week 3: ‘ou’ and ‘ow’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Initial ‘l’ sounds (cl, fl, gl, pl, sl)</td>
<td>Week 4: long ‘e’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember to continue to review the Jolly Phonics sounds and sight words each night.

Important information
Can parents start collecting shoe boxes and craft items that students may use to create an animal habitat for our science project.
This can be brought into the classroom in week 4 ready to begin creating in week 5.

Literacy: Week 3 and 4

**English**
Over the next fortnight students will be exploring the purpose and structure of imaginative texts including:
- plot
- setting and character
- beginning, middle and end

**Handwriting:**
Week 3: m, M, n, N, r, R  
Week 4: h, H, p, P

**Reading:**
Decoding: ‘Eagle Eye’  
Comprehension: ‘Activating Prior Knowledge’

Numeracy: Week 3 and 4

**Calendars**
Students will continue to engage in songs and rhymes about the days of the week and months of the year. Students will also work on duration of time and events that occur daily, weekly and monthly.

**Teen Numbers**
Over the fortnight students will engage in activities using a variety of materials to order and represent teen numbers.
Students will be able to recognise, model, write and order numbers up to 20.

**Data**
Students will pose questions, collect data and record their responses on a daily graph.

Student of the Fortnight
Dakotah Zieth, Freddy Milton & Ruby Forsyth
for hard work and active listening
PARENT HELPERS WANTED.
If any parents can volunteer to listen to reading or assist with swimming, please let me know.

Science this term:
“All mixed up” is a chemical science unit that will allow us to explore the materials and mixtures of different things.

REMINDERS:
Homework is handed out on Monday and due back on Friday please.

LITERACY
NARRATIVES! NARRATIVES! NARRATIVES!
Our class will be focusing on the narrative structure for this term to enhance our writing skills. Exploring the use of different vocabulary and extending upon our ideas will be key elements during the writing process.

Editing skills will also be practised and encouraged!

Spelling Focus:
Week 2—b, bb
Week 3—short a

NUMERACY
Number and Place Value concepts are being revised. Year 2 students will focus on numbers up to 1000, while the Year 3 students will concentrate on numbers up to 10 000.

Problem Solving strategies are also being explored. Thus far, we have looked at the Guess and Check strategy and the Draw a Table strategy.

Fast Fact Revision:
Week 2: Count on 1, 2, 3
Week 3: Count back 1, 2, 3

Star Students

PATRICK SCHULTE
For a great start to the year!

LANA CHAPMAN WALKER
For a super start to the year!
We have had a great start to the year in the 4/5 class; the students have been working hard and settled well into the routines in the classroom. We have two additions to our classroom this year: Sean Monk has joined the Year 5 cohort of boys and Ainsley Zieth has re-joined our class after a term away. Welcome to Monto, Sean and welcome back, Ainsley!

In English we have begun studying the novel by Roald Dahl, “The BFG”. From this we will be gaining a greater understanding of the narrative genre and at the end of our unit the students will write another chapter to the story, using all the descriptive words and techniques we have looked at.

In Maths we have begun revising and extending our knowledge of numbers (to the millions) and looking this week at reading and recognising larger numbers. We will be going onto looking at fractions and multiples and factors of numbers. With the new text book, we can go online to revise concepts, either at home or at school. The logins for the different years are above.

In Science our unit is from the Life and Living section of the curriculum—Life Cycles and Survival in the Australian Environment (a combination of the year 4 and 5 curriculum). In History we are studying First Contacts in Australia (again trying to combine Year 4 and 5 topics).

Stars of the Fortnight:

Sean Monk: A great start to the new year at a new school—wonderful effort all round.

Ainsley Zieth: Settling back into routine well at Monto State School—welcome back!
What a fantastic start to the year the 5/6 class have had, the students have shown a fantastic desire to learn and improve our school. We welcome two new students to our class this year Carrie and Lilly, welcome girls! Students have started looking at ways they can fundraise for camp this year. I have put Icy cup days in this newsletter calendar where students can purchase an icy cup each Friday lunch for the term. We have many more ideas to come.

Year 6 students have been busy this week making the difficult design decisions for their senior shirts. More information will be sent home to families shortly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling Rules:</th>
<th>Reading Strategies:</th>
<th>Riddle:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yr 5</strong>—Suffixes—ful, less, ness&lt;br&gt;<strong>Wk 4</strong>—Silent letters&lt;br&gt;<strong>Yr 6</strong>—Suffixes—tion, sion&lt;br&gt;<strong>Wk 4</strong>—Hard and soft g&lt;br&gt;<strong>Yr 7</strong>—Prefixes—micro, mega, super, hyper, mono, uni&lt;br&gt;<strong>Wk 4</strong>—Homophones</td>
<td><strong>Reading</strong>—Activating Prior Knowledge&lt;br&gt;<strong>Comprehension</strong>—finding the main idea</td>
<td><strong>If you give me water, I will die.</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>What am I?</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maths Focus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Multiplying whole numbers</td>
<td>• Investigating fractions greater than one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Investigating unit fractions</td>
<td>• Adding fractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Comparing and ordering unit fractions using a number line</td>
<td>• Subtracting fractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Comparing and ordering unit fractions to solve problems</td>
<td>• Year 5 fraction assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Message:**

**House captain speeches Monday (6th Feb)**

**Students of the Fortnight:**

**Cody Dent**—For your terrific effort towards maths and completing all set tasks.

**Lilly Scutt**—For quickly settling into a new school and being a positive learner.
Upcoming Training Workshops – Monto

Free training is being offered and shared within your community. There are minimum numbers for the training to proceed, please ensure you register your interest in attending.

Family Friendly Parenting

Benefits
Good parenting involves everyone working together to tackle the interesting challenges that children can present. Knowing what you want to achieve, why you want to achieve it and most importantly how you are going to achieve these results as a parent is a good place to start.

This workshop will help you:
- Understand your child’s brain and why it rules their emotions, behaviours and reactions
- Know what you want so you can choose your parenting battles
- Improve communication and learn some simple techniques to actively listen to what your child is actually trying to say.
- Remember to be kind to yourself as a parent.
- Discover your parenting style and how it influences your communications.

This free workshop will help you to recognise the key elements of understanding and communicating with your children, giving you practical tips & skills on how to engage, respond, and offer support.

Date: Wednesday 15th February
Times: 9:00am - 1:00pm
Venue: To be confirmed (light refreshments provided)
RSVP: To register, email us at crcounselling@uccommunity.org.au or call (07) 3624 2428

Heat Girls Cricket League

Gympie Heat Girls Cricket League

When: Sundays 9:00am - 12:00pm Starting 5th of February (6 weeks)
Where: One Mile Oval, Gympie
Cost: $66 per person Ages: Girls aged 12 to 17
Contact: Rod Venn- 0429 050 266- gympiecricket@gmail.com
Register at playcricket.com.au under “Gympie Regional Cricket”

Play Cricket
Monto Soccer Club—2017 Season

Last year was our most successful in many years and in order to keep the momentum going we would like to invite you all to a general meeting at the Combined Sports Fields on **Wednesday 8th February 2017 at 4.30pm**. The children are welcome to come along and have a kick, however training will not be conducted.

This meeting will be used to determine how the season is to proceed:

- New committee – President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar.
- Date to commence training
- Day and time for training
- Coaches required
- Number of children for registration purposes
- General information

It is really important to have you all present for the meeting and please invite other new parents and players to attend!!

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**1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE**

*Learn to manage difficult behavior in children 2-12 years old*

A three-session program for parents and carers with Community Recovery 3 x 2.5 hr sessions

TBA After February parenting workshops

**Expression of interest**

- How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to sort behaviour
- How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive:
- Registration Fee?

The course costs $1 free

Register for this course contacting: Russell Mills on 0448194939 or russell.mills@acommunity.org.au

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**Who is running it?**

The presenter for this course is Russell Mills who completed Parentshop’s 1-2-3 Magic® & Emotion Coaching practitioner training

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For more information contact Russell Mills on 0448194939

- An end to the arguing and yelling!
- It saved our lives
- Simple, sane, effective

*This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au*