Tuesday, 12th November 2013

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Student Attendance

Halfway through term 4 the whole school attendance is 93.1% which is pleasing to say the least, however lower than last term of 94.1%. Although only a small decrease, non-the less a decrease all the same. Our goal for student attendance for 2013 is 95% - below is a snapshot for individual classes so far. Who is the best class?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>94.7%</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>94.9%</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>92.1%</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>93.1%</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94.3%</td>
<td>94.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
<td>87.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prep</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
<td>91.1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Unexplained Absences

Alarming we have 47% of absences unexplained. As a school we have no idea whether your child/ren are supposed to be at school, or something has happened to them on the way. When the school has tried contacting families either there is no answer, or we have the incorrect contact details. Can you please ensure that you have updated your contact details, and if by any chance your child/ren are not attending school, please contact the school to explain the absence on (07) 5489 8888.

Awards Night

The Awards Night is scheduled for Thursday the 5th of December 2013 beginning at 6:00pm. The P&C are coordinating a dinner for families in the shape of a BBQ, beginning at 5:00pm. A program will be published in next fortnight’s newsletter with a criterion for student award recipients. The expectation is for 100% student attendance as we celebrate and acknowledge the academic, cultural and sporting achievements of our students.

130 years

In 2014 Monkland State School will be celebrating 130 years of schooling. To commemorate this wonderful milestone the school and its P&C would like to offer students, past students, parents, staff and its community a commemorative historical Jersey. The cost for both children and adults will be approximately $40. Please return the attached fler to register your interest.

Swimming Carnival

The swimming carnival will once again be at Kandanga Swimming pool on Friday the 29th of November. Information on transport, times and cost for this event will be released in the coming days.

Yours truly,

Mr Ashley Lawless
Principal

Date Claimers

WHAT'S ON

Fridays 01.11 – 21.11
Swimming (Years 4-7)

Sunday 17th November
Monkland Duck Pond Market Stall

Thursday 21st November
“Fluoro Fun” School Disco 6.30 – 8.00pm

Tues & Wed 19th & 20th Nov
Before & After School
Book Fair– Buy One Get One
Free Mini Sale

Tuesday 26th November
Free Dress Day (Xmas Raffle Donations)

Friday 29th November
Monkland Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 3rd December 3.30pm
P & C Meeting in Library

Wednesday 4th December 2pm
MS Drama Group Performance

220 Brisbane Road, GYMPIE 4570
Phone (07) 5489 8888  Fax (07) 5489 8800
Email the.principal@monklandss.eq.edu.au
Web www.monklandss.eq.edu.au

- SAFE - RESPECTFUL - RESPONSIBLE - LEARNERS
12th November, 2013

SCHOOL NEWS:

Please note the newsletter is published fortnightly. If you miss a newsletter or want to refer to a back copy, Monkland State School newsletters are available on our website: www.monklanndss.eq.edu.au

SCHOOL WEEKLY ROUTINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Parade 8.50am / LOTE (Year 6 &amp; 7)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>Strings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Music / Tennis Lessons / School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Library Lessons / Tuckshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>PE / Swimming (Yrs 4-7 Term 4 Starting Wk 4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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MONKLAND MEMORIES
Did you know that Monkland State School celebrates 130 years of golden education in 2014? Each fortnight, an insert in the newsletter will be dedicated to help commemorate this special occasion with photos and articles. All ex-students and staff are welcome to contribute with photos and/or stories.

SCHOOL DISCO
The final disco for 2013 will be held on Thursday, 21st November. Doors open at 6.30pm (no entries prior to that time) and it concludes at 8.00pm sharp. The theme this time is “Fluro Fun” so students can dress up in their brightest day-glo gear. There will be lots of games and DJ J-Dub will be back to keep the dance floor going off like a frog in a sock. Glow sticks will be on sale (50c each) or kids can bring their own. Please note this disco is for Monkland primary school students only. All money raised will go towards replacing our “missing” disco lights. There will be hot dogs for sale from 6pm.

THE CATERPILLARS ARE BACK!
Mr Lawless, Mr Holmberg and Mr Rentz are embarking on Monkland’s Movember Challenge. The clean faces of Monkland’s most attractive males (only males) will grow facial hair upon their top lip to show support for men’s health. If you would like to show your support, please make a donation at the front office.

SWIMMING LESSONS FOR YEARS 4-7
Swimming lessons for Years 4 – 7 have commenced and will continue until the 22nd of November. The inter-house swimming carnival will be held on Friday the 29th November at. Please remember to return notes and money to the office. Please ensure that your child’s clothing and swimming gear has their name on it to avoid items going missing.

AWARDS ON PARADE:


One of the many reasons that Monkland is the best school in Gympie is our beautiful school grounds. This also attracts a lot of native animal visitors such as this possum who was quite happy to sleep the day away in one of our trees.

LIBRARY NEWS:
Issue 8 of Book Club will go home with each student today. If you wish to order, please return your order and payment to the office by 9am, Tuesday 19th November. This is the final Book Club for 2013. Payments can be made in cash, cheque or online at www.scholastic.com.au/payment

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BARGAIN BOOK FAIR MINI SALE: As a reward from Scholastic for hosting a successful Book Fair, Monkland has been offered a "BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE" Book Fair sale. This will be held before and after school in the library on Tuesday the 19th and Wednesday the 20th of November and it will only go for those two days. It is a book sale only – no posters or stationery will be available. For every book purchased, a book (or books) of your choice will be yours for free. The school does not get commission for this sale, this is a strictly a thank you to Monkland parents for supporting the library so generously this year. I hope most families will take advantage of this great offer and do some Christmas shopping and grab some great cheap books. See the flyer in today’s newsletter for more information.

School Play
The Monkland SS drama group have been rehearsing and practising hard during lunch times and will be putting on their play “A Christmas Miracle at Monkland Gulch” on Wednesday the 4th December at 2pm in the art room. All families are welcome to attend.

Students with Overdue Books: Just a reminder to the following students that as of today they have overdue books:
P/1: Shanel, Ursula, Lollie
2/3: Gemma, Danielle, Zeke
4/5: Teagan, Ben, Sarah, Storm
6/7: Jaidyn

ALL OVERDUE BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED ASAP.
Invoices will be sent home to families with seriously overdue books.

Happy Reading! Mrs. J. Wilson – Library Teacher Aide

“Simply Classical” are conducting quarterly concerts of mainly classical music performed by local and sometimes guest artists.

The concert to be held on Sunday, 24th November, 2pm at the AICM building in Channon Street, Gympie, titled “Musical Wonderland”, has been put together with children in mind. There are excerpts from all time classical favourites like Nutcracker and The Magic Flute and others, some performed with costumes. The relevant story behind the music will be explained by the compere. This will be fantastic entertainment for adults and children alike, with some additional surprises. There will be a Lucky Door ticket for one boy and one girl.

Admission is Adults $12, children 6 years and over $5.

For enquiries phone Heidi Kath at 5482 8467.

TERM DATES 2013/14
The information listed below is current and sourced from the Education Queensland website. For more information on school holidays and Pupil Free Days go to http://education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calendar/holidays.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 4 2013</th>
<th>Tue 8th October – Fri 13th December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1 2014</td>
<td>Tues 28th January – Fri 4th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 2014</td>
<td>Mon 20th April – Fri 26th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 2014</td>
<td>Mon 14th July – Fri 19th September</td>
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</tbody>
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P & C NEWS:

P & C MEETING
The next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3rd December at 3.30pm in the library. All are welcome. The minutes from the last two meetings are enclosed in today’s newsletter.

FREE DRESS DAY
There will be Free Dress Day on Tuesday the 26th of November. In lieu of a gold coin, donations for the Christmas Raffle are requested. All donations will be greatly appreciated and can be left at the office.

2014 TUCKSHOP CONVENOR POSITION VACANT
Volunteer Position - 1 day per week (Convenor’s choice)
$40/month Fuel Allowance. If you are interested please submit a letter of interest to the office.