Tuesday, 21st July 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to term 3. I would like to invite everyone to join us for school parades held each Monday and Friday mornings at 9:00am to celebrate student success at Monkland.

I would like to welcome Sam Heathcoat and Danelle McKeenan who have joined the Monkland team this term. Mrs Sam Heathcoat has joined us as the Student with Disabilities teacher and Danelle McKeenan is joining the team as our Guidance Officer.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege it is to be Acting Principal at Monkland State School. I have been overwhelmed by the generous welcome from both staff and Monkland families in this first week. I look forward to supporting Monkland to provide the best opportunities to continue to improve student learning together with the wonderful staff.

Absences – Everyday counts!
Please ensure your child's class teacher is provided with a reason for your child's absence. The school will follow up on any unexplained or unreasonable absences. Make sure your child attends each day as every day counts.

Explicit Improvement Agenda
This term every class will be participating in a writing program based upon data collected in week 1 on this term. Students will investigate the use of punctuation and extending their vocabulary within their writing with the support of Miss Bachmann and their classroom teachers. I look forward to sharing some student writing samples in future newsletters.

Yours truly,

Mrs Deanne Biddle
Acting Principal

PARENTS/CARERS PLEASE NOTE:
SCHOOL DENTAL FORMS ARE ENCLOSED
IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- SAFE - RESPECTFUL
- RESPONSIBLE - LEARNERS

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21st July, 2015

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.monklandss.eq.edu.au

SCHOOL PARKING REMINDER
A reminder to all parents and carers that due to safety and congestion issues, the top car park is for Education Queensland staff and Monkland SS P & C volunteers who have permission to do so. Parking spaces from the old tennis court down to Brisbane Road have been set aside for parents and carers. Thank you to those parents who make an effort to park in the correct areas.

SCHOOL WEEKLY ROUTINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Parade 9.00 am / Strings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>Technology with Mrs Corbet / LOTE – Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Music / LOTE – Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Library Lessons / School Banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Parade 9.00am / Swimming (P – 2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WOOLIES EARN AND LEARN
Monkland State School is participating in the Woolies Earn and Learn rewards program. If you have any stickers, please send them into the office for collection. All stickers collected will go towards great educational resources for the school.

SCHOOL BANKING
One of our wonderful Monkland parents, Jess Cunningham has kindly volunteered to run the Commonwealth School Banking program here. If you are interested in signing your child up for School Banking, you are invited to come along to a session at 9am this Friday with a school banking representative from the Commonwealth Bank. You do not need to bring any identification for your child as that has already been provided to the school upon enrolment. School banking day will be Thursday each week.

MONKLAND SS CLASS OF 1980 REUNION
There will be a Monkland Year 7 1980/GSHS Year 12 1985 on the August 29th at the Decks restaurant. Elizabeth Schmidt, the daughter of former Monkland principal Col Schmidt is co-ordinating the event and any enquiries can be passed on to her through Jodie Wilson in the library.

AWARDS ON PARADE:

Awards on Parade Friday, 17th July: Ruby, Zhalia and Cain

Gotcha Awards on Parade Monday, 20th July: Keanu, Kody, Charli and Gabby

Congratulations award recipients - keep up the good work!

LITTLE SMILES DENTAL VISIT
Last Friday children in classes P/1 and 1/2 were lucky to have the dentists from Little Smiles dental clinic come and visit them. We spoke to dentist Hom and dental assistant Teagan about ways to keep our smiles clean and bright. We played a game about healthy food and we also got to practise brushing a (toy) crocodile’s teeth. Hom and Teagan gave us a dental mask and gloves so we all looked very professional! A big thank you to Little Smiles Dental clinic for coming and visiting us.
READING AND WRITING WITH MISS BACHMANN

This Fortnight’s Writing Focus: During writing lessons, teachers will be focusing on punctuation skills. In the early years the students are learning about simple punctuation marks in an active and engaging way. Perhaps your child has demonstrated some ‘Kung-fu Punctuation’ at home. Older students will be self-checking their writing and assessing where they sit on a punctuation ladder. This ladder encourages students to attempt advanced punctuation marks and therefore write more complex sentences. Teacher modelled writing is important at all ages and this is something that will regularly occur in Monkland classrooms. As they model writing, the teacher will ‘think aloud’ and share the thought processes of a skilled writer. They may explain why they’ve capitalised the name of someone or decide whether they should use a comma or a full stop. Watching the teacher correctly apply punctuation is a powerful way for students to learn.

When reading at home you could comment on different types of punctuation and what it tells you as a reader e.g. “That exclamation mark makes me think the character is really excited.” Try looking for punctuation marks in unusual places such as signs, television commercials or at the shopping centre. Advertisers are often guilty of incorrect punctuation so challenge your child to spot and correct an error.

This fortnight’s comprehension focus: Activating Prior Knowledge – or - what do you know about the topic? This is the language you will hear across the school when a new book or topic is being introduced. Prior knowledge is what each student brings to the reading experience – a combination of student’s attitudes, experience and knowledge. By thinking about the topic students are able to connect with what they already know, giving them a base on which to build new knowledge and a head start to comprehending the text.

How can you help? Here are some questions you can ask your child when reading with them.

- What do you already know about this topic?
- Have you read something similar?
- What do the illustrations tell us about the text?
- What type of text is this – narrative, letter, poem, information report?

Happy reading and writing, Miss Bachmann.

LIBRARY NEWS:

Scholastic Book Club: Issue 5 of Scholastic Book Club will go home with each student today. This is the last Book Club for this term. Orders must be returned to the office no later than 9am on the due date stamped on the front of the brochure (Tuesday, 28th July). Payment can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Scholastic Australia) or online credit card payment at www.scholastic.com.au. The order will be placed on the due date and are usually returned to the school the following week. All orders go towards free books for our library for students to borrow.

Library Borrowing: Thank you to all the wonderful, responsible borrowers who made the effort to return their library books. Libray borrowing has resumed this term, however there are still students with seriously overdue books from Term 2 and earlier. Please remember that if your child has an overdue book, they are preventing another child from enjoying it.

Books for borrowing are mainly purchased from fund raising (Book Club and Book Fair), so it is very hard to replace books that have not been returned. It is Monkland children that are affected by books not being returned, so please make every effort to return or replace books.

STUDENTS WITH OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS:


Please help your child to remember to return their books.

Library borrowing is a great opportunity to teach children respect and responsibility. Library books can be returned to the library or the office Monday to Friday. If you have any issues or questions regarding your child’s library borrowing, please feel free to see me before school in the library Monday to Thursday.

Happy Reading! Library Mrs Wilson

TERM DATES 2015/16

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

| Term 3 2015 | Mon 13th July – Fri 18th September |
| Term 4 2015 | Tue 6th October – Fri 11th December |
| Term 1 2016 | Mon 25th January – Thu 24th March |
| Term 2 2016 | Mon 11th April – Fri 24th June |

P & C NEWS:

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Monklanders. Hope you all had a good holiday. Just want to let you know that we have adopted a tree in Mary Street for the winter trees on Mary St Fair. It’s tomorrow night the 22nd of July from 5-9pm and up for another week. So head into town and have a look at our decorated tree outside Office National. I also want to let you know that we are running a Wifi cafe at the muster this year and the Muster Society will pay us to serve coffee. More news on that soon. Bec Lindemann

P & C MEETING

Being involved with the P & C is a great way to contribute to your child’s educational environment. Monkland State School has a very active and supportive P & C. Why not come along to a meeting – it is a great way to meet other families and be involved with your child’s school. The next P & C meeting will be held on Thursday, 23rd July at 3:30pm in the library. All are welcome. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF MEETING DAY FROM TUESDAY TO THURSDAY. Minutes from the meeting held on the 11th June are enclosed in today’s newsletter.

WINTER TREES ON MARY

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY 5PM – 9PM

Gympie’s biggest ever Winter Trees on Mary Street is a great event to support. Every tree is different. Some are decorated with lights, banners, fairy lights, music and more.

Gympie Chamber of Commerce present

P & C新聞:

冬季樹林

星期三 22 月 5-9 晚

吉普斯比鎮最大的冬季樹林在瑪麗街是一個很棒的活動來支持。每一棵樹都不同。有些樹裝飾著彩帶，仙女燈，音樂等。

吉普斯比商會現推出

P & C MEETING

參與 P & C 是一個很好的方式來對您孩子的教育環境做出貢獻。蒙克蘭州立學校有一個非常活躍和支助 P & C。為什麼不加入一個會議 – 它是一個很好的方式來遇到其他家庭，並參與您孩子的學校。下一次 P & C 會議將於星期四，7 月 23 日下午 3:30 在圖書館舉行。請注意會議日期的更改為星期二至星期四。會議的會議紀要於 6 月 11 日附於今日新聞中。
INSPIRING AUTHOR QUOTES

“TODAY A READER, TOMORROW A LEADER” Margaret Fuller

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**BENDIGO BANK**
At Bendigo Bank we’ve introduced our School Banking Program and PiggySaves Account – perfect for primary school aged savers to catch the savings bug.
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