FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Literacy Improvement
Term 1 has seen considerable progress being made towards our key curriculum focus areas in Reading Comprehension, Grammar and Punctuation. At the commencement of the year these areas were identified as being our curriculum focus based on our 2014 NAPLAN results. A further analysis of our writing identified sentence structure, paragraphing and cohesion (how a text holds together) as areas of particular focus.

Throughout this term, Miss Kimberley Bachmann has been working with teachers with a particular focus on Reading Comprehension. In her role as Literacy Coach, Kimberley has been in classes working with teachers and students, planning with teachers, developing resources and a bank of strategies for teachers, sharing the fantastic things our teachers are doing in their classes with all staff, and presenting information and ideas in our staff meetings.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
In the first two weeks of term two Monkland SS will be conducting Parent/Teacher interviews. Further information regarding times and bookings will go home this week. I would encourage all parents to make the time to come along to these meetings as communication between the home and school is most important in improving student outcomes.

Child Safety- Recognise, React, Report
With the need to keep our children safe never more prevalent in the media, parents are asked to please reinforce with their children the need to recognise, react and report any potential child safety issues which they may be exposed to when travelling to and from school and during weekends. The safety of our children is very important, and it is hoped that by ensuring that all children understand how to respond to being approached by a stranger that serious incidents may be avoided.

School Photos
Reminders that school photos are tomorrow. Students are required to be in full school uniform (maroon school shirt and black shorts).

Cross Country
Cross Country is this Thursday. A small parade will gather the students at 9:00am with the first race starting at 9:30am. We encourage all students to be in their house colours.

ANZAC Service
Monkland SS will be conducting an ANZAC service on Friday the 24th of April at 10:30am. The following day Monkland will also participate in the march. Traditionally we meet outside the Commonwealth Bank at 9:45am for a 10:30am march. I encourage strong participation from all students.

Easter Holiday
Finally I would like to wish all students, staff and families a wonderful Easter break. Please take care on the roads if travelling and I look forward to seeing each and everyone back on Monday the 20th of April. Don’t forget to leave a forwarding address for the Easter Bunny if travelling abroad.

Yours truly,

Mr Ashley Lowless
Principal
31st March, 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 WEEKLY ROUTINE:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>Parade 8.50am / Strings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>Technology with Mrs Bond / LOTE – Year 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Music / LOTE – Year 6</td>
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<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Library Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Parade 11.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDENT CLAY WORKSHOPS
Monkland students were extremely lucky to have local artist Bec Lindemann (Taj and Pippi’s mum) come in and do some fantastic clay workshops with them. The students had a wonderful time and produced some amazing artwork that will be submitted in this year’s Gympie Show. See the insert in today’s newsletter for photos. THANKS BEC!

FREE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE IN GYMPIE - GET YOUR KIDS ACTIVE AND EATING WELL!

A new free healthy lifestyle program called PEACH™ - Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health - is commencing term 2, for families in Gympie. It is available to families who have a child aged 5-11 years who is above a healthy weight for their age. The program takes a family-focused approach by helping parents and carers make healthy eating and activity a part of every-day life. It is a group program running on a Thursday afternoon from 3.30-5pm commencing 23rd April and running until the end of term 2. Ongoing individualised family support is offered through the second half of the program ending with one final group session. Some of the topics covered include nutrition skills, relationships with food and eating, changing family lifestyle behaviours and making healthy eating affordable. While the parent sessions are taking place, children enjoy active play with a trained child physical activity facilitator. The program is funded by the Queensland government and being delivered in Gympie by the Child Healthy Weight Team from the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service Limited spots are available for each program. If you would like to reserve a spot on the next program please call 1800 263 519 or 5450 4766 or visit www.peachqld.com.au

AWARDS ON PARADE:

25 Days Consecutive Attendance Awards: Charlie, Zayne, Malachi, Baylee and Shakeelee

Awards on Parade Friday, 20th March: Back – Isabelle, Breeanna, Jackson, Maddy. Front – Halle, Phillip, Dusty, Linkon, Ruby A. and Ruby K.


Gotcha Awards Monday, 30th March: Jasmine, Halle, Baylee and Makayla

Congratulations award recipients - keep up the good work!
MONKLAND CROSS COUNTRY:
The annual Monkland Cross Country will be held this Thursday from 9.30 to 11.00 am. Parents are more than welcome to come along and support their children. Students can wear their house colours (Red for Scottish and Blue for Eastern) but please remember no singlets or tank tops and footwear must be suitable for running. Hats and water bottles are also a must for the day. There will be a sausage sizzle in the morning (see Tuck Shop news for more details). Hope to see you there!
Please note that for student safety reasons, the school gates will be closed for the duration of the event.

Go Scottish!

Go Eastern!

LIBRARY NEWS:
Book Fair: I will be hosting the Scholastic “Kingdom of Books” Book Fair in week two next term. Book Fair runs before and after school starting Monday the 27th April and concluding on Wednesday the 29th. Parents are warmly invited to come along and private shopping can be arranged. A Book Fair brochure is enclosed in today’s newsletter

Overdue Books: Thank you to those students who make an extra effort to return their books each week. Students with overdue books are not allowed to take books home until those books are returned. The number of students with overdue books has increased dramatically this year, so a few more reminders may be required! All books are now considered overdue as there is no borrowing over the holidays.

STUDENTS WHO NEED TO RETURN LIBRARY BOOKS:
Yr 1/2: Imogen, Ursula, Jayah, Tyler, Ellise, Shanel, Alissa, Shaelyn
Yr 3/4/5: Lachlan, Evie Yr 5/6: Keanu, Brayden, Elina, Holly

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. Be sure to check out the great books and activities at the town library this Easter.

Happy Reading! Library Mrs Wilson

TERM DATES 2015
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 www.education.qld.gov.au

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 2015</th>
<th>Tue 27th January – Thur 2nd April</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2 2015</td>
<td>Mon 20th April - Fri 26th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3 2015</td>
<td>Mon 13th July – Fri 18th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4 2015</td>
<td>Tue 6th October – Fri 11th December</td>
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P & C NEWS:
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 Tuesday, 10th May at 3.30pm in the library. All are welcome.

TUCK SHOP NEWS:
Instead of Tuck Shop this week, there will be a Sausage Sizzle at the cross country for first break. Prices as follows:

Sausage on Bread $1
Cup of Punch $1
(Free refills with each cup – new cups $1)

TUCKSHOP CONVENOR POSITION STILL VACANT
Volunteer Position - 1 day per week
(Convenor’s choice – does not have to be Thursdays)
$40/month Fuel Allowance. If you are interested please submit a letter of interest to the office.

COMMUNITY NEWS:
Gympie District Guides is always on the lookout for enthusiastic and motivated women to join the team of widely and uniquely talented leaders in Girl Guides. Training is provided within a friendly environment to ensure all leaders feel comfortable and supported. If you enjoy outdoors activities, or indoors activities and want to work with children to make a difference in the community then here is your opportunity to do so! Prospective leaders must be female and over the age of 18. No previous Guiding experience necessary.

Vacancies for girls and leaders in all units.
5-7 years, Monday 4.30 - 6pm
7-9 years, Wednesday 5 - 7pm
10-12 years, Thursday 5 - 7pm
13+ Tuesday 3.30 - 6pm
If interested contact Heather Brown on 0413 674 457

To all Monkland Staff, Students and Families

Have a relaxing and safe Easter Break.

See you next Term!!
(Please note that school returns on Monday, 20th April)
1. LEPORIPHOBIA: — Fear of rabbits (noun)
2. SQUIRMY — Wriggily (adjective) — contributed by the Prep/1 class (Pout Pout Fish book)

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