NEWSLETTER UPDATE NO: 1 – 7 FEBRUARY 2014

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3 February</td>
<td>School Board parent nominations began</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 February</td>
<td>Whole School Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17 February</td>
<td>School Board parent nominations end</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 February</td>
<td>Parent Forum Session Preschool to Year 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 February</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting  7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 24 February</td>
<td>School Board voting begins (if required)</td>
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Notes Going Home This Week

- Monash Classroom Coordinator
- Canteen Menu (attachment)
- Board Nomination form for Parent Representative (attachment)
- SUPA Club (attachment)
- Piano and Guitar Tuition (attachment)

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Monash School in 2014. We have had a very successful Week One and it has been wonderful to see so many smiling happy faces return to school. Thanks to those parents who have provided so much positive feedback about the start to the school year. We appreciate any feedback that you are able to provide and always take it on board.

We have many new staff members who have joined our team in 2014 and already many positive relationships are being formed between staff and students. Parents/carers will have an opportunity to meet staff in person at our Parent Information Session next Wednesday, 12 February. This session will begin at 6.30 pm in the school hall and will also provide parents/carers with an opportunity to visit the classrooms.

To enhance communication between home and school we will be introducing an interim report in Week 6/7 of this term. This concise report will provide parents with a general overview of the start that their children have made in 2014. Parents/carers will have an opportunity to discuss these reports at the parent/teacher interviews in Week 6/7. Please be aware that notes will be sent home next week for parents/carers to indicate a meeting time with teachers.

Thank you to those parents/carers who have assisted us with providing their children with book packs. These resources will remain the property of individual students throughout the year. Ideally we would prefer if you label all items with your child’s name and then the book packs will be stored at school by the teachers and items will be used as required by students.

Today, all families will receive a note explaining the Class Parent/Carer Program being implemented at Monash in 2014. I encourage you to engage with this program as it is another way that we can further develop parent partnerships and thus improve student outcomes.
It has been great to see so many parents joining us for Meet and Greet in the mornings. These sessions, where we gather as a whole school, provide a valuable opportunity for the whole school to come together as one and share important information.

Next week, an information note will be sent home informing parents about homework which will commence in week three. Routines will vary from unit to unit and staff are keen to ensure that parent/carers have a clear understanding of requirements.

Finally, it has been great to see so many members of our community accessing our social media sites. We have been actively sharing information about teaching and learning and upcoming events and I encourage parents/carers to access these forums if they do no already do so.

Have a great weekend and thank you for continued support.

Shane Carpenter
Principal

School Information Evening
Parent/carers are invited to come along to a general information evening to be held on Wednesday, 12 February from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm in the school hall. Meet your child’s teacher and see their classroom. You will receive an outline and timetable of the program your child will be taught this year.

You Can Do It
The Values program will be launched for 2014 in our first assembly for the year, until then teachers are awarding students with a Values ticket if they are seen displaying any of the five You Can Do It Values.

School Board
The following position is vacant for 2014 commencing 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2016 – one parent representative on the School Board.

Nominations open on Monday, 3 February 2014 from 11.00 am and close on Monday, 17 February 2014 at 11.00 am.

Nominations forms can be picked up from the Front Office from 3 February 2014.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Arrival Time - Please ensure your child arrives at school as close to 9.00 am as possible, as there is no supervision before that time. Before and after school care operates here at Monash with contact numbers in this publication.

Absences - If your child is absent, please send the teacher a note when he/she returns. It is a Departmental requirement that we account for all absences. Absences can also be sent in via the Monash App.

Allergy Friendly School - We ask that you remember that Monash is an allergy friendly school when you are preparing student lunches. For some students their reaction to peanuts or peanut products is so serious that it could cause death, even from limited contact with nut products. Please do not give your child peanut butter or nutella sandwiches or nuts in any form. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated.

Visiting the School - Our priority is your child’s safety and we endeavour to keep track of everyone who is in our school at any given time. Our procedure of asking everyone who visits our school to come via the Front Office and sign in, collecting a visitor’s badge at the same time, is part of our safety measures.

Hats - In keeping with our SunSmart policy, we ask that you provide your child with a hat that will protect his/her face, ears and back of neck. A broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire’s style hat would be suitable.
Please remember to cut strings off the blue broad-brimmed hats. The hats are sun safe but the strings are dangerous, hence the direction from the Department to remove the strings. Caps are not acceptable at school because they do not adequately protect the wearer from the sun.

**Library News**

Welcome back to the new school year.

Children have commenced visiting the library and borrowing books. It is important that all students have a library bag to protect the books from damage in their school bags. The bags can be cloth or shopping bags. Please label the bags so that they can be easily returned if mislaid.

The book week theme for this year is “Connect to Reading”. It would be great to see the children connecting with reading not just during this special week but every week of the year.

**SUPA Club**

SUPA club is starting up again next Friday 14th February. All students from K-6 are welcome to join us each Friday lunchtime in the after school care room for games, crafts and to learn about God from the Bible. Students need a signed permission form to be able to attend. For more information and the permission form, please see the attachment to this newsletter. Alternatively, students will be able to pick up a form at our first SUPA club of the year. This will be a 'come and try' format, where permission forms will not be necessary, as we will just be having a game and a craft. We are looking forward to seeing those keen to try SUPA Club, next Friday, when the playtime bell goes at 11.15am.

**SUPA Club leaders**

**P & C News**

Dear Monash Families

Welcome back to continuing and new families for 2014.

Education is a partnership between parents and teachers, and the P&C Association is a facility for our partnership to prosper. The P&C offers a forum (general meeting) in which parents and carers can discuss and provide feedback on school programs, issues and activities or raise any concerns with other parents or the Principal. We encourage and welcome all members of the Monash School community to come and join our meetings. The next **P&C meeting is 7.00 pm Wednesday 19 February 2014** (in the Staff Room).

If you are not able to participate in the P&C meetings there are plenty of other opportunities in how you can help, such as:

- Assisting with fundraising bbqs or other school fundraising events.
- Volunteering to work in the school canteen or at school discos.
- Helping out at the school second uniform pool
- Providing literacy support and changing home readers.

Please consider participating in one of these activities, even an hour or two, as it will greatly assist Monash School. You will also find your experience rewarding and a great way to meet other members of your school community.

Please note that the P&C automatically gives you membership of our organisation. If you wish to ‘opt out’ of the P&C please let us know via Sue at the front office or email monash_pandc@hotmail.com.

**The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the P & C will be held on Wednesday, 26 March 2014. Please note** that at least four positions will be vacant at the (AGM). We invite parents/carers to nominate themselves for one of the above positions.

If you would like to contact the P&C please email us at monash_pandc@hotmail.com.
Canteen
Welcome back to Canteen for 2014. You will note there have been some changes to the menu this term. Changes have been made to make the menu healthier and more nutritious, following the National Healthy Canteen Guidelines. Please ensure you have a copy and order accordingly (some things are only available certain days, as they are made fresh on the day). Copies are available from the canteen, front office or off the website.

Canteen Roster
Mon 10th - Jo
Tues 11th - Eleanor
Wed 12th - Volunteer needed
Thurs 13th - Lyn
Fri 14th - Diane

Mon 17th - Volunteer needed
Tues 18th - Volunteer needed
Wed 19th - Volunteer needed
Thurs 20th - Volunteer needed
Fri 21st - Volunteer needed

Second Hand Clothing Pool
The pool will be running every Wednesday of the school term out of the Monash Family Hub. Opening hours are 8.30am to 9.30am. We have range of brand new and second hand t-shirts, jumpers, skorts, shorts and dresses. New items are $5 and second hand items are $2.

Lost Property
Please check lost property if you are missing any clothing items. Anything left at the end of term will be donated to a charity or the second hand clothing pool.

SCHOOL BANKING
School Banking has begun and will operate each Friday, except the last day of term. Please bring completed bank books to the Front Office.

Kinder students will receive an information pack shortly with details on how to open an account. School banking is done through the Commonwealth Bank, with all deposits made earning the P & C valuable commissions.

If your child has an account open already with the Commonwealth Bank, they will be able to begin banking.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS
School uniforms are available from Savvy School & Formal Wear, shop 32, Homeworld, Soward Way, Tuggeranong. For any enquiries, please phone Savvy on 6293 4342. All Monash parents receive 10% off uniform purchases. Bomber jackets are unavailable at the moment – notification will be given when they become available.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Piano And Guitar Tuition

Piano Lessons – please see attached email flyer.

Guitar Lessons – please see attached email flyer.

The School, its staff and the Territory are not aware of, and make no representation as to, the truth or accuracy of the information provided in advertisements/community notices appearing in this publication. Readers should make their own enquiries in relation to the information."