Dear Parents and Caregivers

Staffing News

Mrs Harris commenced her maternity leave on Monday 3 November. On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish Mrs Harris and her husband all the best. We look forward to hearing the news of her baby’s safe arrival and the many wonderful milestones they share over the coming months.

From Tuesday 4 November until Tuesday 18 November, Ms Karen Kerr will be taking over the teaching duties for KH. I’d like to warmly welcome Ms Kerr to our teaching staff. From Wednesday 19 November till Wednesday 17 December, Miss Jessica Wickham will be teaching KH. We look forward to having Miss Wickham.

In other staffing news, Mr McDonald will be taking long service leave from Monday 17 November for the remainder of the school year. Miss Tiffany Vaughn, a regular casual teacher at Minto Public School, will be taking 1/2M. Also, Mrs Benotic and Mrs Grigson will be taking long service leave from Monday 17 November. Mrs Benotic will return on Wednesday 3 December and Mrs Grigson will return on Tuesday 9 December.

Representing Minto with pride

Jayden F and Manjot K represented Minto Public School with pride at the Ingleburn RSL Remembrance Day Service. I would like to congratulate our students in the way they respectfully represented our school, reminding us how important these special ceremonies are to everyone, but especially young people who are charged with always remembering the sacrifices past generations have made so that we can enjoy the freedoms we do. Thank you to the P&C who supported the school by providing a wreath to lay at the ceremony.

School Leaders 2015

Congratulations to the nine Year 5 students who were nominated and are running for election as a School Leader for 2015. The students admirably presented their election speeches on Wednesday 12 November and I would like to congratulate each nominee on the effort they dedicated to their campaign and in their preparation for delivering their speech. We were very proud of them. Thank you to the parents who joined us and supported the nominees. The 2015 School Leaders will be announced at Participation Assembly to be held on Tuesday 2 December at 9.45am in readiness for induction and other responsibilities scheduled for Presentation Day. Congratulations again.

Calendar

November
17/11 (Mon) ‘The Fields’ Zone Presentation Night
21/11 (Fri) Indonesian Street School Mufti Day
27/11 (Thurs) P & C Meeting 6pm

December
2/12 (Tue) Participation Assembly 9.45am
4/12 (Thur) Presentation Day 9.45am
4/12 (Thur) Community of Schools Choir Performance, Minto Marketplace, 6.30pm
8/12 (Mon) Music Club Concert
10/12 (Wed) Year 6 Farewell
11/12 (Thur) Year 6 McDonald’s breakfast
12/12 (Fri) Mini Fair 2—3.25pm
16/12 (Tue) Whole school movie day
17/12 (Wed) Last day of Term 4 for students

January 2015
27/1 (Tue) Staff Development Day (Teachers only)
28/1 (Wed) Students first day back (Years 1—6)
Striving to communicate better with our families
Using Minto Public School's App to explain your child’s absence

At Minto Public School, we are striving to improve our communication with our parents and families. It is with great excitement that we share that our school now has its own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with you. Thank you to the P&C for supporting this school initiative. If you haven’t already downloaded the app, we strongly encourage you to do so. It is FREE and it is a convenient method to have all of Minto Public School’s information, activities and happenings in the palm of your hand!

A feature I would like to highlight this fortnight, is the ‘Absentee Note’ option. This is an online form that can be completed if your child has been sick or otherwise absent from school. You simply complete each of the fields in the form and then press submit. This form is then sent to the school’s email address and will be used by the teacher to complete attendance procedures. Please see the photographs below reflecting this information.

1. Select ‘Parent eForms’.
2. Select ‘Absentee Note’.
3. Complete ‘Absentee Note’ then press submit.

Application for Year 7 Selective High School Placement in 2016

Applications for Year 7 selective high school placement in 2016 are now open. No paper application forms are printed for this process as applications are online only. Parents must apply online at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement by 17 November 2014.

All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 12 March 2015. Information booklets to assist with the application process are available from Ms Benotic, upon request.

Round 4 of Endicott Cup—Stage 2 Winners!

On Wednesday 5 November, Minto Public School competed in the Community of Schools, Endicott Cup. This round involved a team of Stage Three students in a cooking and art challenge. Representatives were Isabel, Aneesa, Ridika, Jayden M, Ankit and Aislinn. The art challenge required the students to create clay sculptures and cooking involved the creation of pizzas. The Stage 2 students were involved in art and maths. Representatives were Lidija, Aryan K, Sheenala, Shreeya, Sara, Anthony, Zorian and Nashita. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Stage 2 students were the overall winners of the art and numeracy challenges. Congratulations! Thank you to the teachers, students and parents for their support over the year with this competition.

2015 School enrolments

We are currently in the process of planning for next year, which involves reviewing student numbers. Please inform the school in writing if your child/ren will NOT be returning to Minto PS in 2015. It is important that this information is shared as soon as possible so appropriate preparations can be made. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.
2C are wizzes at their times tables...

2C have been learning their times tables in a fun way! This is what we do! We use playing cards to assist us to learn our tables. In pairs we take turns, turning two cards over at a time and then we multiply the cards to find the answer. If we don’t know the answer we use the times tables placemat to help us find the answer. This is an easy game for us to practise times tables and also be able to play at home. We think everyone should give it a try!

Mini Fair

As you are aware, our Year 6 Mini Fair will be held on Friday 12 December 2014. The fair will begin at 2pm and conclude at 3:25pm. To assist Year 6 in their organisation we are asking for donations for the white elephant stall. Donated items may include: books, games and toys. If you can assist us with any of these items, please bring them in to school and send them to 5/6B’s classroom.

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received an award.

**Bronze**
- Sallil U 1/2T
- Rohan K 5/6B
- Romina A 2C
- Jacob R 3/4E
- Priya S 3/4E
- Leah W 1/2T x 2
- Pratik B 1/2M
- Angelina S 3/4E
- Arafat K 1/2T
- Shruti K 4/5G
- Ethan A 1/2T
- Keira D K/1J
- Phoebe G 2C
- Jaya S 5/6D
- Sarah R KH
- Tyran M 1/2M
- Armandeep S K/1J
- Vinal S 1/2M
- Anthony D 4/5G
- Liyana A 1/2M

**Silver**
- Jacob R 3/4E
- Priya S 3/4E
- Julia T 1/2T
- Vishaan K 4/5G
- James L 1/2T
- Muhammad S 1/2T

**Gold**
- Priya S 3/4E
- Jacob R 3/4E

Mufti Day to support ‘Sekolah Bisa’ Street School in Indonesia.

On Friday 21 November 3/4E will be hosting a whole school mufti day to raise funds for ‘Sekolah Bisa’ Street School in Indonesia. Children are asked to wear mufti clothes, with sensible shoes (no thongs please). Each child needs to bring along a gold coin donation which will be collected to support the Street School. 3/4E were learning about ‘Sekolah Bisa’ as part of their studies about Indonesia in Term 3. Ashleigh T shared more about the school after researching it with her family as part of her learning. Ashleigh also presented information to our whole school community during a recent assembly to help us to learn more about how this school gives an opportunity to children who are disadvantaged in Indonesia. Your support is most welcomed and appreciated.

Thank you for your support from Year 6.
A little more about the Minto Public School Museum

The purpose of the museum is that of collecting, preserving and promoting items relating to the history of NSW public education and Minto's history. Admission is free for members of the general public who are wishing to inspect the Museum. Inspection of the museum is by appointment (although the museum is also open to the general public on certain special school occasions). Community groups and school groups are also welcome by appointment. Educational programs for school groups, run by qualified teachers and experienced school staff, can be arranged for a small fee per student.