Welcome back!

Welcome back to another great term of learning. I hope that all our Minto families had a relaxing and happy holiday. We look forward to the busy term ahead, filled with lots of exciting learning experiences and opportunities!

Congratulations Mrs Harris!

In staffing news, a warm congratulations is extended to Mrs Harris and her husband who are expecting their first child in early December! Mrs Harris has planned to finalise KH’s end-of-year reports and then commence her maternity leave in mid-November. Wonderful news!

Staff Development Day
A focus on the new syllabuses...

The Term Three Staff Development Day was dedicated to professional learning based on the new NSW Board of Studies Mathematics syllabus, which will commence implementation in 2015 and also follow up from Term 2 professional learning in the new English syllabus. Teachers were actively engaged in a number of professional learning sessions focusing on an introduction to the new Maths syllabus and quality teaching and learning in the area of programming. The teachers were extremely positive about the sessions and are continuing to develop, apply and refine their knowledge and understanding of the new syllabuses.

Celebrating education

Education Week is from 28 July—1 August 2014. To help celebrate this week, parents and friends are invited to Minto Public School on Thursday 31 July 2014 for our Open Day. This day provides an opportunity for the community to visit classrooms, be entertained by our students and enjoy a picnic lunch with the children. See more details in our Education Week flier.

School contributions

Thank you to the families that have already paid the voluntary school contribution. We have received a wonderful $1494.00 so far. Your support is greatly appreciated. Receipts are being sent home as the contribution is processed. At a recent P&C meeting, the P&C members endorsed the voluntary school contributions for 2014. The donations will be used to provide educational resources and equipment for our students. The contribution is $30.00 for one child or $40.00 for two or more children. The request note went home last term. A copy of the return slip is on the last page of the newsletter.

Minto Public School Playgroup

Minto Playgroup, run by the Benevolent Society, continues to be well attended. The playgroup runs in the hall each Wednesday from 9.30—11.30. More details in the flier on page 4 of this newsletter. All welcome.

For tomorrow only, Wednesday 23 July, there will be no Minto Playgroup as Margaret, the facilitator, is attending training.

Calendar

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<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
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<tr>
<td>22/7 (Tue)</td>
<td>4/8 (Mon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance2BFit commences</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly—2.30pm. Led by KH.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/7 (Wed)</td>
<td>11/8 (Mon)</td>
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<td>OC Placement test (Year 4 for Year 5 2015)</td>
<td>NAIDOC celebration—Indigenous students and 1/2T participating</td>
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<td>25/7 (Fri)</td>
<td>12/8 (Tue)</td>
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<td>Gala Day</td>
<td>ICAS (University) Mathematics</td>
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<td>28/7—1/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Week</td>
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<td>29/7 (Tue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS (University) English</td>
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<td>30/7 (Wed)</td>
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<td>Campbelltown Academic Challenge—5&amp;6 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>31/7 (Thur)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Week Open Day from 9.45am</td>
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Kindergarten Enrolments for 2015

Minto PS is currently accepting student enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. This is in preparation for the orientation program to be held early in November. If you have a child who is turning five by 31 July, 2015, they are eligible to enrol for Kindergarten next year. Enrolment forms are available from the office. If you are aware of a family friend or neighbour who is new to the area or who does not currently have children at our school, and has a child eligible for enrolment in Kindergarten next year, please ask them to telephone the school or come up to the office to give their details.

Dance2BFit Comes to Minto

Dance2BFit commenced today, Tuesday 22 July. The lessons will incorporate teaching choreography with an Asian influence, supporting our ‘Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia’ focus this term. Outstanding permission notes and money for Dance2BFit will be accepted until Monday 28 July.

Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia

A cross curriculum priority of the English K-10 Syllabus

We will be devoting Term 3 to the study of Asia. Each class has been allocated an Asian country as a focus of their study. Our countries of focus are Japan, India, China, Indonesia, Korea, Philippines and Vietnam. The students will be reading texts, writing texts and studying many aspects of that culture.

This study will culminate in a day where Asia will be a focus in our school. Students will be presenting what they have learnt or made to the rest of the school and our community.

We hope that we will be able to involve parents in sharing aspects of their culture. We will be looking at dance, cooking, art, craft, language, stories, history and important cultural celebrations.

Please consider sharing your knowledge and skills with our students to develop their understanding of Asia and its importance to Australia. A note will be sent home later this week for you to consider how you may be able to assist.

Whole school assembly

Following the Education Week Open Day assembly next Thursday 31 July 2014, the next whole school assembly will be held on Monday 4 August 2014 at 2.30pm. The assembly will be led by KH and will include a class item. The bronze and silver awards will be handed out. Everyone is welcome.

Other Term 3 assembly dates:
Monday 18 August 2014 at 2.30pm—led by school leaders
Monday 1 September 2014 at 2.30pm—led by 3/4E, including a class item
Monday 15 September 2014 at 2.30pm—led by school leaders

Sporting success

As reported in the last newsletter, Ashleigh T represented our school and the zone at the Sydney South West Area Cross Country Carnival held Thursday 12 June 2014. Her family have shared some fantastic action shots (see one of those below). Congratulations again to Ashleigh for competing well.

The Australian Ballet visits Minto

On Tuesday 24 June 2014 the Australian Ballet visited Minto and presented their ‘Out There—The Australian Ballet in schools’ program. Please see 1/2T with the dancer, Brooke below. Look out for more photos and some extra information in our next newsletter!
Class Corner featuring 1/2T
Powering On!

During Term 2, 1/2T explored energy and power as part of their Science and HSIE studies. Students loved having the opportunity to bring in their favourite toys from home to investigate the power sources they used. They then used this knowledge to brainstorm, discuss and write about the different types of power everyday items in the home used. Students also participated in a variety of experiments, making hypotheses and writing up procedural texts of the tasks that they had completed. Students explored static, solar, heat and wind energy. They particularly enjoyed exploring the concept of static electricity, creating crazy hair, dancing salt and magnetic balloons! Students enthusiastically shared their work, knowledge and understanding at the end of term assembly. They worked hard writing sentences that reflected their favourite moments from the unit, sharing these with photographs for all the school to see!

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received an award.

### Bronze
- Khoby T  x 2   K/1J
- Niyant M   KH
- Muhammad S  1/2T
- Shao-Leung H  KH
- Annabel P  1/2M
- Emily H  x 2  1/2T
- Phoebe G  2C
- Olivia F   K/1J
- Shreeya K  3/4E
- Alia T  5/6B
- Romina A  2C
- Talha K  1/2M
- Shubh K  4/5G
- Ben S  5/6B
- Anthony D  4/5G
- Tyran M  1/2M
- Angelina S  3/4E
- Ashleigh T  x 2  3/4E
- Cooper T  1/2M
- Jaya S  5/6B
- Isla B  K/1J
- Vinal S  1/2M

### Silver
- Ben S  5/6B
- Anoka T  2C
- Shubh K  4/5G
- Jaya S  5/6B
- Raina A  2C
- Anshita S  1/2M
- Ethan A  1/2T
- Joshua H  4/5G
- Annabel P  1/2M

A note from the Minto P&C…
Canteen volunteers urgently required

The canteen, under the management of the P&C and manned by very dedicated volunteers, urgently requires additional parent / carer support. If anyone would like to volunteer their services, please leave your name with the canteen ladies. Your support in keeping our canteen open four days per week is very much appreciated.

School Photos

School photos were distributed to students late last term. We now have a variety of additional photos on display in the school office foyer. These photos include a whole school photo, Year 6 leaders, School Captains and the Year 6 ‘muck up’ photo. If you would like to purchase any of the displayed photos, order forms are available from the office. Orders are due back by Friday 1 August 2014.
Minto Playgroup

Where: Minto Public School Hall
Pembroke and Redfern Roads, Minto
Day: Every Wednesday morning
from 9.30 – 11.30am - All Welcome
Come and join a fun playgroup for children
0-5 years and their Parents and Carers.

Please bring some fruit to share and a drink for your child

Have fun playing with:
Playdough Parachute play
Painting Puzzles
Craft
For more information about the playgroup please call Margaret on: 46514013

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION PAYMENT DETAILS

Please find enclosed the sum $__________________________ being for school contributions.

Student’s name: ___________________________________ (please print)   class ____________

OR

Family name: ____________________________________ (please print)

Sacrament of Confirmation

Catholic students in state schools in grade six or in High School who have already received the sacrament of Holy Communion are now due to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. An important meeting for the parents will be held on Monday 28 July at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre at the Holy Family Church, Oxford Rd, Ingleburn. Baptism certificates are required for enrolment in the preparation program. For any enquiries please contact Fr. Peter 9605 2785

Tissue Request

Given the cold weather many students are requiring tissues through the day. Any tissue donations to the school would be greatly appreciated. This would assist classrooms to maintain a steady supply through the Winter months.