Dear Parents and Caregivers

Celebrating Indigenous peoples and culture

On Monday 11 August, 1/2T and the Indigenous students of Minto Public School went to Robert Townson Public School to celebrate NAIDOC day. We participated in a celebratory assembly and were lucky enough to watch Uncle Ivan perform a sacred smoking ceremony. After the assembly, we spent the day engaging in a variety of activities to recognise and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. We got to make our very own boomerangs, explore a variety of authentic Aboriginal tools and weapons and create our very own Aboriginal artwork for the school. We also enjoyed the opportunity to investigate local fire trucks and the chance to play games with the NRL representatives who came to the event.

One of my favourite parts of the day was playing the didgeridoo in the hall, on stage. Ryka, the Aboriginal performer taught me how to blow into the didgeridoo. It was a lot of fun! I also really liked when I got to show all the schools my performance on stage. I was pretending to be a crocodile that was crawling around - Anthony

My favourite part was when I painted the boomerang. I put orange, brown and red spots on it - Joshua P

My favourite part of the day was when I got to get up on stage and dance with Ryka and Auntie. I also liked when we got to make the boomerangs - Emily

I really liked doing the painting for the school. They were our school colours, blue and white - Harsimar

Promoting Minto Public School
Can you help with our letterbox drop?

As part of our preparations for Kindergarten 2015, including the enrolment process and orientation sessions, we are currently seeking volunteers to assist staff in a letterbox drop of our local area to raise community awareness of our school. If you are able to assist with this letterbox drop, please let Ms Craze know as soon as possible.

Are you an enthusiastic writer? Do you enjoy an academic challenge?

Minto Public School Museum History Writing Competition

The annual Minto Public School History Writing Competition for 2014 is on again! The topic for this year is ‘Changes to Minto since 1970?’. All students in Years 3-6 are encouraged to participate in this competition with prizes being awarded at the school presentation day during Term 4. Mrs Burt, Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Benotic will be supporting students during class by explaining some background history and history research methodologies. Some resources from the Museum will also be shared. The competition entries are due by Friday 19 September 2014.

Canteen volunteers urgently needed

The P&C are urgently seeking your support in the canteen. Unfortunately, there are simply not enough volunteers to keep the canteen open for four days every week. If there are no new volunteers available to work in the canteen by the next P&C meeting, to be held Thursday 21 August, the canteen will reduce its opening days to 3 days per week only. Please see Ingrid in the canteen for more details about how you can help. Full training is provided.

Calendar

August
21/8 (Thur) P&C meeting 6.00pm. All welcome.
22/8 (Fri) Gala Day
28/8 (Thur) K—2 Zoo excursion

September
1/9 (Mon) Whole school assembly, led by 3/4E
3/9 (Wed) Father’s Day Stall
5/9 (Fri) Footy Colours Day
KH educated us on the animals at Old McDonald’s Farm

On Monday 4 August, KH did a wonderful job running our whole school assembly. They shared ‘Old McDonald Had A Farm’ with the school and our visitors. There were some very animated animals and an energetic farmer during the performance. Well done KH!

The next whole school assembly will be held on Monday 1 September 2014 at 2.30pm. The assembly will be led by 3/4E and include a class item. Awards from the Minto Community of Schools choir will be handed out. The bronze and silver awards will also be handed out. Everyone is welcome.

Other Term 3 assembly dates:
Monday 15 September 2014 at 2.30pm—led by school leaders

School emergency drill

Next Wednesday 27 August during the recess break, Minto PS will be practising our evacuation drill. This is so students and teachers are familiar with the procedures in the event of an emergency occurring. Classes will be revising the procedures for emergencies in readiness for this drill. I ask for your support of these drills by talking about them with your child/ren. The evacuation sound, for students and teachers, is a continuous blast from the megaphone. It is important for the safety of every member of Minto PS that these procedures are followed in a quiet, orderly and sensible manner. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Thanks to all our parents and families

Thank you to our parents and families for paying the voluntary school contribution fee. The school has received $1638 in donations. These monies will go towards the purchase of learning resources for your child. This continued support is just one reason why Minto PS enjoys the reputation of being a caring school with outstanding programs and resources. If you were unable to pay at the time and would still like to, you are more than welcome! Thank you again.

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.

Minto Goes Crazy!

On Wednesday 13 August students supported Year 6 fundraising by holding a crazy hair mufti day. Lots of glitter, gel and crazy coloured hair was seen throughout the school and $141 was raised towards the Year 6 Farewell. Thank you for your support of this event.

Canteen news

Due to price increases from our suppliers, there has needed to be some price increases in our school canteen menu. Please refer to the new price list, that is being sent home with this newsletter, for changes. These will take effect from next Tuesday 26 August 2014.
Class Corner featuring 1/2M
Some class data...

A quick poll of students in 1/2M found that;

- painting and drawing was the favourite thing to do in class by Sebastian, Hasan, Aresha, Carmella-Mae, Josh P, Annabel, Shuvra, Anshita, Pranish and Talha
- reading was chosen by Iyas, Tyran, Esther, Jessica and Vishaan
- TEN activities was chosen by Josh M, Nirvana and Pratik
- Theme activities was chosen by Cooper

We have a lot of fun in 1/2M. At the moment we are learning about Vietnam.

Campbelltown Academic Challenge

On Wednesday 30 July, Siam, Rohan, Tania and Tahrima represented Minto Public School at the Campbelltown Academic Challenge which was held at Sarah Redfern High School. Twenty schools from South Western Sydney participated in this event. Each school team competed in four rounds which required the students to draw upon their knowledge and skills in a range of academic areas. These included mathematics, science, library research skills and general aptitude. Minto Public School performed well and can be congratulated for their effort and enthusiasm on the day.

Kindergarten Capers

Kindergarten students have been using concrete materials such as counters, blocks and unifix cubes to solve mathematical problems. Students have been learning about the concept of multiplication. In the picture below, one student is making 5 rows of 3 which equals 15. She then recorded her answer on the mini whiteboard. Kindergarten students are also learning about time and made their own clocks using paper plates and split pins. Students love solving problems in maths!

School Uniform

Did you know that our school uniform specifies black shoes? We are seeing an increasing number of students trying to pressure parents into buying super bright ‘look at me’ shoes that are probably expensive too! I ask that you please keep them for out-of-school use. One of the reasons we have a school uniform is to reduce the potential for peer pressure and outdoing each other with fashion or brand names. I ask that you please buy black school shoes next time and remember, you are the adult and you are the one with the money!

Supporting Stewart House

Stewart House is a non-profit organisation that provides respite accommodation for children. Minto Public School has been an ongoing supporter of this organisation for many years and we have had many students enjoy special times there. This week you will receive a Stewart House clothing bag. We ask that you support Public Education’s ‘Charity of Choice’ by returning the Stewart House clothing bags by Friday 12 September 2014 (please disregard the date on the bags). Please place returned bags to the foyer of the computer lab. Additional bags can be collected from the office. Thank you in anticipation for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Mrs Harvey
Stewart House organiser
www.stewarthouse.org.au for your information
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

Your help is needed in our library!

Do you have any spare time on a Wednesday or Thursday? If so,
we would greatly appreciate your time to help out in our school
library. Our librarian, Mrs Stewart, is able to offer training to
interested community members. Please contact Ms Craze or Mrs
Stewart if you are available.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION PAYMENT DETAILS

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

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

OR

Family name: _______________________________ (please print)

‘JAMES COURT’
100TH TENNIS CAMP

Master Coach: Michael Mullane (TPA)
35 Years Experience
COST: $100 for 5 days
22nd - 26th September 2014
9am till 3pm (1.30pm finish Friday)
David Brew Tennis Centre (Cnr Macquarie &
Fields Rd Macquarie Fields) and
Macquarie Fields Swimming Pool on Friday

CAMP INCLUDES:
Commemorative Medallion For every
ChildReports & McDonalds Awards for
every ChildSausage Sizzle, 1 Can
Drink & Lollipop for Lunch Provided
on Friday!
Trophies for Singles Winners & Most
Improved Boy and GirlSwimming pool
Friday with pool monsterPresentation
1pm Friday (Parents Welcome)Outdoor
Water Play Park & Pool Monster at
Pools on Friday

FOR ENROLLMENT FORM PLEASE CALL
MICHAEL 0408 448 618
Numbers are strictly limited so get
in fast!

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.