Dear Parents and Caregivers

Endicott Cup participants do us proud

Congratulations to the sixteen Endicott Cup team members, for their excellent participation in the recent round of the Endicott Cup. The two teams, one from Stage 2 and the second from Stage 3, were up against other local primary schools—Campbellfield, Sarah Redfern and The Grange and were being challenged in areas of literacy, numeracy and science. All students performed very well and represented our school with pride. Congratulations!

Extravaganza meeting for parents—correction to the publicised date

Please note the correction of date for the upcoming extravaganza meeting inviting parent helpers. The meeting will be held on Thursday 4 June 2015 from 3:00—3:25pm. Everyone is welcome. We apologise for our error.

An opportunity to learn more about how your child is progressing
Parent / teacher interviews

Semester One student reports will be sent home during the week commencing Monday 15 June 2015. A note regarding parent/teacher interviews is accompanying this newsletter. Interviews are for 10 minutes and provide you with an opportunity to share with your child’s teacher both the academic and general developmental progress of your child. Interview times will be confirmed by class teachers and a return confirmation slip will be sent home. If you are unable to attend the scheduled parent /teacher interview time and you would like to make another time to discuss your child’s progress, please indicate that you would like to be telephoned to make a mutually convenient time. We look forward to seeing you!

Learn more about what your child is doing at school...
Education Week Open Day—Save the date!

Education Week is from 27 July—31 July 2015. Throughout the week there will be a variety of activities. To help celebrate this week, parents and friends are invited to Minto Public School on Wednesday 29 July 2015 for our Open Day. This day provides the opportunity for the community to visit classrooms, be entertained by our students and enjoy a picnic lunch with your child/ren. Look out for more details in the upcoming weeks.

Calendar

June
3/6 (Wed) Pyjama Day—Year 6 fundraiser. All students.
3/6 (Wed) ICAS Science Test.
4/6 (Thur) Extravaganza meeting for parents—3pm. Hall
5/6 (Fri) Gala Day—Round 2. Year 3—6.
8/6 (Mon) Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
10/6 (Wed) Harmony Day celebrations and activities
11/6 (Thur) P&C meeting—6pm. All welcome. Library
11/6 (Thur) Sydney South West Area Cross Country
15/6 (Mon) ICAS Writing Test
16/6 (Tue) ICAS Spelling Test
19/6 (Fri) Gala Day—Wet weather day
25/6 (Thur) Lunchtime movie—Year 6 fundraiser
25/6 (Thur) Parent / teacher interviews 2.20—5.40pm
26/6 (Fri) Last day of Term 2

July
13/7 (Mon) Staff Development Day
14/7 (Tue) Students return—first day of Term 3
Budding photographers in 3/4T

This term, 3/4T have been using the iPads and more specifically, the camera function to learn more about photography and photo filters. We have been out exploring the nature in our school grounds, taking a variety of interesting photos with consideration given to the photography styles of macro, leading lines, light and three-grid shot. We have been busy investigating these photographic techniques and exploring the iPad filters to enhance our creative work.

Thoughts from 3/4T:
I like taking macro shots with the iPads because you get to see a lot of detail in the photo – Anoka

I like taking photos that show leading lines because when you take the picture, you have to think about where your eyes are going to move - Ritvik

I like taking photos using light because I think it is very interesting to see the reflection of the sun in your photos – Annabelle

I like taking photos using the three-grid shot because you get to learn how to position the items in a photo properly – Astrid

Whole school assembly

Congratulations and well done to the school leaders, who capably ran the whole school assembly held this week. Thank you to our parents and friends who attended. We appreciate your support of our special school activities. The next whole school assembly, led by 1/2C and including a class item, will be held Monday 22 June 2015 at 2.30pm. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Please note, there is no Week 8 assembly scheduled due to the Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday.

Student excellence
Siana’s Anzac poetry recognised

In follow up to Siana’s winning Anzac Day poetry, we wanted to share that Siana and her class, 5/6B, worked together to select some informative texts about Anzac Day with her winning $250 prize money. When these texts arrive, they will be accessioned into the library for future student, class and teacher use. We also look forward to sharing what we have purchased with the Ingleburn RSL Club. Congratulations again Siana.

Planning for a strong future
School Plan 2015—2017

Minto Public School’s School Plan 2015—2017 has been finalised and uploaded to our school’s website. You can find it under the ‘Our School’ tab. The three strategic directions are:

- Challenging, engaging and inclusive curriculum
- Building teacher and leader capacity
- Enhancing community engagement and partnerships

We are inviting your input...

At the next P&C meeting, to be held Thursday 11 June at 6pm in the library, there will be further discussion in the strategic direction of ‘Enhancing community engagement and partnerships’. I warmly invite all parents and caregivers to the meeting to be part of this planned discussion. Just a reminder that P&C meetings are child friendly! You are more than welcome to bring your child/ren along. Books, pencils, paper and quiet games will be available to play. We hope to see you there!
Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received an award this term.

Bronze
Jovian G  2Z
Sean T  5/6B
Iyas B   2/3E
John S  3/4T
Parminder K  KJ
Jake W  3/4T

Silver
Krystal C  4/5M

Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

Over the next few weeks, students will be busily preparing speeches in preparation for the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition.

In class competitions will be held followed by stage finals to be held on Thursday 18 June 2015 from 2:30pm in the school hall.

Two students from Stage 2 and two students from Stage 3 will be selected to represent Minto PS at the next level. Kindergarten to Year 2 are invited to participate at a school level.

Parents are welcome to attend the grade finals. For more information about this activity, please see the note accompanying this newsletter.

A few tips for a great speech:
- Be comfortable with the language you use in your speech.
- Use correct grammar.
- Pronounce your words correctly eg. do not drop the ‘g’ at the end of words such as ‘looking’.

Caring for your child’s health and safety

Student safety—travel

We take student safety very seriously at Minto PS, particularly in the way students travel to and from school. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and students to please use the pedestrian crossing on Redfern Road when crossing the road and if your child is 10 or under, they should be accompanied by an adult who is holding their hand when crossing. This is for the safety of all students and will also assist motorists when driving near our school. May I also ask for your cooperation to NOT use the staff car park to enter, leave or park in the school.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 and 5 went very smoothly. Congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students who sat the assessments! We anticipate test results will arrive and be sent home to parents in late August. Any questions can be directed to Ms Craze.

Does you child have an interest in AFL?

AFL NSW/ACT School Sports Stars

If your child has an interest in joining an AFL junior club team or would love the opportunity to participate in AFL this year please come and see Miss Johnson by Friday 29 May. We currently have five School Sports Star certificates to support team registration. Student names will be randomly drawn on Monday 1 June for all that are interested.

Something different for lunch...

A new canteen menu item for winter!

The canteen will be introducing two new menu items from next Tuesday 2 June 2015. A cup of warm corn kernels for $2.50 will be available as will a spinach and ricotta roll for $3.00. Both are vegetarian options and very warming on a cold winter’s day!

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.

Endicott Cup—a milo based science experiment!
3/4T exploring nature through the lens of an iPad!

Speaking with confidence at the Endicott Cup

Minto Playgroup

Where: Minto Public School
Corner of Pembroke and Redfern Roads Minto

Day: Wednesday
Time: 9:30am to 11am
What to bring: Already prepared / cut fruit to share at morning tea please.

For more information about the group please call
Margaret on: 02 4629 2000 or 0434 566 572

A Free Playgroup for Children 0-5 yrs. and their Parents and Carers