Dear Parents and Caregivers

Celebrating Harmony Day!

On Wednesday 10 June, Minto Public School celebrated Harmony Day. Students came to school dressed in either an outfit that represented their culture or something orange. Due to the wet weather in the morning, we held off the parade and the planting of our hands in the garden. After scripture all the students went to the hall where class by class we paraded our cultural outfits and decorative hands. We left the hall and walked to the garden to plant our hands. We turned the garden orange! It became a beautiful, colourful garden! Our gold coin donations raised approximately $170.00 for Sekolah Bisa, the Indonesian street school we have been supporting. Thank you girls and boys for your cooperation and generous donation!

Mrs Robinson

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.

In response to parent feedback to know more about the key learning areas (KLAs) that students work in, each class will be focusing on a different KLA during the classroom visit time. This organisation is designed so that parents and families can visit their own child/ren’s class, as well as other classrooms to see the key learning areas in action. A handout will be prepared for each key learning area detailing more information. Look out for more details early next term!

Calendar

June
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
16/7 (Thur) UWS visit—Werrington Campus—Yrs 5 & 6
20/7 (Mon) Dance 2b Fit begins
22/7 (Wed) OC Placement test (Year 4 for Year 5 2016)
23/7 (Thur) Athletics Carnival
24/7 (Fri) Gala Day—Yrs 3-6
27/7 (Mon) Campbelltown Academic Challenge

Save the date!
29/7 (Wed) Education Week Open Day
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;

A little bit more about Strategic Direction 1—Challenging, engaging and inclusive curriculum—to provide learning opportunities for students to be critical, collaborative and analytical learners, who are literate and numerate, with the ability to be culturally and socially aware in a supportive and meaningful learning environment. The team for this strategic direction have developed surveys to assist in identifying future directions for the school in the use of formative assessment.

P&C news

We had wonderful attendance at our last P&C meeting! We welcome and thank our new families for coming along and also acknowledge and appreciate our regular members for their continued contribution and support.

The next P&C meeting will be held Thursday 30 July at 6pm in the library. I warmly invite all parents and caregivers to the meeting. 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!

Special Education in Ethics

Ethics classes are now available in NSW public primary schools as an option for children whose parents / caregivers have withdrawn them from special religious education (scripture).

Special education in ethics is a program in ethical decision making, action and reflection within a secular framework, based on a branch of philosophy. Classes are inquiry based and children use dialogue and discussion to learn how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument. Special education in ethics is delivered by providers that have the approval of the Minister for Education for that purpose. Persons authorised by approved providers teach special education in ethics. The curriculum is available for children from K – 6.

We can start ethics classes at Minto Public School if there is enough demand. As per departmental guidelines, a letter has gone home this week to students who are currently NOT attending Special Religious Education classes (scripture). If you would like further information regarding Special Education in Ethics, please see your child’s class teacher or pop into the office.

Merit award reminder

When putting merit awards in the box in the foyer of the office, please ensure that they are securely clipped together or in an envelope to help us process them quickly and easily. Your support in this matter is appreciated.

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 flyer on page 4 of this newsletter. All welcome.

Elizabeth Macquarie History Writing Competition

This competition invites students in Years 3-6 to research and write about a local pioneer or Aboriginal historical figure from the Macarthur region. Entries must be handwritten on A4 paper and include the student’s name, grade and school on each page of the entry. Students may receive assistance with research but must be the authors of their own writing. Entries need to be handed to Mrs Burt by Wednesday 22 July (Term 3, Week 2). Mrs Burt is available to meet with interested students on Tuesday 14 July (Term 3, Week 1) to offer additional clarification if needed.

Sydney South West Area Cross Country

Congratulations to Ben S, Jayden M, Ashleigh T, and Astrid G who proudly represented our school at the Sydney South West Area Cross Country competition on Thursday 11 June. Well done!
Awards

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

**Bronze**
- Lidija F 5/6B
- Armandeep S 2Z
- Peter F x2 2Z
- Kaitlyn A x2 5/6B
- Hannah A 1/2C
- Jacob R 4/5M
- Chloe D 3/4T
- Annabel P 2/3E
- Vishaan K 2/3E
- Pranish K 2/3E
- Hailey A x2 4/5M
- Shao-Leung H x2 K/1V
- Sean S K/1V
- Ankit A 5/6B
- Ashleigh T 4/5M
- Gia B K/1V
- Nimisha M K/1V

**Silver**
- Sarah R K/1V
- Jake W 3/4T
- Iyas B 2/3E
- Cooper T 2/3E

**Gold**
- Lidija F 5/6B
- Jake W 3/4T
- Krystal C 4/5M

**Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition**

On Thursday 18 June, our school held the finals for the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking competition. Well done to all of the students who participated in the competition and worked hard to prepare their speeches. All speeches were of an excellent quality and touched upon important issues related to multiculturalism and diversity. Miss Zhou and Ms Vaughn judged the competition and had the difficult task of choosing four students to represent our school. Congratulations to the following students who were selected as stage finalists: Emily H, Astrid G, (Stage 2), Lidija F and Tahrima Z (Stage 3). These students went on to represent our school in the District finals at Robert Townson PS on Tuesday 23 June.

The following students were selected to represent their class in our school competition:
- KJ - Sanaya
- K/1V - Nimisha and Kiratpal
- 1/2C - Hugo and Isla
- 2Z - Jovian and Aresha
- 2/3E - Cooper, Romina and Emily
- 3/4T - Astrid and Brooke
- 4/5M - Shreeya and Sebastian
- 5/6B - Lidija, Siana and Tahrima

We strongly encourage the wearing of uniform and ask for your support

As we enter the winter months, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and caregivers of the winter school uniform. The Uniform Patch, located in Campbelltown, stocks the Minto Public School uniform including the school jumper with logo and track pants as well as warm winter jacket options. At the moment, they are having a **20% off sale**. We strongly encourage the wearing of school uniform to promote school pride and to project a whole school image. The school also has a 2nd hand uniform pool if you require additional items for the winter months. The quality of items is excellent. Prices are $5 for a school logo jumper or girl’s tunic dress. All other items are $2, making the uniform pool very affordable. Remember also, the canteen sells leftover pieces of uniform stock from our previous supplier. Please note, not all sizes or pieces are available. Please see the ladies in the canteen or pop up to the office for assistance.

School holiday security

The number for school security is 1300 880 021. If you notice any unusual activity over the school holidays, please call the above number. Alternatively, you can call Macquarie Fields Police on 9605 0499.

CPAHS 2015 Circus Arts Show

On Thursday 11 June, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 attended a performance at CPAHS. We had a wonderful time enjoying the drama, flips and turns of the circus arts show.

What light through yonder window breaks? Is it the east? No, it’s the Extravaganza!

**Extravaganza is coming!**

**WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2015**

1.30 MATINEE

7.00 PM EVENING

More details next term!

Website Update

In keeping with our commitment to deliver great communication to our parents and to most effectively share the fantastic things we do at Minto Public School, we have recently updated the photo gallery and notes on our website.
**Request for 2014 Annual School Report**

The 2014 Annual School Report can be accessed from the school website
www.minto-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. For families that do not have a computer and would like a copy, please use the slip below.

Student's name: _____________________________ (oldest child in family) Class: ___________

- I request a printed copy of the school's 2014 Annual School Report to be sent home with my child.
- I request an electronic copy be emailed to the following address.

Email address: ______________________________________________________________

Signed: ___________________________________     Date: __________

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**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 22 June 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 inquiries please contact Fr Peter 9605 2785.

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**Macarthur CDC’s Social Skills Group**

At Macarthur CDC, children gather in small groups in a fun, innovative and dynamic environment to develop and enhance their social skills and interactions. Our programs are designed for children of all ages and tailored to meet the needs of typically developing children and children with additional needs.

Macarthur CDC’s programs combine structured & specific learning tasks as well as unstructured tasks that allow children to learn in a natural and age appropriate environment.

Advice, support resources and strategies are provided to families to facilitate ongoing learning at home and school.

For more information or to register please visit playnrl.com/programs

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**Holiday Clinics**

**JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC**

**WHEN:** Thursday 2nd July 2015
**WHERE:** Campbelltown Stadium

For more information and to register please visit playnrl.com/programs

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**Quality education and care for children from birth to 6 years!**

**Bow Bowing World of Learning**

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