Dear Parents and Caregivers

School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week

The school community is made up of many different people, all of whom play a part in the running of schools and the provision of quality education to students.

School Administrative and Support Staff, whether they work in the office, the library, on the school grounds or in a classroom setting, are important contributors to the success of the school and children’s education.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our School Administrative and Support Staff for their hard work and dedication to our school.

Annual Wheelchair Push
On Friday 11 September 2015, Paul Nunnari, our local silver medal Paralympian, will be visiting our school and neighbouring schools as part of the Annual Wheelchair Push in support of the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer Macarthur. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation on the day to support this event as it is hoped that enough funds will be raised to create a ‘Golden Lap of Coins’ that if laid end to end would make a lap of the Campbelltown Athletics Stadium.

Minto shines on the field!
On Friday 7 and Friday 14 August, students represented Minto Public School at the Zone athletics carnival. All students displayed dedication and talent when competing in their events. Many students achieved high results. Congratulations to the following students who finished in the top five places of their event:

- Ashleigh T 200m, Junior Relay
- Geneva F 100m, Junior Relay
- Astrid G Junior Relay
- Tia-Rainbow B Junior Relay
- Jayden M 800m

School contributions
Thank you to the families that have already paid the voluntary school contribution. We have received a wonderful $1200.00 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 2015. 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.

Celebrating NAIDOC
On Thursday 20 August, 3/4T and the Indigenous students of Minto Public School went to Ingleburn Public School to celebrate NAIDOC day. We were warmly welcomed by Aunty Murial, followed by a celebratory assembly where we were lucky enough to watch a sacred smoking ceremony performed by Uncle Steven. In recognition of this year’s theme, ‘We Stand on Sacred Ground’, Astrid G, Riley F and Jordan F placed some of our school’s soil into a jar along with the other schools that attended. This was to celebrate a number of schools coming together to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Indigenous people. After the assembly, we spent the day engaging in a variety of activities. We created dot paintings of Australian animals, explored authentic Aboriginal dress, made our very own Aboriginal inspired bracelets and created an Aboriginal artwork for the school using our handprints. We also enjoyed the opportunity to taste some kangaroo, a traditional meal often enjoyed by many Indigenous tribes across Australia.

I enjoyed making the handprint mural. Ms Craze helped me to cover my palm with red paint. I then picked a special place on the canvas to put my handprint. It was really messy but so much fun. - Srawan

My favourite part was trying the kangaroo meat. I thought it had a strong flavour but I really did enjoy it. - Phoebe

I had a lot of fun getting dressed up in the traditional clothes of the Aboriginal people. It was interesting because their clothes are very different to what I usually wear. I loved the necklaces and bracelets that were made from all different Australian sea shells. - Raina

I enjoyed the dot painting. I liked using the colours to make many different interesting patterns on my turtle. – John

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9 (Wed) South Western Sydney Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>6/10 (Tue) Start of Term 4 - students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9 (Fri) Wheelchair Push—gold coin donation (more details to come)</td>
<td>12/10 (Mon) Teen Ranch Camp Yrs 4, 5 &amp; 6 (3 day camp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/9 (Wed) Extravaganza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/9 (Fri) Last day of Term 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In recognition of this year’s theme, ‘We Stand on Sacred Ground’, Astrid G, Riley F and Jordan F placed some of our school’s soil into a jar along with the other schools that attended. This was to celebrate a number of schools coming together to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Indigenous people. After the assembly, we spent the day engaging in a variety of activities. We created dot paintings of Australian animals, explored authentic Aboriginal dress, made our very own Aboriginal inspired bracelets and created an Aboriginal artwork for the school using our handprints. We also enjoyed the opportunity to taste some kangaroo, a traditional meal often enjoyed by many Indigenous tribes across Australia.

I enjoyed making the handprint mural. Ms Craze helped me to cover my palm with red paint. I then picked a special place on the canvas to put my handprint. It was really messy but so much fun. - Srawan

My favourite part was trying the kangaroo meat. I thought it had a strong flavour but I really did enjoy it. - Phoebe

I had a lot of fun getting dressed up in the traditional clothes of the Aboriginal people. It was interesting because their clothes are very different to what I usually wear. I loved the necklaces and bracelets that were made from all different Australian sea shells. - Raina

I enjoyed the dot painting. I liked using the colours to make many different interesting patterns on my turtle. – John

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9 (Wed) South Western Sydney Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>6/10 (Tue) Start of Term 4 - students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9 (Fri) Wheelchair Push—gold coin donation (more details to come)</td>
<td>12/10 (Mon) Teen Ranch Camp Yrs 4, 5 &amp; 6 (3 day camp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/9 (Wed) Extravaganza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/9 (Fri) Last day of Term 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In recognition of this year’s theme, ‘We Stand on Sacred Ground’, Astrid G, Riley F and Jordan F placed some of our school’s soil into a jar along with the other schools that attended. This was to celebrate a number of schools coming together to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Indigenous people. After the assembly, we spent the day engaging in a variety of activities. We created dot paintings of Australian animals, explored authentic Aboriginal dress, made our very own Aboriginal inspired bracelets and created an Aboriginal artwork for the school using our handprints. We also enjoyed the opportunity to taste some kangaroo, a traditional meal often enjoyed by many Indigenous tribes across Australia.

I enjoyed making the handprint mural. Ms Craze helped me to cover my palm with red paint. I then picked a special place on the canvas to put my handprint. It was really messy but so much fun. - Srawan

My favourite part was trying the kangaroo meat. I thought it had a strong flavour but I really did enjoy it. - Phoebe

I had a lot of fun getting dressed up in the traditional clothes of the Aboriginal people. It was interesting because their clothes are very different to what I usually wear. I loved the necklaces and bracelets that were made from all different Australian sea shells. - Raina

I enjoyed the dot painting. I liked using the colours to make many different interesting patterns on my turtle. – John

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9 (Wed) South Western Sydney Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>6/10 (Tue) Start of Term 4 - students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9 (Fri) Wheelchair Push—gold coin donation (more details to come)</td>
<td>12/10 (Mon) Teen Ranch Camp Yrs 4, 5 &amp; 6 (3 day camp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/9 (Wed) Extravaganza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/9 (Fri) Last day of Term 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Planning for a strong future
School Plan 2015 –2017

Minto Public School's School Plan 2015—2017 is available on 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

A little bit more about Strategic Direction 2—Building teacher and leader capacity.

This strategic direction is important because it's about building stronger relationships as an educational community. It involves nurturing our school's culture of collaboration, deep reflection and engaged communication.

The team for this strategic direction have delivered professional learning in the area of the Australian Professional Teaching Standards. The teachers have explored more fully the standards and engaged in activities that involved them reflecting on their own teaching practice and the standards. We have also explored resources in this area on the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (aitsl) website.

Kindergarten enrolments for 2016

Minto PS is currently accepting student enrolments for Kindergarten 2016. 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 2016, 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.

Woolworths Earn and Learn 2015

We are participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. Thank you for your support so far. The sticker sheets have been coming in on a regular basis which is wonderful. We have a box in the school foyer for you to place your completed sticker sheets in. If you shop at Woolworths, we appreciate your support in collecting the ‘Earn and Learn’ stickers for our school. If you have any queries, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Harvey are coordinating this activity.

Elizabeth Macquarie History Writing Competition 2015

A number of students at Minto Public School entered the Elizabeth Macquarie History writing competition. Students could pick from a list of pioneers and other notable Australians and complete a history essay on their person of choice. Three of our students were honoured with awards for their outstanding entries. Dominic S and Sara B were awarded a trophy each for their entries and Iyas B was awarded a medallion for his entry.

The children were invited to Elderslie Public School on Saturday 22 August for an awards ceremony and a re-enactment from Napoleonic Soldiers. Two students attended with Mrs Burt and Miss Johnson to receive their awards. It was an interesting day. Congratulations!

Sydney South West Cricket Team

Congratulations to Shubh (5/6B) for being selected to play in the Sydney South West Cricket Team. We wish you and your team a successful cricket season.

A message from the library ..

The school library is moving to the new department computer system early next term. To enable us to be ready for this change there will be no borrowing between week 9 this term and week 4 in Term 4. If your child has any library books at home, could you please send them back to the library - Mrs Stewart
Awards
Congratulations to the following students who received the following awards.

Bronze
Isla B x2 2Z
Sahil H 1C
Jessica M x2 3/4T
Riley M 4/5M
Christian D KJ
Jude D 2/3E
Jaya S 5/6B
Jake W 3/4T
Tashkin H KJ
Sela B 2Z
Kunal K K/1V
Rayna B K/1V
Shreeya K 4/5M
Sabrina I 2/3E
Rishant P 2/3E
Aislinn B x2 5/6B
Astrid G 3/4T

Silver
Jessica M 3/4T
Ankita J 1C
Sriyanti P 1C
Raina A 3/4T

Whole school assembly
The next whole school assembly will be held on Tuesday 8 September 2015 at 2.30pm. The assembly will be led by 4/5M and include a class item. ICAS certificates will be handed out as well as the bronze, silver and gold awards. Everyone is welcome.

Please note, the assemblies for this term have been moved to Tuesdays to support Dance2BFit and the preparations for the Extravaganza.

A celebration of literacy and books!
Book Week 2015
On Thursday 27 August, Minto PS celebrated Book Week with a colourful parade. Thank you to Mrs Stewart for her organisation of this event. Thank you also to the many parents and friends who shared the morning. I hope everyone enjoyed the costumes. Mrs Stewart was very pleased with the high level of participation. Congratulations to all of the students who won awards for best borrower in their class and best costume in their class! It was fantastic to see so many students and teachers dressed up as their favourite book characters. Book Week is always a special time at Minto Public School, it shows how much we value reading and love books.

NAPLAN results
The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 and 5 was conducted in Term Two. If you have a child in Years 3 or 5, you should have received your child’s NAPLAN results on Wednesday 19 August. If you did not receive them or you would like to discuss your child’s results, please contact Ms Craze. For your information, the NAPLAN has a website that includes some really useful information. For your reference the website address is www.naplan.edu.au

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 2015 is on again! The topic for this year focuses on Indigenous Australians, more specifically, the significance of the Dharawal/Tharawal Group in our area. 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 is supporting students and has prepared a powerpoint for class teachers to show in class. This explains some background history and possible research sites. Mrs Burt is also coordinating with the Ingleburn library for some reference materials to be made available to students. A note has gone home about this competition earlier in the term explaining the topic and entry requirements. The competition entries are due by Friday 19 September 2014.

K/1V walking in ‘their shoes’!
School contributions

At a recent P&C meeting, the P&C members endorsed the voluntary school contributions for 2015. 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. Your support of this request would be greatly appreciated. A flier with more information about this request went home earlier this term.

School Contribution Payment Details.

Please find enclosed the sum $______________________ being for School Contribution.

Child’s name ____________________________ (please print) class __________

OR

Family name _____________________________ (please print)