Dear Parents and Caregivers

Come and ‘Meet the Teacher!’
At Minto Public School we value the opportunity to get to know our families and to strengthen our partnership for the benefit of our students. We have planned a ‘Meet the Teacher’ session for Monday 29 February 2016 from 3.45pm to 5.00pm. All parents and caregivers are warmly invited to attend. We have planned a variety of relevant sessions to share and have included time in your child’s classroom. Come and see what we have planned for 2016! We look forward to seeing you there.

Congratulations Astrid!
It is with pride that I share with our school community the wonderful accomplishment of one of our students, Astrid G. Astrid is a kind, caring and generous individual who is leading the way to support those in our community who might need a helping hand. Her leadership in this area is specifically around an idea Astrid calls ‘Pay it Forward’. It is about coordinating and collecting toy donations from people in the community and giving them to Uniting Care’s Macarthur Brighter Futures service. Astrid has already received hundreds of toys. You may have seen the wonderful article about Astrid in a recent edition of the Macarthur Chronicle. It was here that our local state member, Anoulack Chanthivong MP, heard about Astrid’s generosity and invited her and her family, as well as myself, to his office for a special afternoon tea. Mr Chanthivong presented Astrid with a certificate of recognition. Congratulations Astrid! Look out for a note next week about how Minto Public School students can help too!

Need to chat with your child’s teacher?
Your child’s teacher is always happy to talk to you. As our teachers are usually on class, it is best to phone ahead or send them a note or email to make time for a chat. The best times to phone teachers are before school starts (8.55 - 9.20am), at lunch (11.25 - 12.10pm) or after school.

Contacting your child’s teacher via email is easy, just email the school minto-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au making sure you put the teacher’s name in the subject area.

Come and view 5/6T’s foyer display
We warmly invite you to view our office foyer display. 5/6T has mounted their ‘Identity’ artworks, sharing some of their learning in Human Society and its Environment and Visual Arts. You are more than welcome to pop up to the office to view the new display. Thank you to Miss Tishler and 5/6T.

Calendar

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<tr>
<th>February</th>
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<tr>
<td>22/2—26/2 Swimming Scheme—5 day intensive program for students in Years 2—6</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/2 (Tue) Community of Schools Swimming Carnival—COMPETITORS ONLY</td>
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<td>29/2 (Mon) Meet the Teacher afternoon 3.45—5.00pm</td>
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<th>March</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/3 (Tue) Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>2/3 (Wed) Evacuation Drill</td>
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<td>3/3 (Thur) First Foot Program visit for 5/6T</td>
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<td>4/3 (Fri) Zone Swimming Finals</td>
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<td>7/3 (Mon) GRIP Student Leadership Conference—Captains and SRC</td>
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<td>10/3 (Thur) Year 6 Selective High School Test</td>
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<td>14/3 (Mon) Whole School Assembly, led by 4/5E, including a class item</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/3 (Tue) Area Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>17/3 (Thur) P&amp;C Meeting—6pm in the library. All welcome.</td>
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<td>24/3 (Thur) Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>25/3 (Fri) Good Friday</td>
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<td>28/3 (Mon) Easter Monday</td>
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<td>30/3 (Wed) School Photos</td>
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<th>April</th>
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<tr>
<td>4/4 (Mon) Whole School Assembly, led by 3/4B, including a class item</td>
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<td>7/4 (Thur) Anzac Day Ceremony</td>
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<td>8/4 (Fri) Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>26/4 (Tue) Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>27/4 (Wed) Students return for Term 2</td>
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Working together in partnership with our parents and families

Congratulations to the 2016 P&C executive!

The Minto Public School P&C held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and their first general meeting for 2016 on Thursday 11 February.

Congratulations to Mrs Sunita Cheal, P&C President; Mrs Ingrid Dick, P&C Vice President and Mrs Laurie Porter, P&C Vice President. The school and its community values your important contribution in this area. Thank you!

The P&C needs your help!

Unfortunately, the vital roles of P&C Secretary, P&C Treasurer and Canteen Manager were not filled. It is important that these positions are filled at the next general meeting, to be held Thursday 17 March at 6pm, otherwise the P&C will have great difficulty operating effectively this year. I encourage all parents and carers to consider taking on one of these roles. All of the P&C executive work very closely together and are very supported by the other general members. The Federation of the P&C (at State level) also has some fabulous information on their website if you would like to learn more.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful work of the P&C. The school enjoys the benefits of a very supportive P&C and parent body and the students are the beneficiaries. If you are considering any of the executive roles, you are more than welcome to come and see me for a chat to find out more.

P&C meetings are child friendly!

Perhaps you were considering coming to P&C meetings but were unsure about whether you could bring your children? We wanted to clearly communicate that Minto P&C meetings are child friendly! Your child/ren is/are certainly welcome to attend. At meetings, they have a special area to play, read or draw next to where the adults meet. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there!

Canteen menu

At the end of last year we sought the expertise of the Healthy Kids Association to support us in reviewing our school's canteen menu. The feedback and suggestions they have given us have been very valuable. These were discussed at last week’s P&C meeting and changes to our canteen menu will be phased in as current stock runs out. The students in Years 3—6 also had an opportunity to give their thoughts and opinions on healthy foods they might like to see and buy from the canteen. This input was fantastic! Look out for more information in the coming weeks.

Uniform

Second-hand uniforms are available for purchase from the canteen. Requests can be made through the canteen and will be processed as soon as possible, and within 5 school days.

Banking

Student banking this year will be on Tuesdays. Banking recommenced last Tuesday 9 February 2016. Students need to bring in their bankbook on this day which will be collected from each classroom by our banking coordinators. Please enquire at the office if you require additional information.

Anzac Dawn Service 2016

Minto Public School sends representatives to the Ingleburn RSL’s Anzac Day Dawn Service. This tradition was started in 2011 when students from families who usually attend laid a wreath on behalf of our school and its students and families. We would like to extend the opportunity for other students to also know of this valuable learning experience and to possibly represent our school by laying a wreath as part of the ceremony. I request that any interested students and families come and see me for more details. This is very important to ensure your child is included as we pass these student details on to the organising committee at the Ingleburn RSL.

Whole School Assembly

Congratulations and well done to the three student leaders who capably ran the first whole school assembly held Monday 15 February. Thank you to our parents and friends who attended. We appreciate your support of our special school activities. The next whole school assembly will be held Monday 14 March 2016 at 2.30pm. 4/5E will be leading the assembly and sharing a class item. Sports House Captains and Library Monitors will be presented with their badge and, time permitting, the Swimming Carnival ribbons will be presented. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Other Term 1 assembly dates:

- Monday 4 April 2016 at 2.30pm - led by 3/4B, including a class item

School emergency drills

On Wednesday 2 March at 10:45am, 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 revise 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 to leave classrooms, is a continuous ‘whoop whoop’ through our bell system. 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.
K/1T enjoys a great start to the year!

K/1T have settled well into the new school year. We have been very busy setting up our routines for Language, Learning and Literacy (L3) as well as starting Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) sessions. Our year one students have been excellent role models helping the first time Kindergarten students settle into school.

Making numbers in TEN time

Using whisper phones to hear our reading

Independent reading station

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received the following awards.

**Bronze**
- Ella M x 2 3/4B
- Saachi B 1/2T
- Cooper T 3/4M

**Silver**
- Ella M 3/4B
- Shubh K 5/6T
- Sara B 5/6T

Caring for your child’s health and safety

Walking to and from school

As we are at the start of the new school year, it is a great time to remind students of safe travel to school. I ask for your support to discuss with your child/en safe walking along the footpaths and safe crossing of the very busy Pembroke and Redfern Roads. In particular, please ensure you use the Redfern Rd lights to cross the road. Alternatively, you can cross in the designated area at the Redfern Rd and Kent St intersection. Observations made by workmen completing maintenance to Redfern Rd have indicated that we have many parents and carers with their children crossing very unsafely and illegally in the middle of Redfern Rd. I must stress that weaving in and out of traffic and using the island in the middle of Redfern Rd is dangerous and I ask for your cooperation in this matter.

Campbelltown Council is also seeking our support in safe motoring in school zones. The safe conduct of motorists either driving through or parking in school zones is of paramount importance to our local community to ensure the welfare and safety of school children and other pedestrians during starting and finishing times.
**TENNIS COACHING**

- 3-5 Years Pre-School Program
- 5-12 ANZ Hots Shots
- 10 Years + Junior Development Program
- Adult Social Tennis
- Junior Competitions and Tournaments
- Private and Group Classes

**JOIN NOW** for terms 1 and 2 and you will receive a FREE Junior Tennis Racquet (Valued at $29.95) Limited Spaces Available.

**NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS AT**
- Bow Bowing Tennis Centre - 10 Carnarvon St, Bow Bowing
- Ingleburn Tennis Centre - Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre

Contact: **RICKY - 0409843403**

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**SRM Plumbing Services**

Licence Plumber

Bathroom plumbing, leaking taps, new installation and handyman maintenance works.
$0 call out fee and
All works guaranteed.
Call: Sanjiv 0416726350

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**Macarthur Children’s Developmental Clinic**

**Speech Pathology**

Now taking enrolments for preschool and school aged children in our clinic.

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL!**

To make a booking please contact:
Macarthur Children’s Developmental Clinic on 4648 0837

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Kinder learning to write their name in Literacy groups (above photo) and

K/1T developing a number line (opposite photo)