Dear parent/caregiver

Term 4 Week 3

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Last week, four of our students represented Minchinbury PS at the District Public Speaking Competition at Eastern Creek PS. Brittany Ford 3/4D, Brooke Pauley 4V, Emma Jurd 5/6J and Dylan Betham 6M all presented their speeches to a panel of judges. Brittany and Brooke both won the Year 3 and Year 4 competitions. Dylan won the Year 6 competition and Emma put in a phenomenal effort but unfortunately was pipped at the post by Maniah Betham (ex Minchinbury) who is in Year 5 at Colyton PS. This outstanding performance meant that Minchinbury were the Stage 2 winners and we were named overall champion school for the third year in a row! This is a marvellous achievement, one of which we are very proud. Congratulations to our wonderful speakers! Bravo!

Sporting Legend
Congratulations to Beatrice Collard who attended the State Athletics Carnival last week representing Western Sydney Region. Beatrice came first in the heat of the girls 800m and went on to the finals where she came second. A brilliant effort! Beatrice will now go to the national carnival representing NSW later in the term. Well done, Beatrice!

Classroom Construction
The construction of our new classrooms is well underway. Lots of earthmoving has taken place and they are currently drilling holes in preparation for concrete piers to be poured.

Band Auditions
Try outs for the school concert band for students in Years 2 - 4 will be held on Monday 9 November. An information session for parents will be held on Monday 23 November starting at 6.00pm in the library. If you are interested in having your child learn an instrument and join the band in 2010, please contact Mrs Anderson.

School Self-Evaluation
The first meeting of the self-evaluation committee will be Monday 9 November at 3.15pm in the library. We will be looking at various areas for evaluation and gathering data on our performance in these areas so that we can develop targets to achieve in 2010. If you are interested in participating in this committee please complete the Expression of Interest slip and return to the office by Friday 6 November.

Minchinbury PS

Student Enrolment in 2010
Thank you to those parents who have returned their enrolment intentions for next year to the school. If you haven’t done so, please complete the yellow form and return it to school this week. Reminders will be sent home for those whose intentions are still not known.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop will open every Tuesday in Term 4 from 3 November to 24 November inclusive. It will be closed on 1 December as it is the end of the school’s financial year and money cannot be receipted on this day. It will then be open on 3, 8 and 15 December. On Thursday 3 December the shop will be open all day to accommodate new Kinder parents as they attend the orientation program.

P&C Meeting
The P&C held their last meeting on Wednesday 4 November. At this meeting we discussed the fundraising for the term, construction within the school, possible leasing of the school canteen in 2010 and aspirations of the school community. The last meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday 2 December starting at 7.00pm. We hope you will be able to attend all or some of our meetings in future.

Year 6 Talent Quest
This Wednesday our talented Year 6 provided entertainment for the school. Congratulations to all participants and special congratulations to Tyler Moody who was the winner.

NAPLAN Parent Website
In May 2009, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 completed the second National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy. The 2009 NAPLAN test results were released nationally on 11 September. Reports to parents and caregivers were dispatched from schools in the week beginning 14 September.

To facilitate access to NAPLAN information for parents of NSW school students, a new website www.naplanforparentsnsw.com.au has been developed. In addition to general information about NAPLAN, this website contains documents to assist parents in understanding the student report and the NAPLAN reporting scales. Parents are also invited to provide feedback on NAPLAN reporting by completing an online survey.

Nominations for the Position of School Captain or Prefect
Nominations for these positions will begin this term. To be considered for the position of School Captain or Prefect, Year 5 students MUST have achieved a minimum of the SILVER AWARD and:

Minchinbury PS

A great school….. close to home!
1. Be a respectful, safe learner;
2. Be seen as a positive role model for other students. This includes wearing school uniform;
3. Show initiative;
4. Be trustworthy and reliable;
5. Be well organised and able to follow directions;
6. Be able to work cooperatively as a member of a team;
7. Look after the school environment;
8. Treat others with respect;
9. Demonstrate good sportsmanship;
10. Speak confidently in public; and
11. Seek to help others.

It should be noted that a student issued with a Yellow Slip during Year 5 will have his/her eligibility for nomination determined by the Student Welfare Committee.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2010
The school has already received over 70 applications for enrolment for students into Kindergarten in 2010. We have an excellent Kindergarten program and need to establish how many students we can accept next year. It is important to complete enrolment forms as soon as possible so that a place can be reserved for your child. Make sure you have contacted the office so that you and your child don’t miss out on the orientation program that will begin with an information evening for parents on Wednesday 11 November and then visits for new Kinder children that will follow on Thursday – 19, 26 November, and 3 December.

If your child turns five by 31 July 2010, then he/she is eligible to start school next year. Parents are urged to get enrolment forms from the school and complete them now, ready for next year. You might like to share this information with your neighbours. Please contact the office for enrolment forms.

Definitions

**English**

Reflexive and Emphatic Pronouns: are made by adding -self -selves (plural) to the personal pronoun.

He hurt **himself**.

**Himself** is a reflexive pronoun because it refers back to the he which is the subject of the sentence.

*The Premier himself came to visit our school yesterday.*

**Himself** is an emphatic pronoun because it emphasises the noun Premier.

The reflexive/emphatic pronouns are: are:

- Singular: myself yourself himself herself itself
- Plural: ourselves yourselves themselves

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Maths

*Circumference*: the curved edge of a circle

**Circumference**

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**Technology**

*Cell*: is the “box” where a column and a row intersect, in a spreadsheet.

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*Explanation*: Each cell can contain words, a number, or a formula. Each cell has an address, based on the column and row. For example, the cell highlighted above has the address C3.

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**Food for Thought**

"Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you".  

Robert Fulghum

Pauline Baker

Principal

5.11.09

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**Notes Home This Week**

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