Dear parent/caregiver

Term 4 Week 7

With only eight days left at school, we are all very busy. There will be lots happening in those last few days.

**Staffing**
At the end of the year we will be losing some members of our staff. Ms Rendes has been successfully interviewed for the position of assistant principal at Blackheath PS. Mrs Munoz has been teaching at Minchinbury for eight years and has been an exemplary teacher. We are happy for promotion, but will miss her dearly.

Mrs Munoz who has been at Minchinbury for the last 11 years, has gained a transfer to Dalmeny PS starting next year. Mrs Munoz is an outstanding teacher and we congratulate her on her move.

Mrs Bourke will be returning to the school three days per week next year and we are delighted to have her back.

In the baby stakes, Mrs Bell gave birth to a daughter on 12 November and Mrs Sullivan gave birth to a boy on 16 November. Both mums and bubs are doing well.

Mrs Menolotto, our canteen manger, will also be leaving us at the end of the year. We wish happiness in her future endeavours.

**Classroom Construction**
This week the slab for the classrooms was poured. The steel framework has been ordered and delivery should be made by the end of the year. It is anticipated that the framework will go up just after the Christmas break and that brickwork will be well underway when we return next year.

**School Band News**
Thank you to all parents who attended the band information evening on Monday 23 November. All band information books have been handed out to parents who requested a booklet and all application forms are now due in. If you are interested or would like to discuss the matter with Mrs Anderson, please contact the office.

**School Self-Evaluation**
The school self-evaluation committee will continue to meet each Thursday at 3.15pm in the library for the rest of the year. We have identified how learning support is managed within the school and how we are teaching our students to work mathematically as areas for evaluation. We will be gathering data on our performance in these areas so that we can develop targets to achieve in 2010. All interested parents are welcome to attend.

**Library Stocktake**
The library stocktake is well underway. Parents are reminded to begin looking for long-lost library books around the house. Don’t forget to check behind cupboards and under beds for those books that may be in hiding. Students will not be able to borrow books during this period.

**P&C Meeting**
The last meeting of the P&C for 2009 was held last Wednesday evening. The AGM was also held and new office bearers for 2010 were elected. Office Bearers for 2010 are:

- President  Natalie Brownjohn
- Vice President  Kellie Maybury
- Vice President  Sharon Tompsett
- Secretary  Karen Watson
- Treasurer  Shelley Harvey

Many thanks to the previous committee for all of their tireless work in raising funds for projects in our school. Congratulations to the new executive.

**Nominations for the Position of School Captain or Prefect**
Nominations for the position of school captain or prefect in 2009 have now closed. Successful nominees will be provided with information about the election process and the requirements for their campaign.

**Kindergarten Enrolments 2010**
The school has already received over 90 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 continue with visits for new Kinder children on Thursday 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.

**Learn to Swim**
NSW Sport and Recreation are offering the Swimsafe learn to swim program at local pools during the January school holidays. Children from 18 months to 12 years of age are catered for in this program. An information brochure is available at the front office if you are interested.

**Surviving Cyberbullies – What Parents Need to Know.**
With all the media surrounding cyberbullying, you might be wondering how to protect your child.

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Many kids rely on technology for their social life and won’t risk telling you about cyberbullying if they think you’ll restrict their access to the computer or phone. Make it clear you won’t. Also reinforce the **Stop**, **Block**, **Tell** message:

- **Stop**: Tell your child NEVER respond to the bully. Instead, they should take some time out from the conversation to calm down and talk to you.
- **Block**: Block the bully and limit communication to close friends. Keep the evidence but contact the site administrator and ask for the abusive comments to be removed - this will stop your child re-reading and re-living the abuse.
- **Tell**: One of the most effective things you can do is report bullying to the site administrator. Also tell the school principal. Every NSW public school has an anti-bullying plan.

Keep computers and mobiles in an open area of the house and not in kids’ bedrooms. Late night messages – good or bad – don’t allow kids to get enough sleep to function well at school or socially.

Read the full article at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click)

**Definitions**

**English**

*Distributive Pronouns*: point to separate things and therefore are always followed by a singular verb.

*Each* had its wool clipped.

The distributive pronouns are:

*each  either  neither*

**Maths**

*Clockwise*: moving in the same direction as the hands on a clock.

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**Technology**

*Chip (integrated circuit)*: is a tiny piece of silicon with electronic circuits. The chip is the most important part of the computer.

*Explanation*: There are many kinds of chips, most the size of a baby’s fingernail. The CPU chip (Central Processing Unit) is the brains of the computer. Memory (RAM and ROM) also comes in chips.

*Sentence*: "Chips are attached to the circuit board inside the computer."

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**Food for Thought**

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us".

Helen Keller

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Pauline Baker  
Principal

3.12.09

**Notes Home This Week**

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