Dear parent/caregiver

Term 2 Week 1

It is great to be back for another exciting term at Minchinbury PS. This term will be a long and busy one. There are many things happening across the term including an Anzac Day ceremony, performing arts activities, PSSA competition, NAPLAN testing, cross country, excursions and student reports. Please see the attached term planner for details.

Splash for Cash
Congratulations to Aydan Houeis who completed his Splash for Cash challenge on Sunday 11th April. He swam 70 laps of the Olympic Pool at Homebush, which is 3.5km. Aydan raised a total of $1125 for the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children. Thank you to all those who sponsored him. He was able to meet former iron man Guy Leech on the day and have his photo taken with him. Aydan has already said that he is interested in participating next year. A fantastic effort from a community-minded student – well done, Aydan!

School Photos
These were given out to students on Tuesday. If you have any concerns about the photos or would like to order additional copies, please contact the photographers, MSP.

Anzac Day Service
We will be holding an Anzac Day Service on Friday 23 April. Parents are invited to join us at 10.00 am under the COLA where we will remember our past and how our country has been shaped. Students are asked to bring with them some flowers so we can make some floral tributes that will be used during the service and will then be taken to the memorial at Rooty Hill RSL.

Recorder Group
The recorder group will be travelling to Sydney on Tuesday 27 April to rehearse for the performance in the Acacia Concert on Monday 31 May. Details about the day were sent home on Tuesday.

P&C Meeting
The first meeting for this term will be on Wednesday 28 April at 9.15am in the AV room near the library. Members and guests are welcome to attend.

PSSA Competition
Students who were successful in gaining a place on one of our PSSA teams will begin competition on Friday 30 April. Information about requirements was sent home this week.

Soccer Gala Day
The Cottee’s Five-a-Side soccer gala day for Stage 2 students will be held on Tuesday 4 May. Information for players was sent home on Tuesday. Please check these notes for details.

Mothers’ Day Stall
The P&C will be holding a Mothers’ Day stall on Wednesday 5 May. Students will be able to bring in some money to purchase gifts for a range of prices for mums, grandmothers and those special ladies in their lives.

Voluntary Contributions
Thank you to those parents who have paid their voluntary contribution of $25 per student. Those families that have paid will go into a draw for a full winter uniform and gift pack. This will happen during the morning assembly on Monday 3 May. Last minute payments can still be made at the office. We appreciate your support.

Active After-school Communities
This term Mrs Charlton and Miss Terrazzolo will be running the Active After-school Communities program. This program will be operating on Thursdays and Fridays this term for Stage 2 students commencing at 3.15pm and finishing at 4.15pm. Places are still available on both days so if you are interested in participating please complete the permission note and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop will open every second week on odd weeks during Terms 2 and 3. It will be open again next on Tuesday 5 May.

Music Message
Students who have music classes with Mrs Anderson need to have their recorders for instruction this term. All recorders that were ordered last term have arrived. Students are ready for use during their classes with Mrs Anderson. To participate successfully in these classes, all students need to have a recorder as soon as possible.

NAPLAN Testing
The NAPLAN 2010 Tests for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held from Tuesday 11 May to Thursday 13 May 2010. For more information and test samples, see www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html

Walk Safely to School Day
Friday 7 May 2010 is Walk Safely to School Day. On this day the Pedestrian Council of Australia is encouraging all primary school students to walk with their parents and carers to school to promote road safety, and individual and environmental health. Key road safety messages that this event promotes are:

• Hold a grown up’s hand when crossing the road.
• Hold a grown up’s hand when you’re on the footpath.
• Use a safe place to cross the road.
• Stop! Look! Listen! Think! every time you cross the road.

Walk Safely to School Day also enables the promotion of walking as a regular form of physical activity and an opportunity to raise awareness about the benefits of reduced traffic on our roads, particularly around schools.

Minchinbury Public School

A great school…… close to home!
Education Tax Refund
If you receive the Family Tax Benefit you may be entitled to claim a tax refund of up to 50 per cent off eligible expenses for your child’s education for items such as stationery, computers, printers, Internet and educational software. Find out more at: www.ato.gov.au

Positive Parenting Podcast
Listen to James O’Loghlin interview Professor Matt Sanders with practical tips that parents can use to help their children get on well at school, interact with others, and have the emotional, behavioural, and social skills they need to do well in life. Podcast can be heard at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezine/yr2010/issue01/l_parenting/index_t.php

Tips for Parenting Tweens (9 to 14 year olds)
Simple things you can do right now:
• sit together at mealtimes - there is a lot of evidence that shows this is powerfully protective for kids in modelling good behaviour and giving them a sense of belonging.
• know what your kids are up to with their friends and online
• encourage activities outside of school run by trusted adults
• go to school parent open-days, and other events and functions
• provide clear and consistent ground rules for behaviour
• undertake a parenting program or read books on parenting this age group.
More advice about Tweens at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolparents

Maths
Compass points: the main points are north, south, east and west. Other points are north-east, south-east, south-west and north-west. Additional points are north-north-east, east-north-east, east-south-east, south-south-east, south-south-west, west-south-west, west-north-west and north-north-west.

Technology
Gigabyte: a unit of measure equal to 1,073,741,824 bytes, which is about one billion bytes. “Giga” means “billion.” Measuring the number of gigabytes tells you how big your hard drive is, by counting billions of bytes.

Notes: Gigabyte is abbreviated as “GB.”

A gigabyte is the same as a thousand megabytes.

When we talk about a gigabyte, we usually refer to it as a billion bytes. However, keep in mind that computers use the binary system (not the decimal system) to work with data. Therefore, a gigabyte really refers to 2 to the power of 30 bytes, which is 1,073,741,824 bytes. (Remember, 2 to the power of 30 is the same as 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2, which equals 1,073,741,824.)

Notes This Fortnight
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 2</th>
<th>Active After-school Communities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>PSSA Training Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>P&amp;C Newsletter</td>
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Definitions

English
Possessive Adjectives: show possession. My in the sentence, This is my book, is a possessive adjective. The possessive adjectives are:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
<th>PLURAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st PERSON (speaking)</td>
<td>my</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd PERSON (spoken to)</td>
<td>your</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd PERSON (spoken about)</td>
<td>his/her</td>
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Possessive adjectives must be with a noun. Possessive adjectives are sometimes called pronoun adjectives or pronominal adjectives.

Food for Thought
“This is the way of peace: Overcome evil with good, falsehood with truth, and hatred with love.”

Peace Pilgrim.

Lest we forget.

Pauline Baker
Principal

ANZAC Day public holiday on Monday 26 April, students return on Tuesday 27 April.