Dear parent/caregiver

Term 2 Week 11

This term has certainly flown. We have just completed the first half of the year. These last few days have been particularly cold and we’re all looking forward to a break. Hopefully the weather will remain fine so that the students can enjoy their holidays.

**Staffing News**

There will be some changes in staff at the beginning of Term 3. Mrs Diane Brisk who works in our office has received a transfer to Claremont Meadows PS. Her happy, smiling face and cheery welcome will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in her new school. Replacing Mrs Brisk will be Mrs Dianne O’Connor.

Mrs Natalie Oxley will be leaving our staff on Tuesday 27 July to take up a teaching position in Frankfurt, Germany for the next 12 months. We wish her and her family a safe trip and a wonderful adventure.

Mrs Elise Berwick (nee Smith) will be returning to school next term in a part-time capacity. She will be working on Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays. Mr Holstein will continue to relieve as Deputy Principal on Mondays and Tuesday and will commence teaching S2H on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Dorothy Rolfe will continue to teach S2H on Monday and Tuesday.

Mr Bruce Noble will be taking over Mrs Oxley’s English as a second language teaching position four days per week. Unfortunately, he will no longer be teaching S2LN. Mrs Leitch will be teaching S2LN from Monday to Thursday inclusive and Mrs Rolfe will teach them on Friday.

**Classroom Construction Update**

Our five new classrooms are ready for us to move into. Over the next few days, the teachers’ and students’ personal effects will be moved into their new rooms in J Block. All Kinder classes and S1T will be housed in the beautiful new classrooms from the first day back of Term 3. The old demountable classrooms will be removed during the holiday break and the grounds restored. There will be some slight changes to playing areas next term. Once all of the grounds have been restored, we hope to be able to re-open the gate at the back of the school for students and parents to use. We’ll keep you posted.

**Kinder Comes to High School**

Our Kindergarten students visited Rooty Hill HS on Tuesday 22 June. The students were able to participate in cooking activities, dance, art and German lessons. They looked like they had a really entertaining morning. Many thanks to both the Kindergarten and high school teachers, as well as the high school students for looking after the Kindies so well.

**P&C Snail Trail**

A huge thank you to all the parents and students who brought in their silver coins for our snail trail. The P&C raised $603.15. The classes with longest trail in each stage were:

- Kinder: KU
- Stage 1: S1N
- Stage 2: S2LN
- Stage 3: S3J

**Combined Band Workshop**

Students from across the region participated in a band workshop last Monday 28 June. High school music students from across the district acted as tutors to mentor band students from many Western Sydney schools to develop their performance skills in preparation for the PULSE and Reach! Performances next term. Thanks to Mrs Anderson and Mrs Booth for organising this event.

**Message Stick**

On Monday 28 June the school held a consultation meeting with members of our Aboriginal community. We discussed the development of personal learning plans for Aboriginal students, the purchase of a second flagpole for the flying of the Aboriginal flag and possible activities to include in our NAIDOC Week celebrations next term. We will be holding a further planning meeting on Wednesday 21 July in the school library at 6.00pm. We would love for other Aboriginal parents or interested members of the community to attend.

**Stage 1 Excursion**

Stage 1 students participated in a wonderful excursion to Belgenny Farm. Despite cold weather in the mornings, they all had a marvellous time. They participated in many interesting activities designed to further their knowledge of how products like milk are created and then transported to shops for sale. Thanks to Miss Terrazzolo for organising this highly worthwhile activity.

**Student Reports**

Students will be taking their reports home with them on Friday 2 July. Please read through them with your child and congratulate them where appropriate. If there are areas for improvement, talk to your child about how they might be able to make changes that would contribute positively to their learning.
NAIDOC Week celebrations 4 – 11 July.
NAIDOC is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the significant contributions of Indigenous Australians. Find out more at www.naidoc.org.au

Lost Property
As we are only a few days left before the end of term, parents are advised to check through the lost property basket and retrieve items of clothing which belong to your child. Please only take your child’s belongings. If your child comes home with another child’s jacket, please return it to school as soon as possible so that it can be returned to its rightful owner. Parents are urged to label all items of clothing belonging to their child.

Definitions

**English**
*Interrogative Adjectives*: ask questions. Which, what and whose are interrogative adjectives in the following sentences:

- Which animal made that sound?
- What make of plane is that?
- Whose friend is waiting?

**Maths**
*Composite number* – a number which has more than two factors (a whole number that divides exactly into another number).

- 10 has factors of 1, 2, 5 and 10.
- 10 I a composite number.

**Technology**
*Memory*: temporary storage space on chips in your computer.

Memory holds programs and data temporarily while you use them RAM is the most important kind of memory, and “memory” usually refers to RAM.

Brain Bender
What goes up but never comes down?
Answer next term.

Last issue’s question:
Why do the inhabitants of Antarctica not hunt Polar Bear as a source of food?
Answer: *Polar bears live in the North Pole not the South Pole!*

Reviews and ratings made easy
Choosing movies, books and games that are suitable for your child is easier now, thanks to some websites which offer parent friendly reviews on all the latest releases. Many of the sites feature reviews and comments written by other parents, with indications of the age-appropriateness of movies, books and digital games. Some even give you “cheat’s” notes so you can have a discussion with your child about the content, without having to wade through the whole book or movie yourself. Read more about parent friendly reviews in the latest issue of *Click a technology guide for parents* at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click

School Vacation
School finishes for students at 3.00 pm on Friday 2 July and resumes on **Tuesday 20 July**.

Food for Thought
‘Be an explorer. The universe is filled with wonder and magical things’.  

Pauline Baker  
Principal  
1.7.10

Notes This Fortnight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes This Fortnight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1 Belgenny Farm Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stages 2 &amp; 3 Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performers Reach Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competitors PSSA Final Payments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School Sport in Schools Australia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minchinbury Public School  
A great school… close to home!