Dear parent/caregiver       Term 2 Week 3

We are slowly seeing the weather getting cooler. It is at this time, that we remind parents to label their child’s winter clothing with their first and last name, as well as their class, so that lost items can be returned. We have a HUGE number of lost items of clothing in our lost property basket. Parents are urged to check this regularly for missing clothing. Each term, unclaimed items are checked for names, returned if possible and then any unidentified piece is washed and sold at our pre-loved clothing stall. Please take this opportunity to search for any lost items before a real cold snap hits.

Dance Camp
Congratulations to the four girls who attended the Western Sydney Region dance camp last week. Tori Wallace, Katie Bartlett, Emily Balzan and Patricia Holt were phenomenal in their participation over the three days. Congratulations to each of them on their outstanding achievement. Of special note is Emily’s selection in the Western Sydney Region Dance Ensemble. Well done, Emily!

P&C Meeting
The first meeting for this term was held on Wednesday 28 April. Issues around homework, fundraising, banking and uniforms were discussed. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2 June at 7.00pm in the staffroom.

Voluntary Contributions
Thank you to those parents who have paid their voluntary contribution of $25 per student. We have raised $3017 out of a possible $14000. Congratulations to Joshua Mould in S2T who was the winner of the lucky draw. Should you wish to pay your school contribution, you can still do so at the office at any time. All contributions will be gratefully received.

Cross Country Carnival
Our cross country carnival was held at school on Monday 3 May for students in Years 3 - 6. It was great to see our students actively participating in this event. Congratulations to our place-getters who will go on to represent our school at the district carnival on Tuesday 18 May. Information regarding the district carnival will be sent home soon. A huge thank you to Ms Zuber and Mr McKenzie for organising this great event. We also appreciate Mr D’s assistance in setting up equipment.

Mothers’ Day Stall
The P&C held their Mothers’ Day stall yesterday. Students purchased some lovely gifts for mums, and grandmothers. Thanks to your support the P&C have raised in excess of $1000 from this activity. They are raising funds for future projects like the installation of blinds in the library and new stage curtains in the hall.

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.

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

Young Writers’ Competition
Entries have been submitted for this wonderful competition. Students were asked to write a narrative based on the topic ‘Our World’. Winners will be announced at the presentation at Rooty Hill HS on Wednesday 19 May. Invitations will be sent home to class winners in the next few days.

Showtime Band Workshop
The first combined band workshop with schools from Western Sydney Region will be held on Thursday 20 May at Minchinbury PS. Mrs Anderson has been sending information home both through notes and emails. These workshops allow for students to develop their performance skills in preparation for a number of upcoming events including the PULSE and Reach! concerts.

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 being finalised so if you are interested in participating please complete the permission note and return it to the school as soon as possible.

School Banking
A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be visiting the school on Tuesday 18 May from 8.30am to assist parents in opening new accounts for students. You can bring your application forms with you, along with your identification documents and the applications will be processed by the bank officer.

Minchinbury Public School       A great school…… close to home!
School-age play and learning
Playing games together helps school-age children learn about fair play, self-control, right and wrong, and getting on with others. It encourages and enhances your child’s development.

After a day at school, though, playtime is really just about having fun! Although TV can help your child rest and relax, current recommendations are to limit TV and computer time to one hour a day.

Ideas for after-school fun:
- Dancing to music
- Board games
- Learning a musical instrument
- Reading illustrated books
- Visiting the library
- Gardening
- Helping with dinner
- Playing an organised sport with a local team
- Visiting the local playground

For more information, visit: www.raisingchildren.net.au/play__learning/school_age_play_learning.html

Late Arrival to School
When students arrive to school in the morning after the bell, prefects distribute late passes to all latecomers. Parents are asked not to ignore prefects or tell them not to issue the passes. They are doing the job they have been asked to do. Please do not speak to them rudely or aggressively. Remember, they are only children. Demonstrate responsible behaviour for your child by graciously accepting the late passes from our prefects who are learning how to be good leaders and responsible citizens.

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Definitions

**English**

**Numeral or Number Adjectives:** describe the number or numerical order of things.

In five geese, eleven players and ten toes, five, eleven and ten are numeral adjectives describing the nouns that follow them. They are called **cardinal** because they state the number.

When we say the fifth boy to finish, fifth is a numeral adjective, too, but it is called **ordinal** because it states in which order the boy finished.

**Maths**

**Compasses (a pair of):** an instrument used to draw circles or arcs.

**Technology**

**Hard disk / hard drive:** is a round, metal platter in the hard drive of the computer; it stores large amounts of information. It has a metal coating. It is sealed into the hard drive and often installed inside the computer where you can’t see it.

Storage of files on the hard drive is permanent until you delete them, as opposed to storage in memory (RAM), which is temporary.

To all our wonderful mums……

**Food for Thought**

‘A mum forgives us all our faults, not to mention one or two we don’t even have’. — Robert Brault

Pauline Baker
Principal

6.5.10