Dear parent/caregiver

Term 3 Week 3

This week is Education Week in NSW. It is a time when government schools open their doors and invite you to join the celebrations around public education. The 2010 theme is *NSW Public Schools - leading the way, learning for sustainability*. The week celebrates and promotes the achievements of students, staff and the Department through local, community, regional and corporate events. We hope you can join us for some of the exciting activities that will be taking place this week and see first hand what makes Minchinbury PS a great school…..close to home!

**Education Week Activities**

This week you will be able to participate in some fantastic activities which showcase the talents of students and staff at our school. Below are events that took place.

- **Tuesday**  
  Athletics Carnival (postponed)
- **Wednesday**  
  Open Day and Art on the Hill
- **Thursday**  
  Back to School Day
- **Friday**  
  Stages 1 & 3 Badge Assemblies

**Primary Athletics Carnival Postponement**

Students in Stages 2 and 3 will now participate in the annual athletics carnival on Wednesday 11 August at Charlie Bali Reserve (Aquilina Reserve) at Doonside. This postponement has been due to Blacktown Council’s closure of sporting grounds. Hopefully the weather will improve and we will see students competing in track and field events.

**Open Day**

Thank you to the many parents who visited the school on Open Day. Students and teachers shared their classrooms with parents in the morning and this was followed by morning tea with the students. It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents visiting the school.

**Back to School Day**

Thank you to all the parents who took part in back to school day. There were 31 fabulous parents in the class of 2010. Our parent-students were taught lessons in handwriting, technology, reading, maths and anti bullying. They were mostly well behaved and many of them demonstrated how to be respectful, safe learners. Some of the positive comments made by parents included:

- “It was very educational and informative”
- “It’s great to get a taste of how the children are learning”
- “Just a wonderful day!”
- “It was a great success. I really enjoyed it”.

Many thanks to Mrs Bartlett, Mr Holstien, Mrs Lietch, Mrs Umback, Mrs Jamieson and Mrs Charlton who taught our curious and enthusiastic parents. The day was so successful we will look at making it an annual event.

**Stages 1 and 3 Badge Assemblies**

Badges will be presented to Stage 1 and 3 students on Friday 6 August. Invitations to attend these assemblies have been sent home.

**P&C Meeting**

The next meeting of the P&C Association was held on Wednesday 4 August (Education Week). Thank you to those parents who attended and shared their ideas and thoughts. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 1 September. We would love to see lots of parents attend.

**Art on the Hill**

On Wednesday, 4 August, our creative students had their artworks on display at Rooty Hill High School as a part of the Learning Neighbourhood Art on the Hill initiative. Lots of parents, relatives and friends attended the art show and voted for their favourite artwork in the People’s Choice Awards. Our overall school winner was Mikey Zamora in S1BH. Aila Khan from KP won a Hangers’ Quality Award and Jessica Salanga in S1GL won a People’s Choice Award. Congratulations to all award winners.

**NSW Cricket Visit**

NSW Cricket will be visiting the school on Tuesday 10 August. They will be teaching cricket skills to Stage 2 students in free workshops.

**Combined Band Workshop**

Students from across the region will be participating in a band workshop on Monday 16 August. High school music students from across the district will act as tutors, mentoring band students from many Western Sydney schools to develop their performance skills in preparation for the PULSE and Reach! Performances this term. Thanks to Mrs Anderson and Mrs Booth for organising this event.

**Choir Rehearsals**

Students in the Reach choir will be attending a rehearsal at Eastern Creek PS in preparation for their upcoming concert this term.

**Kindergarten Enrolments 2011**

We are currently seeking enrolments of students into Kindergarten in 2011. 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 early so that a place can be reserved for your child.

If your child turns five by 31 July 2011, 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.
Avoid spam
Spam is the computer version of junk mail. Help your child avoid getting spam by reminding them to:

- Be wary of who they give their email address out to.
- Avoid posting their email address in chat rooms or on social networking sites – they might know those in the group, but they won’t necessarily know who else has access.

More great tips at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click

Gateway to sport
There are many benefits to participation in sport, from improved fitness and reduced risk of obesity, cardiovascular disease and diabetes, to improved mental health and self-confidence.

If your child is looking to get fit and active, there is now a quick and easy way to access information about sporting activities and clubs. 'Gateway to Sport' offers a one-stop-shop for information on more than 70 popular sports in NSW – from rugby league to swimming. See www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/gatewaytosport.

Definitions

| English
Adjectives and Degree: most adjectives show what is called degree. Degree tells us how much more or less. There are three degrees: |
| POSITIVE | COMPARATIVE | SUPERLATIVE |
| big | bigger | biggest |

Big is the first, bigger is the second and biggest is third. Many adjectives take this form to show degree. Here are others.

| POSITIVE | COMPARATIVE | SUPERLATIVE |
| strong | stronger | strongest |
| soft | softer | softest |
| green | greener | greenest |

Maths
Cone – a 3D (three-dimensional) object that has a circular base and one vertex (the point where two or more straight lines meet).

Technology
Network: is a number of computers connected together to share information and hardware. A Local Area Network (LAN) is small, perhaps a few computers sharing a printer. A Wide Area Network (WAN) is large, with many computers linked between towns and countries. The Internet is a network of networks that circles the globe.

Notes This Fortnight

| Stages 2 & 3 | Athletics Carnival |
| Stage 3 | Student Behaviour |
| Performers | Reach Concert |
| Competitors | PSSA Final Payments |
| Whole School | Sport in Schools Australia |

Brain Bender

This fortnight’s question:

Which is the odd one out?

February, July, November, December

Answer next issue.

Last issue’s question:

How many times can you multiply 7 by 77?

Answer: Once. After multiplying once, 77 will become 539.

Food for Thought

"Get over the idea that only children should spend their time in study. Be a student so long as you still have something to learn, and this will mean all your life".  

Henry L. Doherty