Dear parent/caregiver  Term 3 Week 5

Recently we have noticed an increase in the number of students bringing canned soft drinks to school to drink either before school starts or to have later in the day. We encourage parents to monitor the types of drinks children are bringing to school and ensure that healthy alternatives to these high sugar and caffeine loaded drinks are kept to a minimum. Energy drinks are quite dangerous for young children and can have a harmful effect on them physically as well as their learning.

Primary Athletics Carnival Postponement
Students in Stages 2 and 3 will now participate in the annual athletics carnival on Monday 23 August at Charlie Bali Reserve (Aquilina Reserve) at Doonside. This postponement is the result of police investigations at the grounds. Hopefully there will be no further delays in our carnival taking place.

Back to School Day
Our ‘Back to School Day’ initiative proved to be highly successful and some information about the day has been placed on the DET website in the Western Sydney gallery of photos from Education Week. Photos from the day will be available for viewing on our school website shortly.

Bridges to Understanding
On Monday 9 August, some of our talented musicians participated in the Bridges to Understanding Concert at Sydney Town Hall. Congratulations to Caitlin Bradley who was a member of the WSR Band and Dean Clark who was in the WSR Drumming Ensemble. Their performances were stunning. Congratulations also to some of our ex-students – Nicholas Bradbury, Daniel Palombo and Rhys Smith – who also performed.

P&C Meeting
The next meeting of the P&C Association will be held on Wednesday 1 September at 7.00pm in the staffroom. At this meeting we will be looking at the 2009 Annual School Report that has just been published. Copies will be available from the office upon request and the report will be posted on the school’s website.

NSW Cricket Visit
NSW Cricket visited Stage 2 students on Tuesday 10 August. Despite the wet weather, the students participated in a range of skills development activities led by up and coming cricketers. Perhaps one of our students is a potential Michael Clark or Ricky Ponting.

Combined Band Workshop
The band workshops held on Monday 16 August were once again very successful. High school music students from across the district tutored, mentored band students from many Western Sydney schools in preparation for the PULSE and Reach! performances later in the term. Thanks to Mrs Anderson and Mrs Booth for organising this event.

Choir Rehearsal
Choir members attended a rehearsal at Eastern Creek PS on Wednesday 18 August. Mrs Guerin has said that it was a highly successful event and the students are sounding wonderful. We can’t wait to hear them in the Reach! Concert at Rooty Hill HS on September 7 and 8.

Dance Ensemble Rehearsal
Members of the Dance Ensemble will participate in another rehearsal on Friday 20 August. They are preparing for the Reach! Concert too.

Book Week
Next week is Book Week. During this week the Book Council of Australia announces this year’s Book of the Year winners. We will celebrate this event with an author visit for K-2 students on Tuesday 24 August and a ‘Book Character Dress-Up Day’ K - 6 on Wednesday 25 August. Students are encouraged to come dressed as a favourite book character on this day.

The Book Fair will also be held this week and students will be able to purchase books for themselves as well as donate a book to the library. Parents are reminded that the ‘Wish List’ that students might bring home for the Book Fair is for them to talk to their parents about possibly purchasing. It is not mandatory to purchase a book.

P&C Fathers’ Day Stall
The P&C will be holding its annual Fathers’ Day stall on Wednesday 1 September. There will be lots of gift ideas for dads and granddads available ranging in price from 50c to $6.00.

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.

Stay Safe Using Webcams
Web cameras allow other people to see what you are doing, where you are, and what you look like. What should you be aware of if your child is using a webcam?

- Do you know when a webcam is being used?
- Do you know who your children are talking to?
- Can you disconnect the webcam or securely turn it off?
- Can you control access to the camera through a password?

Minchinbury Public School  A great school….. close to home!
Sleeping

When children sleep well they will be more settled, happy and ready for school the next day. Children aged six to nine need **10-11 hours sleep a night**. They are usually tired after school and might look forward to bedtime from about 7.30 pm. A bedtime routine is very important at this age. It helps your child wind down from the day. Keep the bedroom dark, cool and quiet so that your child can drift off easily. A bedtime routine might look like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Routine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.30 pm</td>
<td>Put on pyjamas, brush teeth, go to the toilet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Quiet time in the bedroom with a book and a bedtime story or quiet chat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.15 pm</td>
<td>Goodnight and lights out!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Definitions

**English**

*Adjectives and Degree:* Some adjectives seem clumsy if you add *-er* or *-est*. They form their comparative and superlative forms with the adverbs *more* or *most*, like these:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>COMPARATIVE</th>
<th>SUPERLATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td>more beautiful</td>
<td>most beautiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>delicate</td>
<td>more delicate</td>
<td>most delicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reliable</td>
<td>more reliable</td>
<td>most reliable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other adjectives have irregular forms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>COMPARATIVE</th>
<th>SUPERLATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>better</td>
<td>best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>many</td>
<td>more</td>
<td>most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>little</td>
<td>less</td>
<td>least</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>worse</td>
<td>worst</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maths**

*Congruent* – having exactly the same size and shape.

![These triangles are congruent.](image)

### Technology

*Peripheral:* is a hardware device that is connected to a computer, sometimes by a cable. Keyboards and mice are peripherals that help us ‘input’ information. Printers and monitors are peripherals that ‘output’ information.

### Notes This Fortnight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Homework</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stages 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>Real Men read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>Book Week dress-Up Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>Sport in Schools Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>Talk to A Literacy Learner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>Tree Day Plant Allocation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Brain Bender

This fortnight’s question:

Which letter is missing?

M __ W T F S S

Answer next issue.

Last issue’s question:

Which is the odd one out?

February, July, November, December

Answer: *July* – all the others have 8 letters.

### Food for Thought

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go." — Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

Pauline Baker

19.8.10