Dear parent/caregiver

Term 1 Week 8

There are only three more weeks of school until the end of term. It has been a very busy term and students have been engaged in many different activities. The next few weeks will see Stage 1 and 2 go on a few different excursions, parent –teacher interviews, the cross country carnival as well as the K-2 Easter Parade.

P&C Meeting
At the last meeting of the P&C on Wednesday 9 March the remaining vacant positions were filled.

Vice President Kellie Maybury
Secretary Karen Watson

The members present worked out the fundraising schedule for the year. The first major event will be the Easter raffle. Information and raffle tickets will be sent home soon.

District Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all our competitors who helped Minchinbury PS win its fifth straight carnival in a row. Well done, everyone!

Schools Clean Up Day
Many thanks to our eager students who did a great job on our Schools Clean Up Day on Monday 7 March. The school is really looking good. Thanks to Mrs Pears and Mrs Charlton for organising the event.

Harmony Day
Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March each year. It's a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation’s International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The continuing message for Harmony Day in 2011 is that “Everyone Belongs”, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It’s a time to reflect on where Australia has come from, recognising the traditional owners of this land. It’s also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect – celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live.

Our school will celebrate Harmony Day on Friday 18 March. Students are encouraged to wear something orange – the colour of harmony, on this day.

School Photos
MSP will be back on Thursday 24 March to take our school photos. Information has been sent home about the price of photo packages. Please don’t send any money in until Thursday. The photographers will collect all money directly from students.

Voluntary Contributions
Each year the school receives a grant to pay for a range of classroom equipment which students use. These include things like paper, exercise books, pencils, scissors and other consumable materials. The amount we receive works out to be approximately $50 per student. This is not a lot of money for each student and does not provide for additional resources like library books, computer equipment and software, sporting equipment, and other resources we regularly use. Information has been sent home regarding voluntary school contributions. Contributions are $30 per child. Please send your voluntary contribution as soon as possible and be eligible for an entry into the prize draw. We rely on this support from our school community to assist with purchasing resources for our students and making our learning environment exciting and inviting for everyone.

School Diaries
The remaining school diaries are now being offered to interested students in Stage 1. There are only a few left, so it will be first in, best dressed.

Facebook and Your Child’s Privacy
Some tips:
- Children must be 13 years old to be using Facebook as per Facebook terms and conditions of use.
- Google your child's name, then search for them on Facebook. See who has access to what information.
- Make sure your child sets their privacy options so only genuine friends can find them on Facebook. The new privacy settings aren't as complicated as before.
- Having hundreds of Facebook friends isn't proof of popularity.
- What goes on Facebook can become public and permanent - the good, the bad and the soul-destroyingly embarrassing.
- Future employers will probably look for your child's name on Google and Facebook.

Minchinbury PS
Brain Bender
This fortnight’s question:

What has four legs, a tail, eats cat food and sees equally well from both ends?

Answer next issue.

Last issue’s question:
If a clock chimes once every 15 minutes, how many times will it chime between 1pm and 7pm?

Answer: 25 times

Definitions

**English**

Person: A pronoun has different forms depending on its **person**. There are **three persons**. They are:

- **First Person**: This refers to who is speaking eg I (singular), we (plural)
- **Second Person**: This refers to the person being spoken to eg you.
- **Third Person** refers to the person being spoken about eg them, theirs.

If the subject of a sentence is in the first person, the verb must be in the first person form eg

\[ I \text{ like ice cream} \]

If the subject is third person, the verb must be in the third person form eg

\[ \text{He likes ice cream} \]

The verb and the subject noun or pronoun must match.

**Maths**

**Deca**: a prefix meaning ten (10)

- **Decagon** – a ten-sided figure
- **Decade** – ten years

Technology

**AGP (Accelerated Graphics Port)**: is a 32-bit connection running at 66MHz used to connect video cards to the motherboard. Video cards are also known as graphic cards. AGP cards are capable of higher and faster data transfer rates than PCI graphic cards. They connect the monitor to your computer. The AGP card and your monitor are what determine the quality of your screen's display.

Useful Websites for Parents


This is the website for the NSW Board of Studies. At this site you can find **A Parents’ Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabuses**. The guide aims to help parents follow their child’s early learning. In it you will find some examples of the kinds of things children can learn in each of the key learning areas in each stage of primary school.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

This week’s target is:

‘Move safely around the school.’

As there are lots of students in the playground at recess and lunch, students are asked to move safely around the school. This means they should be aware of the personal space of others and try to move in and between other students in a way that will minimize accidents. Walking is always good.
**Food for Thought**
“A friend is someone who understands your past, believes in your future, and accepts you just the way you are.” ~ Anon

Have a great week!

Pauline Baker 17.3.11
Principal