



*Learning for Life*

# MINERVA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

PO Box 614 SUTHERLAND NSW 1499 Telephone: 9521 3433 Fax: 9545 3316 E-mail: [minerva-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:minerva-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
WEBSITE: [www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## DATES TO REMEMBER 2010

### TERM 3

**Friday 3 September**  
Fathers' Day Raffle drawn.

**Monday 6 September**  
P&C Meeting 7pm in the Staffroom.

**Friday 17 September**  
P&C Disco & Pizza Night  
FREE event!

**Wednesday  
22 September**  
Open Night Performance

**Friday 24 September**  
Last day of Term 3, 2010.

### TERM 4

**Monday 11 October**  
Students return for the first day of Term 4, 2010.

**Tuesday 7 December**  
Presentation Day

**Thursday 9 December**  
Year 12 Farewell Dinner

**Wednesday 15 December**  
Last day of school for students, for 2010.

### Please note:

Thursday 16 & Friday 17 December  
are Pupil Free days.

## CONGRATULATIONS MICHELLE COONEY



### *Michelle with her sponsors Keith Garelja & Wayne Weisse from Adobe Systems*

From a field of 220 highly talented and dedicated professionals from across New South Wales Michelle Cooney has been awarded one of the 25 highly sought after '**Premier's Teacher Scholarships**'.

Michelle was the successful recipient of the '**2010 Premier's Adobe Information and Communication Technologies Scholarship**'. Adobe Systems have demonstrated their commitment to our teachers, students and the broader community. Their generosity and support is about helping to make our best teachers world leaders in their field.

Michelle will be embarking on a research study tour exploring the use of interactive technology in special needs classrooms. She will be examining software packages, applications, programs and innovative pedagogy utilized by a wide variety of special needs schools in the United States, Ireland, Scotland, England and Dubai.

Congratulations Michelle on your outstanding achievement. We wish you a successful tour and look forward to your return in 2011 to in-service and share your knowledge with the students and staff of Minerva.



**Premier of NSW  
Kristina Keneally MP**



**Premier of NSW Kristina Keneally & Minister of Education & Training Verity Firth**



**Education  
& Training**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Thank you to Rotary Club of Sutherland

Tracey Gocher and I were recently invited to attend the 52<sup>nd</sup> Changeover Dinner for the **Rotary Club of Sutherland** at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre. On the night we were presented with a generous donation of \$1000 for our school. On behalf of the Minerva School community I would like to say thankyou for your generous donation and continued support of our school.

### Michelle Cooney

What more can I say except **Congratulations on your Premiers Scholarship!** An outstanding result.

### Welcome

Welcome to our newest member of staff; Sharon Gutteridge who joined Minerva at the beginning of Term 3. Sharon is the School Learning Support Officer in class JR.

### Dragon's Teeth Markings

The RTA have informed us that we are set to have the Dragon's Teeth Markings painted at the beginning of our school zones within the next two months. Dragon's Teeth help to further increase the visibility of school zones for motorists and provide a constant reinforcement to slow down to 40kmh around schools between 8am and from 2.30pm till 4pm. Hopefully there will be minimal disruption while installation is occurring. For further enquiries you can go to [www.rta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au)

### NSW Rural Fire Service

A timely reminder as summer approaches. A new electronic newsletter called Firewise eNews was launched in August as a tool to assist the community to identify ways to protect themselves, their family, pets and their property from the impacts of fire. Families are invited to subscribe to this e-newsletter to learn what to do before, during and after a fire. Subscribing can be done simply and easily by visiting the RFS website [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) and following the links.

### Minerva Open Night

As you would be aware from the recent invitation you received this week, the students and staff are hosting an open night on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**, to showcase our students' talents in performing arts and open the school to all our families, friends and carers to come and take a look around and to see what is and has been happening at Minerva over the last sixteen months. The staff and students are very excited about the upcoming event and hope that you will be able to attend on the night. It promises to be a great evening.

**Congratulations**  
To Larna, - A Principal's Star of the Week  
Award winner.

Regards

**Fiona Young —Principal**



## SWIM SCHOOL



Minerva students greatly improved their swimming skills during an enjoyable two week DET Intensive Swimming program at the Sutherland Leisure Centre.

## ART CLASS



Class JR showing their beautiful "Field of Flowers" paintings.

## CLASS JR

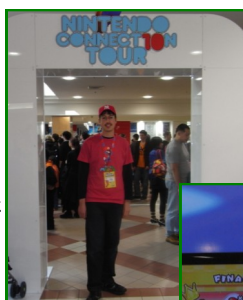
Class JR met some fabulous visitors to Sydney during a recent city excursion.



## NINTENDO TOURNAMENT

Alexander, a Year 12 student at Minerva competed in The Nintendo International Connection Tournament at Hurstville on Saturday 14 July 2010 and made it as far as the semi finals.

Then on Sunday 15 July 2010 he was in the team challenge with his brother Robert and went as far as the quarter finals.





## HOME ECONOMICS

Jay from class C with his garden harvest, of beetroot, lettuce and rocket.



Master chef Luke undertaking the healthy cooking challenge. He has prepared a chicken and salad wrap, including fresh garden produce.

## CLASS M

Luke, Sebi, James, Tyler & James are really enjoying their Tuesday afternoon Karate lessons!



## CLASS D



Class D have been working very hard during the term to earn their rewards. Cooperation, tolerance and friendly behaviour are areas of focus.

Here is Annaliese, Holly, Jacob, Stefanos, Mason and Brandon sharing and celebrating Keegan's 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

## CLASS N with Miss Laura



Class N enjoyed their art lesson in the sunshine!

## CLASS G

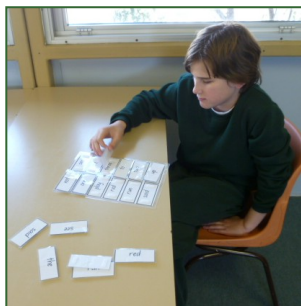


Class G with their very creative pictures of Uluru.

We used crepe paper for the rock, cotton wool for the clouds and real grass for the shrubs!



## CLASS A



Jonathon has enjoyed working on his list words.  
Mal is proud of his achievements in swimming.



## CLASS C



Alexander and Luke are sitting under our classroom 'Natural Environment' tree.

They are holding up their computer art showing how we can help be friendly to our Environment



Larna's computer art on not littering.

Shannon's computer art about using the correct coloured bins.



## CLASS T



We farewelled a much loved member of class T this month – Joshua.



We wish Josh all the best.!



**MINERVA SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION**

Next meeting to be held on

**MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2010**

(Week 8 Term 3)

7.00pm

Hello Everyone,

Here are some upcoming events to put on your calendar.

**Fathers' Day Raffle**—Tickets will be sent home soon to be sold and the Raffle will be drawn on Friday 3 September 2010 at school assembly.

**P&C Disco & Pizza Night**—This will be put on by the P&C Association on Friday 17 September 2010, so keep this date free and come along and join in the fun with dancing and pizza.

All students, siblings and family members will be welcome however, there must be at least one parent or carer present to supervise their child. This will be a FREE event and more information will be sent home closer to the date.

**P&C Survey**—There will be a survey going home soon to families to help re-schedule the monthly P&C Meetings. Please assist us by completing the form and returning it back to school promptly.

**Year 12 Students**—These students who are in their final year of education at Minerva School, have just received their 2010 personalised jerseys from the P&C—and they are loving them!



These jerseys are a memento of the culmination of their years at Minerva, so all students can look forward to their own jersey when they reach Year 12.

**Congratulations**—And finally, Congratulations to our new Principal Mrs Fiona Young! We look forward to continuing our work with you at Minerva School.

Thank you

**Jay Hernandez**

If you are reading  
a paper copy of this Newsletter,  
remember, it is also available on the  
School's website;

[www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**PARENT LINE NSW**

Free professional telephone  
counselling service available  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
[www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au)

**Dyslexia Support Group****Do you have a child with Dyslexia?**

Do you want to meet other families who are in a similar situation?

The Dyslexia Support Group for the Sutherland Shire and St George area is a forum where parents can talk, exchange ideas, information, resources and experiences with other parents. This support group keeps in contact via email, phone and meeting over coffee on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at a café in Sutherland.

If you are interested as a parent or as professional in attending the meetings or going on the email list please call

Paula Goulden on 9528 4638 or  
email [psgoulden@tpg.com.au](mailto:psgoulden@tpg.com.au)