



Learning for Life

Week 10 Term 3 2011

MINERVA SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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WEBSITE: www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

DATES TO REMEMBER 2011

Friday 23 September
Last day of Term 3

Monday 10 October
Students return
for Term 4

Friday 16 December
Students last day of
school for 2011

**Monday 19 & Tuesday 20
December**
Pupil free days.

2012

Friday 27 January
Pupil Free Day

Monday 30 January
Students' first day of
school for Term 1.

Thursday 5 April
Last day of Term 1.

MINERVA 2 MELBOURNE

3 boys, 3 bikes, 1000km's...

Launch Day

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24 2011

@

Minerva School
Eton Street Sutherland



Minerva to Melbourne – Geoff Tunks, a teacher at Minerva Special School and two of his mates are cycling approximately 1000km's to raise money for Minerva School and The Carty Boys Foundation.

CAN YOU HELP?

If you can contribute in any way call
Minerva School on 95213439

For online donations go to
www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
and click on
MINERVA2MELBOURNE



**On Saturday 24th, September, 2011,
Mr Geoff leaves on his bike ride from
Minerva 2 Melbourne.**

**If you would like to follow his daily adventures
during the holidays
you can follow him on his blog:**

minerva2melbourne.posterous.com

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

CONGRATULATIONS



We are very excited to announce that Tracey Gocher has received a National Excellence in Teaching Award from the NEITA FOUNDATION. The NEITA Foundation recognises teachers and leaders whose inspirational

approach to education stimulates student learning. Tracey has been chosen as a recipient from a field of thousands of teachers in NSW. What an amazing achievement! Congratulations Tracey.

OPEN NIGHT

Exceptional', 'fantastic', 'inspirational', are just some of the many positive comments we have received from parents and community members following another successful Open Night. Once again our very talented Ms Michelle and Music genius Mr K along with the support of our dedicated staff have provided our students with an opportunity to showcase their creative talents and abilities.

Thank you also to those who donated to our bookstall. Our librarian Jenny Marshall received over \$450 dollars worth of books for our new library. To our fabulous P&C who provided and served supper to around 150 visitors, THANK YOU for helping our student's night to be a huge success. We couldn't have done it without you.

P&C

Our wonderful P&C have done it again with the very successful Fathers Day stall and raffle. it was a fantastic and a huge success. Hopefully the students were able to contain their excitement enough when they arrived home to hide their presents until Father's Day!

DONATION

On behalf of the students, staff and parents of Minerva I would like to say a very big thank you to our friends at COMO - JANNALI ROTARY who recently donated \$3,000 to our school. This money has been targeted to purchase new equipment for the sensory room.

WELCOME

Next term we welcome Katrina Shacallis to our school executive. Katrina will be taking up the position of Assistant Principal.

MATERNITY LEAVE

Good luck and best wishes to Ms Ursula who is taking maternity leave for the remainder of the year. The staff and students are looking forward to meeting your newest addition when your baby arrives.



SENSORY GARDEN

The staff and students are all very excited to see the completion of our long awaited sensory garden. The many families who took a walk through the garden on open night were very impressed. Hopefully, Term 4 will see the final

additions in place; a small garden shed, seating, interactive resources scattered throughout and vegetables in the garden.



MINERVA 2 MELBOURNE

We wish Mr Geoff all the best for a safe journey on his charity bike ride to Melbourne. We look forward to following on your trip through blog site; minerva2melbourne.posterous.com



BUILDING WORKS

Still in progress but getting closer to the finishing line. As part of the building process new fencing has been installed around the school. The building works closest to the staff car park is on schedule and due to be ready for the beginning of next term. The construction work on the new library, sandpit and demountable will hopefully be completed around the middle of next term. I'm sure the end result will be worth the wait.

Fiona Young—Principal

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OPEN NIGHT

7
September
2011

'The evening exceeded our expectations. We felt very welcomed and informed by staff, volunteers and students. In our estimation, it was awesome!'

Visitor Comment



CLASS H with Miss Keltie



Class H were baking to celebrate Kieran's birthday

CLASS W



Our Environment
The students in class W are learning about the importance of looking after the environment.. We have been busily making a class mural of a 'clean city' using a variety of recycled items as well as an extraordinary amount of creative flare.

In the next Newsletter we will show you the finished masterpiece.

CLASS K



In August all the boys of class K have produced wonderful vibrant canvas paintings inspired by the works of Minnie Pwerle. Here is Adam putting his finishing touches on an electrifying colourful work !

CLASS D



Class D calculated the average height of students is 1.64 metres

TAS IA



TAS students have Completed their Key Holders !

LIBRARY

A big congratulations to Shannon from class D for her effort in library work this term. Without our library we have been working in class on a web 2.0 tool called Wordle. Shannon independently saw the potential in her new found skill and successfully enhanced her class project on Vikings. Well done Shannon.

Thank you to all those families for your generous book donations on Open Night. We look forward to sharing them in the new library.

Jenny Marshall

MINERVA POSTAL ADDRESS

*Please note:
All correspondence should be addressed to*

**Eton Street
SUTHERLAND NSW 2232**
(The PO Box no longer exists).

MINERVA SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

All Year 12 students have been wearing their 2011 personalised jerseys from the P&C. Holly our captain clearly enjoyed wearing her jersey to the Open Night. Congratulations, wear these jerseys with pride!

Congratulations to our magnificent Minerva performers who truly shone on **Open Night**. A special mention also, to the dedicated staff at Minerva who continue to provide our children with quality educational experiences.

Many parents were simply overwhelmed by the high standard of our children, many whom experience high levels of anxiety. (Not that I could notice on the night!) The look of pride, enjoyment and self-esteem was clearly evident not just by our children's smiles and enthusiasm but also on the faces of family members.

Thanks to all who helped out on the night. Minerva P&C wish to acknowledge the generosity of the following businesses in supporting – **Open Night 2011**.

**SUPABARN SUTHERLAND
SUTHERLAND BEST FRESH FRUIT
BAKERS DELIGHT SUTHERLAND**

Feedback received on the night confirmed how proud the parent community is in supporting public education at Minerva. The **Sensory garden** will provide our children with another area that will help with relaxation or be used as an outdoor teaching space. Thank you to **Mr Geoff** for co-ordinating this project, fundraising and to the **P&C** who also matched contributing funds towards this worthwhile project.

The **Father's Day Stall** provided our children with another positive learning experience. The students used visuals to help choose a gift and completed money transactions individually. The aim of all P&C's is to fundraise but importantly at Minerva, we also provide our children with as many regular, fun activities that expose our children to mainstream social experiences that are provided in all schools in NSW.

Acknowledging **Deb Hunt**, who individually wrapped all the gifts and to **Christine Farrell**. Both mums helped with the stall. We hope to involve more mums next year who may also want to help out with the stall. These two mums are also co-ordinating the **WOOLWORTHS** and **COLES vouchers** and processing data on their computers at home. This kind of generosity allows Minerva children to utilise community benefits and opportunities other children across NSW schools easily access due to larger school sizes. Minerva P&C gratefully appreciate the strong support these two mums make towards improving student outcomes. THANK YOU!

The **Father's Day Raffle** was a huge success and raised \$495.

Minerva P&C wish to again acknowledge the generosity of the following businesses –

**Luna Park
AMF Bowling
Miranda Rebel Sports
Miranda Greater Union movies**

**Beverly Hills Cinema
Sydney Olympic Park Golf Range
Autographed Sharks football from SHARKS
Cronulla**

The **P&C AND SRC Hotdog Special Lunch** was an outstanding success, late last term. Minerva P&C wish to again acknowledge the generosity of the following businesses – **Franklins and Box Hill Bakery** (Anthony Dau's family) who supported this fundraiser. Thank you to **Ms Michelle** who helped promote this event by organising posters around the school and to **Luke** (captain) who discussed this with the whole school at assembly.

A total of \$200 will be given to the SRC, who will decide the best way to spend this amount.

A special thank- you to **Deb, Christine** and **Miss Catherine**, who helped with the food preparation. To our wonderful SRC who co-ordinated the orders and delivery to each class, your assistance was greatly needed and valued.

We have started the **Minerva Coffee Club** and have now had 3 meetings at Michel's at Sutherland. While the numbers are small, we are getting to know new parents to the school. This is a great way to make new friends and find out more about the school.

The school survey earlier this year also suggested wine tasting and a golf day as possible fundraisers. Read Christine Farrell's report (in this newsletter) on her wine tasting cruise on Sydney Harbour and also Anthony Stremos is taking a parent's idea about a golf day to the next step, now we have determined a level of interest

To all families, relax, enjoy the holidays and thank you for the support given to all our P&C initiatives so far. Remember **Christmas Raffle** is coming!!!! We will need your assistance with a gift donation of books, toys, c.d's, chocolates, dvd's, soap etc. A note will be sent out early next term.

We hope to start more social, weekend events shortly as another way for our boys and families to see each other on weekends. More details on all of these in the near future.....

Movies at Miranda Greater Union on the last Saturday of the holidays.

**AMF Bowling
Picnic at Gunnamatta Bay** (a suggestion from the Cartwright family)

Got a suggestion? Then please email it to
capd6@bigpond.com

Thinking about joining the P&C then come along to our next P&C meeting.

Christine and Peter Damcevski

What's On!

Programs & seminars* coming your way...

- **Talking Positively to Children**
A one-session skills-based course giving parents/carers strategies on how to communicate with children
Tuesday 30th August, 6.45pm for 7pm-9.30pm
- **The Challenge of Disciplining Children**
This one-session course assists parents with constructive techniques in the discipline and encouragement of children.
Tuesday, 6th September, 6.45pm for 7pm-9.30pm
- **Helping Children Manage Their Emotions**
A 2½ hour seminar to assist parents in understanding how anger works and offer strategies to help children manage their anger.
Tuesday, 20th September, 6.45pm for 7pm-9.30pm
- **How to BullyProof Children**
A one-session seminar to assist parents to discuss bullying with their children and develop strategies to prevent and manage bullying
Tuesday, 18th October, 6.45pm for 7pm-9.30pm
- **Ideas for Parenting Teens**
Learn how to effectively communicate and set boundaries with your teen. Be equipped to not only survive the adolescence years but also to enjoy the ride.
Tuesday, 1st November, 6.45pm for 7pm-9.30pm



*\$25 / person or
\$45/ couple

Bookings are essential

Please Contact our Kirrawee Office on
9545 3566

Helping Hands Toys

Educational Games/Toys&More

Oudette Stremos

P.O.Box 3433
Bangor, NSW 2234

Phone: 0424890054

Fax: 028544 0795

oudette@helpinghandstoys.com.au

www.helpinghandstoys.com.au



This newsletter can be viewed online at
www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

Or, 'Google' our website on
'Minerva School Home'

Add this address to your Favourites!



Star Performers & Twinkle Stars Dance Studio

ABN 53916783265

Invites you to our

2011 Annual Dance Concert

WHERE: Sutherland Entertainment Centre
30 Eton St, Sutherland

WHEN: Saturday 15th October 2011.

TIME: 2pm start.

\$\$\$\$: Adults \$20

Special needs 13yrs & up \$15

Children 12 and under \$10.

Tickets go on sale

Sat 3rd September 2011

Our Lady Star of the Sea

50 Kiora Rd, Miranda.

or

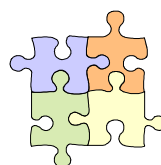
Phone June: 0414694375

Please pass onto everyone you know.

It's a fun filled afternoon for all to enjoy.

Please keep updated through our website

www.twinklestarperformers.com.au



Sutherland Special Needs

Toy Library

Provides specialised and educational toys and resources to families that have children with disabilities, generalised learning difficulties, dyslexia, dyspraxia or autism. If you are currently seeing an occupational therapist or speech therapist then toys can be borrowed that mirror your therapy sessions. Toys and resources available cover gross motor and fine motor development, literacy, language concepts, simple games, puzzles, maths concepts, sequencing, social skills, construction toys, musical instruments and parent resources.

No referrals required. Annual membership fee of \$40. Please feel free to visit or phone us to see if we can meet your child's additional needs.

The Multipurpose Centre

Open during school terms

123 Flora Street Sutherland 2232

Mondays 10am – 1pm, Thursday 10am – 1pm

phone 9545 2214 (Mon & Thurs)

1st Sat of each month 10am-12noon

email ssntl@idx.com.au