



# MINERVA SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

*Learning for Life*

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### DATES TO REMEMBER 2012

**LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS**  
Wednesday 19th  
December

### DATES TO REMEMBER 2013

#### JANUARY

**AUSTRALIA DAY LONG WEEKEND**  
Monday 28th January

**FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 FOR STUDENTS**  
Wednesday 30th

## PRESENTATION DAY 2012



On Wednesday 12th December we held our annual Presentation Day. It was a celebration of all of the achievements throughout the year from both the students and staff. It was a wonderful ceremony lead by our School Captains Jack and Shannon. Congratulations to all of the students for wonderful performances in both the band and dance. An extra mention needs to go to our special award winners :

Heathcote Parliamentary Award for Citizenship—Shannon M  
Ruben F Scarf Award for Commitment - Adam H  
NSW Premiers Sport Medal—Sebastian D  
Minerva Most Improved Student—Mitchell D  
Minerva Learning for Life Award—Sarah H

It is a team effort when something like Presentation Day comes together, but I would like to make special mention of Michelle Cooney and Laura Gaunt who spent hours on the production. For Laura, a newly accredited teacher, the effort and level of professionalism was outstanding and I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to her for the coordination of the team into what was a spectacular display.

Tracey Gocher  
Relieving Principal



## RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### **Year 12**

Thank you to all the staff who helped make the Year 12 Formal such a memorable night. The Year 12 leavers looked wonderful. On behalf of the whole Minerva community I would like to wish them all the best in their future endeavours and hope that they come back and visit soon.

### **Other Leavers**

Our warmest wishes are also extended to Jacob, Matt and Dane who are also leaving Minerva School at the end of 2012. We wish them all the best and hope that they stay in touch.

### **P & C Christmas Raffle**

The P & C held 2 raffles recently—Presentation Day and the Christmas Raffle. As always the winning students were delighted. Thank you again to our hard working P & C, we appreciate all that you do for us.

### **Students Return for 2013**

Students return to school on Wednesday 30th January 2013.

### **Local Schools Local Decisions**

Go to <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/lsld> for regular updates, fact sheets and answers to frequently asked questions about the Local Schools, Local Decisions reforms including fact sheets on RAM- the new Resource Allocation Model that has been developed to allocate funding for public schools.

### **Merry Christmas**

On behalf of all the staff at Minerva I would like to extend our warmest season greetings to all of our students, their families and carers. We hope that you have a safe and enjoyable break.

Kind regards,  
**Tracey Gocher**  
**Relieving Principal**

### **P & C Christmas Raffle Winners**

Our P & C Committee have drawn this years' Christmas raffle and the winners are:

#### **CLASS S**

James C and Mitchell G

#### **CLASS D**

James S and Jacob P

#### **CLASS K**

Adam H and Jack O

#### **CLASS L**

Gregory K and Chris D

#### **CLASS M**

Malachi P AND Sebastion D

#### **CLASS C**

Ronan B and Anthony D

#### **CLASS T**

Jonathon S and James F

### **Presentation Day Raffle Winners**

Luke B and Jayden H  
Congratulations!

### **HALL FOR HIRE**

IS YOUR COMMUNITY /CHURCH GROUP/ SPORTS ORGANISATION LOOKING FOR A VENUE? - OUR SCHOOL HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR HIRE IN 2013. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 9521 3433 FOR MORE DETAILS





**CLASS L** having a ball at the 2012 Variety Children's Christmas Party!



**CLASS M** Boys had fun making Christmas lanterns.



Good bye 2012

Merry Christmas to everyone from **Class C** !!!!!

Have a safe and happy holiday





**CLASS K** - have completed their Christmas acrylic dishes



**Class D** enjoying a game of Trivial Pursuit. Students all have their favourite category and have shown themselves to be very knowledgeable. We have had some amusing board games throughout the year and I commend their improved sportsmanship.

Let's twist again like we did last summer! From **Class T**





Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from **CLASS K**



**CLASS S** looking forward to the end of year Disco.

## LIBRARY

To enjoy some of the fun we have been having in the library this semester, join the Minerva School Library wiki. Just fill in your email details and send along to Ms Jenny at school before the end of the year and you will receive an invitation to join. Students can share stories they have written, crazy voki characters they have made, listen to favorite stories from library time and more.....

Thanks to those who left their details at open afternoon, the wiki is now ready for sharing.

Alternatively email your details to [Minerva-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Minerva-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au) subject: Minerva school wiki

### I would like to join the Minerva school library wiki

Students Name	Email Address

## HPV vaccination for boys to commence in NSW

Boys in NSW high schools will be offered human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination from 2013 to provide protection against developing infections that can lead to cancer. In 2013, the 3-dose course of vaccine will be offered to:

- Year 7 boys as part of the routine school-based vaccination program
- Year 9 boys as part of the national 'catch up' program in 2013 and 2014 only.

HPV vaccination has been offered to female students in Year 7 since 2007. In 2011, 81% of Year 7 girls received at least one dose of the three-dose course of HPV vaccine.

HPV is the name given to a group of viruses that affect both females and males. Most people who are sexually active will have a genital HPV infection at some time in their lives. HPV infection usually causes no symptoms and goes away by itself. However, in rare cases infection can cause life-threatening cancers. Almost all cases of cervical cancer and genital warts are due to HPV infection. HPV also causes cancers in other parts of the body, including the vulva, vagina, penis and anus.

The vaccine is highly effective in preventing the main types of HPV infection and is most effective when it is given to people before they are exposed to the virus. The vaccine is registered for use from 10 years of age and is **only provided free for male students who commence the course in Year 7 or Year 9.**

*Parent Information Kits* will be sent home to parents in early 2013. To consent to vaccination, parents are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to their child's school.

Students in Year 7 will also be offered vaccination against other diseases, including diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough (dTpa), hepatitis B and varicella (chicken pox).

For more information please visit [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation)

## P & C CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS



## P & C CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Your 2012 Minerva P&C committee members are: Christine and Peter Damcevski, Christine Farrell, Deb Hunt and Rosemary Connor. We wish to thank Minerva parents, family and friends and our community supporters for your continued support throughout the year. Good luck to our year 12 students who embark on a new chapter, you will be missed.

### Highlights for 2012

- 2012 DEC Sydney Region Awards winner- Minerva School for outstanding student outcomes, nominated by P&C .An outstanding achievement, a first for an SSP school
- P&C paid \$4 000 towards the purchase of an interactive whiteboard
- Woolworths and Coles vouchers - P&C Members networked within the wider community to maximise our efforts. As a result thousands of dollars of resources will be used by our children in their classrooms in 2013 and beyond. A truly outstanding effort
- P&C BBQ at Gunamatta Bay, a free social event for families
- P&C purchased new bikes for the students using donated funds
- Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas raffles /stalls continued to both raise money and provide a fun activity for our students
- Year 12 jerseys and Year 12 Formal paid by P &C continued
- P&C organised flowers for Miss Sue , in appreciation for her hard work and support towards families, as Administration Manager,
- P&C and School working collaboratively to gain Tax deduction status for contributions to the school and we can now actively support Minerva teachers to apply for a larger range of grants and donations,
- P&C donated \$200 to Students Rep Council (SRC) in recognition of their contribution to school fundraising activities
- P&C BBQ , Open Afternoon a free social event for families
- P&C organised a 'Thank you' morning tea for Minerva staff in appreciation of their hard work and dedication
- as in past years, your P&C donated the trophies at this year's Presentation Day

We wish to acknowledge our hard working staff for their quality programs, innovative methods and care shown to our children. In a school this size, teachers wear many hats. Our children enjoy band, dance, cooking, art, industrial arts, buddies, life skills and community access. Such a varied curriculum makes school life interesting and is a good balance to the literacy and numeracy curriculum. Have a Merry Christmas, a restful break and see you in 2013. Please, should anyone be interested in helping the P&C in any capacity, your input is most welcomed. We invite anyone to come to our meetings next year, as new ideas are most welcome. It's a great way to make a difference and support your child's school.

Christine Damcevski

