



*Learning for Life*

Week 11 Term 1 2012

# MINERVA SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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**DATES TO  
REMEMBER  
2012**

**TERM 1**

**APRIL**

**Thursday 5 April**  
Last day of Term 1

**TERM 2**

**Tuesday 24 April**  
Students return to  
school for first day of  
Term 2.

**Wednesday 25 April**  
ANZAC Day Public  
Holiday

**JUNE**

**Monday 11 June**  
Queen's Birthday Public  
Holiday

**Friday 29 June**  
Last day of Term 2

### MINERVA'S LOCAL HERO

Recently our very own 'hero' Mr Harry, was formally recognised for his years of volunteer work at Minerva School.

The ceremony took place at the Sydney Region Official Opening of the School Year at the City Recital Hall Angel Place, in February 2012.

The theme for this year was '*Our Local Heroes*'!

### *Mr Harry - Speech*

Harry Jessep has been a committed volunteer at Minerva school for over 8 years. He is affectionately known as 'Mr Harry' by staff and students and we all love having him in our classes.

Mr Harry helps us with reading, spelling, maths, computers and he even helps us during excursions out in the community.

Mr Harry is also a very talented musician. He brings his many instruments to school, teaches us about each one of them and lets us play the instruments as well!

A few years ago he taught the students to play the recorder and they went on to perform at special school events like Presentation Day.

Mr Harry is also an excellent student - he taught himself how to make fun learning programs for our Interactive Whiteboards and school computers. So far these include maths, reading, spelling and music for all different levels so that every student can use them.

Last year Mr Harry started taking photos of all the different trees around our school so that he can make another computer program to help us learn about them.

When Jack and I asked the students at Minerva what they loved about Mr Harry this is what they told us

Mr Harry is always happy  
He is very good at playing the saxophone  
We love it when he visits our classes

Minerva school is a better place because of Mr Harry and we are very lucky to have him. We congratulate Mr Harry and hope that he can continue to come.

### THANK YOU

*The speech was beautifully delivered by our School Captain, Shannon.*

*We were very proud to have nominated Mr Harry for this special honour and also to have been so well represented by a wonderful School Captain.*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE TERM 1

I am very pleased to announce that we have finally taken back ownership of our new library and refurbished enclosed playground. Both the library and the playground has been a huge hit with students and staff. Next term we will have the library open one afternoon for interested families to come view our wonderful library centre. An invitation will be sent out early Term Two.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The ipad trial led by Tracey Gocher and Michelle Cooney has been going well and student response has been very positive. The staff are trialling a range of applications in literacy, numeracy and communication. At the conclusion of the trial, end of Term 3, we will be holding an information session to provide feedback to interested families.

Katrina Shacallis is currently leading the teachers in 20 hours of online, professional development; 'Count Me In Too'. The aim of this program is to increase teachers understanding of the Learning Framework in Number, understanding of the different aspects of the Numeracy continuum, adapting activities for different abilities and effective assessment strategies. This online professional development will continue through to the end of Term 4.

Professional development in 'Team Leadership for School Improvement', a 12 month program, focused on the development, implementation and evaluation of whole school planning is also in action this year. Staff leading this program are Russell Hely, Diane Slater and myself.

As you can see, a very busy year for the staff but also an exciting one which will result in improved learning outcomes for all our students across the board.

## EASTER RAFFLE

Thank you to the P&C for their hard work with the recent Easter Raffle. Thank you also to all the families who have once again generously donated prizes.

I would like to wish all of our school community a happy and safe Easter holiday break.

**Fiona Young**  
Principal

## CLASS A



James, Adam, Bailey and Kieran exploring colour. This activity is part of the lead up work of a canvas landscape painting.



Class A practise tilting and safely pulling a wheelie bin.

## CLASS D



Members of Class D discussing character traits during a P.D. lesson – honesty, trust, tolerance, helpful, kind.



### CLASS M



Class M students are enjoying learning about Australia

### CLASS L

Class L have been learning about healthy living. Look at their amazing fruit kebabs!



### CLASS K



Class K have been trying to work out what is in the box. Last week they guessed correctly! A wig! Look how funny we all looked when we tried it on!

### CLASS C



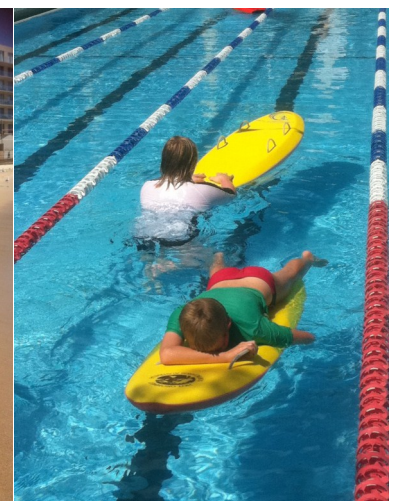
#### Visualisation and Expression

For Visual Arts, the students in class C listened to a piece of music called, '**Over the Waves**' and then painted a picture of what they visualised whilst listening to the music.... WOW!! What great paintings. Well done boys



### CLASS S

Class S have been enjoying Surf Awareness at Cronulla !



## MINERVA POSTAL ADDRESS

Please note:  
All correspondence should be addressed to

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

This newsletter can be viewed  
online at  
[www.minervas.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.minervas.schools.nsw.edu.au)

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

Add this address to your Favourites!



Family & Community Services  
Ageing, Disability & Home Care

# THE AMAZING SIBSHOP RACE

A fun filled day for siblings of people with an intellectual disability to get together and have some FUN!!!

**Who:** Siblings aged 10-13 years

**When:** 9 am - 3.30 pm  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012


**Where:** Minerva School  
Eton Street Sutherland

**Cost:** FREE  
Morning tea and lunch included

**Contact:** Marie Farthing  
(9566 5000) to register or for more information

**HURRY**  
Places limited!  
Register by  
11 April 2012





## Train with us



**Do you have a disability, injury or health condition and want a job?**

**Are you a mum or dad on a Centrelink payment?**

**Do you have limited time due to child care responsibilities?**

CRS Australia can help by connecting you with training programs that have flexible participation requirements and meet a diverse range of needs:

- face to face and self-paced study options available (a minimum of 15 hours per week)
- no classes during school holidays
- books, training materials and tutoring supplied free of charge
- programs can be tailored to suit your language, literacy and education levels.

To be eligible you must be:

- a person with the care of a dependent child aged less than 16 years of age
- in receipt of a Parenting Payment Single, Parenting Payment Partnered Newstart, Youth Allowance (other) or Special Benefit.\*

\*Additional eligibility criteria may apply

Nationally accredited courses in Child Care, Hospitality, Business and IT.

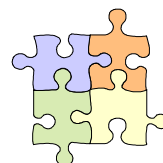
Limited places available - enrol NOW!

Contact the friendly team at the CRS Australia Sutherland office on 02 9545 9200 or come in and see us at 2-4 Merton Street, Sutherland.

**'The training and constant encouragement was amazing. I couldn't have done this without CRS Australia'**

Adam Woodhouse  
bank loan consultant

■ REHABILITATION ■ EMPLOYMENT ■ INDEPENDENCE



## 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)  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat of each month 10am-12noon  
email [ssntl@idx.com.au](mailto:ssntl@idx.com.au)