



*Learning for Life*

# MINERVA SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Eton Street SUTHERLAND NSW 2232 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  
TERM 1 2013**

**TERM 2**

**JUNE**

**LAST DAY OF  
TERM 2**  
Friday 28th

**TERM 3**

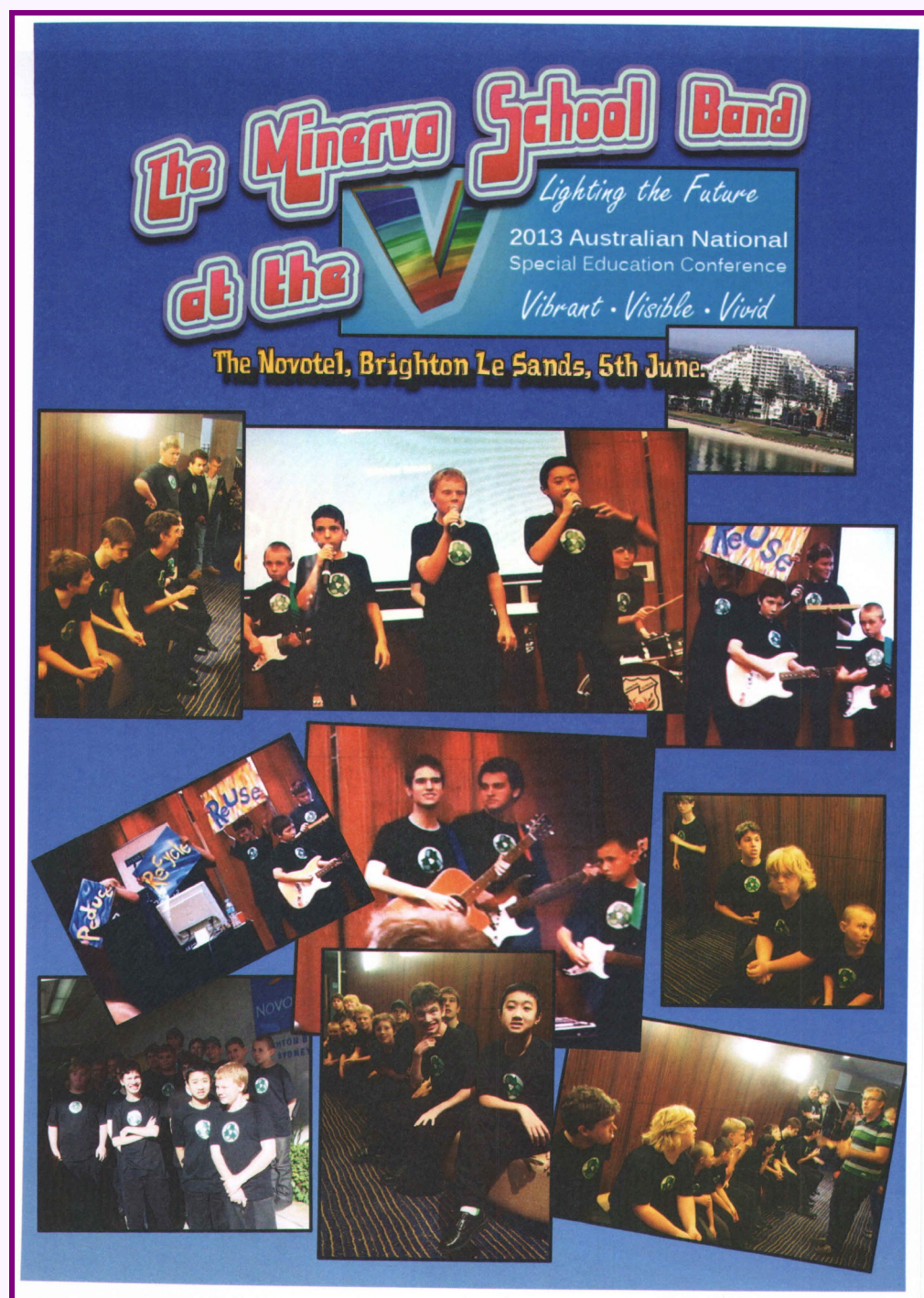
**JULY**

**STAFF  
DEVELOPMENT  
DAY**  
Monday 15th

**STUDENTS  
RETURN TO  
SCHOOL**  
Tuesday 16th

**SWIM SCHOOL**  
Tuesday 16th to Friday  
26th

**EDUCATION  
WEEK**  
Monday 29th July to  
Friday 2nd Aug



**SEE PAGE 3 FOR A FULL REPORT**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

I was recently invited to attend the Como Jannali Rotary Club Celebration Dinner where the school was presented with a cheque for \$3000. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Como Jannali Rotary Club for their ongoing support. The school now has the funds available to replace the cover over the trampolines.

### BAND PERFORMANCE

Band Performance at the Special Ed Conference  
As you know the Band performed on the 5th June at the Novotel Brighton and what a wonderful and truly inspiring performance the students gave under the leadership of Mr K. There was not a dry eye in the house! The feedback I received on the day was exceptional. Congratulations to the Band students and Mr K who always manages to bring out the best in our students. I was very proud of them all.

### REMINDER ANNUAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION

Thank you to those families who have already paid their contribution. A reminder to those who have not yet paid, your payment is now overdue. Please contact me if you would like to discuss.

### THANK YOU

A very big thank you on behalf of the school to our wonderful, hard working P&C who have done an outstanding job in raising much needed funds. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY TERM 3

Staff will be taking part in Professional Development Training on Monday 15th July. We look forward to seeing the students return on Tuesday 16th July.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. See you next Term.

Kind regards,  
**Fiona Young**  
**Principal**

## VISIT FROM 2 EX-MINERVA STUDENTS

The other week we had a visit from Dane and Matt who attended Minerva School last year.



"Thanks Miss Fiona for allowing us to visit  
It was very heartwarming.  
Miss you all at Minerva,  
love Dane & Matt"  
xxxooo





## Minerva School Band Performance

On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of June our School Band was invited to perform at the 2013 Australian National Special Education Conference at the Novotel Hotel, Brighton le Sands.

They performed a song called "The 3 R's" by Jack Johnson. Fourteen of our students walked onto the stage and picked up their instruments without the need of a recorded backing track or adults to assist with the music.

They walked out with dignity masking their nerves.

They walked out with dignity knowing they could do this alone.

They walked out with dignity knowing their families would be proud.

They walked out with dignity knowing that they were contributing and giving something special of themselves.

They walked out knowing that hundreds of Principals and delegates from around Australia and some from abroad, would not only be entertained but encouraged and inspired in their work as educators.

The performance was wonderful and the room erupted with continuous applause and cheers.

One of the event organizers expressed amazement when told that this was a new band and that none of these students received outside music tuition and that this performance was achieved within a little over two months of rehearsals.

The President of the Australian Special Education Association in her key note address not only praised our school but enthusiastically demonstrated how many Key Learning Areas were realised through this performance.

To be quite honest, the rehearsals were hard work and at times the boys drove me crazy! However, they were so enthusiastic. They loved it, literally jumping out of their skins wanting to practise every day. Harnessing that noisy enthusiasm was my biggest challenge. From my point of view it wasn't just the music but the silence around the music that was equally important. The boys eventually showed real discipline and that was my reward.

A special thank you to Miss Sharon for organising the band t-shirts; Miss Trish, Mrs Young and Mrs Gocher for helping with the organisation; Mrs Slater for driving the bus and to the whole staff for supporting and encouraging the students' efforts.

As their teacher and band leader I do feel proud, but all I did was tap the potential. When they walked onto that stage it was their show, their achievement.

Mr Aris Kartsonas  
Band Leader



### CLASS CW

For Science this semester Class CW have been involved in activities about our 'Natural Environment' and ways to look after planet Earth.



### CLASS D

Class D have been researching technological developments that have changed our lives, including transport and communication. Above are some drawings of old fashioned cars the students have drawn in their art class. They compared these pictures to modern day cars and noted the many changes that have evolved over the years to make driving safer and more comfortable.





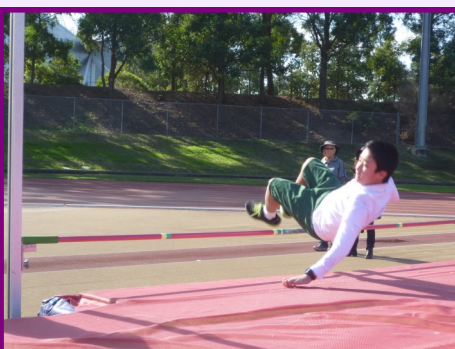
## COMBINED METROPOLITAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June nine students represented Minerva School at the Combined Metropolitan Athletics Carnival at Homebush.

The rain held off and in cold and windy conditions the students did a fantastic job competing in High Jump, Long Jump, Shot, Discus, Javelin and 100m sprint events. The determination and effort shown by the whole team was a credit to them, as was the sportsmanship shown on the day.

Throughout the day there were many highlights, including the March Past and students achieving Personal Bests in their events, but my personal favourite was watching the blue ribbon Relay event which the Minerva team won by 30 metres.

Congratulations to the whole team - Mason, Ronan, Kristian, Mitchell D, Sebi, Anthony, Logan, Daylan and Chris.

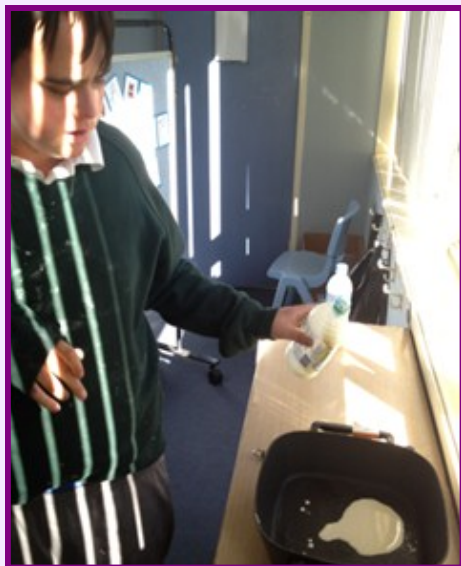






### CLASS K

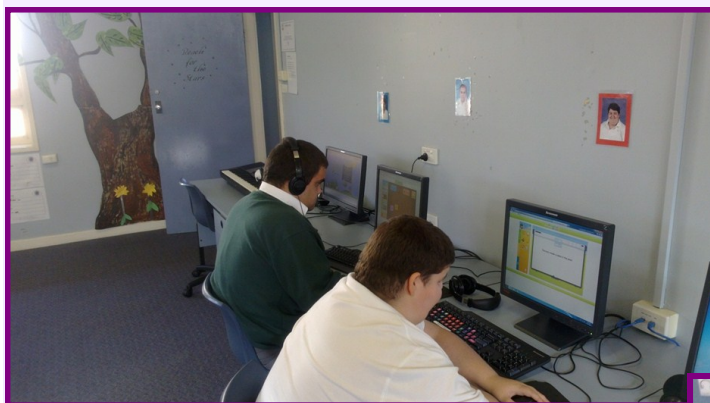
Class K enjoy their weekly cooking classes as part of their PDHPE programme. This term we have prepared and cooked all different types of meals. Nicholas enjoys cooking and eating pasta. Warwick loves pancakes, especially when they are covered with maple syrup.



### CLASS CS

Class CS have enjoyed working hard on their computer skills

They've also enjoyed making art with their feet



## LIBRARY

Students from Class A participated in an author study on Jeannie Baker this term.

Her amazing visual story 'Window' promoted interesting observation skills, attention to details as the changes unfolded in each page and discussions on environmental issues.

If you haven't had a chance don't forget to check out the Minerva library wiki. You can share online stories enjoyed by each class, and other fun work created by students.

<http://minervalibrary.wikispaces.com>



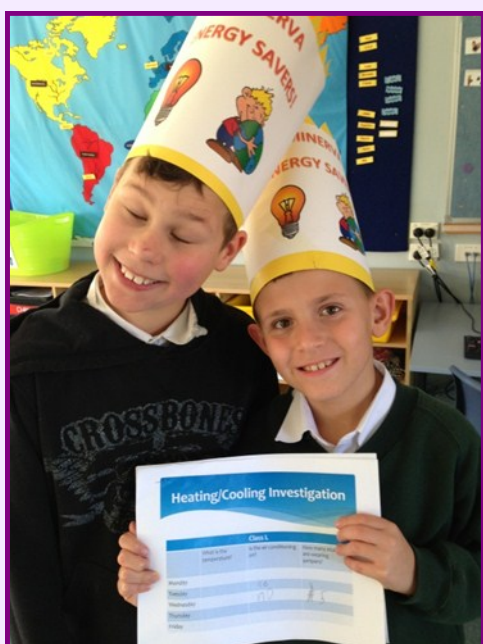
## CLASS M

Class M have been cooking on Thursday afternoons. We have so far made Chocolate Cupcakes, Chocolate Chip Cookies and Pancakes from scratch.

These are our cookies! Yummy!



Here is Jake he is crazy about the Swans! This is his new Jersey given to him by one of our aides Miss Cammy. Thank you so much he loves it!



## CLASS L

Class L conducting their 'Climate Clever Energy-Savers' investigations



## Could you be a foster carer?

As a foster carer for Key Assets, we offer you:

- 24 hour support, 7 days a week
- Regular contact from your supervising social worker
- A fee that reflects the demands of the role
- Paid supportive respite
- Ongoing training

If you have the experience, or interest needed to care for children and a spare bedroom, we would love to hear from you.

call: **1300 646 568** visit: **www.keyassets.com.au**



## PILATES

FOR CARERS - 10.30AM THURSDAY

Are you a Carer who would like to try Pilates?



### Benefits of Pilates:

- Stress relief through body awareness & breathing techniques.
- Create back support through abdominal, core based exercises.
- Stretches, strengthens & tones the whole body.

Please call Cheryl on 0417 417 217 as bookings are essential.

Cheryl is a Certified Pilates Instructor and Counsellor.

**SPECIAL FOR CARERS  
ONLY \$10 PER CLASS**

Pilates classes are held at Carousel Counselling Services  
13A Eton Street Sutherland

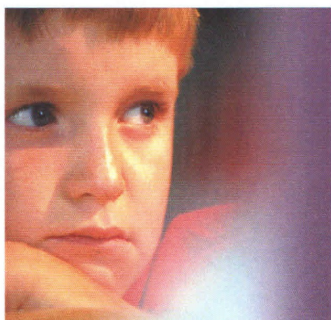
## Mobile Phone Recycling Fundraiser

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just a reminder that we are still collecting any unwanted mobile phones (working or not) for recycling. For each phone collected the school receives \$3.00. Funds raised will be used to purchase specialised equipment and technology for our students.

Thank you to those who have already sent in their unwanted mobile phones. If you would like to collect mobile phones at your work place, please contact the office and we will help set you up.





# SEASONS for Growth

**.... To help young people (6 to 12 years) to understand and express experiences of significant change, loss and grief**

This 8 week program held in small groups, assists young people to:

- Understand and talk about the normal range of emotions experienced during major change, grief and loss.
- Build positive relationships with family and friends.
- Participate in a caring and confidential network of peers and adults.
- Explore the skills needed for resiliency
- Revise current beliefs and plan for a realistic and hope-filled future.

**Date:** Monday Afternoons  
Commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> July until 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013

**Time:** 4.00pm to 5.00pm

**Venue:** Family Relationship Centre  
383 Port Hacking Road South  
CARINGBAH NSW 2229

**Cost:** \$50 per child – includes Booklet and Afternoon tea

**To Register:** **8522 4450**



[www.interrelate.org.au](http://www.interrelate.org.au)  
1300 726 866



## What has your P&C been doing in Term 2?

**Minerva P&C** paid **\$3000** for a new air conditioner for the breakout room behind the School Hall. This has significantly improved the learning outcomes for CS.

**Mother's Day Stall and Raffle** raised **\$596.40** profit. Thank you to Chris, Rose, Barb, her daughter Charlie, who participated and especially Deb (co-ordinator) who organised the raffle with donated gifts from the community. (See sponsor acknowledgements below). It was an outstanding success!

**Tynan Honda Foundation \$10 000 grant - Media release** was published in the Leader, is in our newsletter (week 5 ) and is also on our school website. Our goal is to lift the profile of Minerva School, within the wider community and also with any new families thinking of future placement at Minerva School looking through the school website. It also helps with community fundraising. Thank you to Christine for writing the successful grant and to Peter for co-ordinating the press release.

Your P&C (Peter), worked with Bunnings and volunteers from Como-Jannali and Sutherland Rotary to transform the garden (see article in last newsletter). Thanks all.

**Woolworths Earn and Learn** fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated as well as the wider community. (See sponsor acknowledgements below). Thank you especially to Chris F for co -ordinating this fundraiser.

**Business community letter re donations for IT equipment etc**, used in community door knock raised **\$ 2 100** so far. Thank you to Peter (co-ordinator), Jade and Christine for participating in this fundraiser. (See sponsor acknowledgements below).

**Medical letter re donations for Sensory Garden** , Dr George Williams has just visited our sensory garden to have a look. He has kindly donated plants for the sensory garden and Bonsai Trees to be auctioned for our 2014 Trivia Night. Thank you to Christine (co-ordinator).

Our Major Fundraiser- **Bunnings BBQ** raised **\$3000** profit. This money will be used towards replacing the sails over the trampolines. The financial support from our families was amazing, not to mention the physical support on the day. Thank you to the families and staff who volunteered their time to assist and especially to Peter, Fiona (co-ordinators) and Jade, who assisted all day! (See sponsor acknowledgements below).

**Loftus Pies** fundraiser raised **\$423.50** profit. Thank you to Barbara (co-ordinator) who used her facebook account and received an additional 38 orders. Well done! Thank you to Deb, Chris .F, and Rosemary for assisting and to all Minerva staff and families for buying pies .

**2014 Trivia Night** planning has begun. Thank you to Jade, Barbara and Christine (co-ordinators) who have already started to source gifts . **Our goal is to exceed \$4000 profit raised in the 2009 Minerva Trivia Night.** Anyone interested in helping, email Christine - [capd6@bigpond.com](mailto:capd6@bigpond.com) or leave a message at the front office. More details to follow....We want to raise .....\$10 000 in 2014!!! (see sponsor list below).

**AMF Bowling at Southgate** was a success, despite the weather. If interested, please consider coming along next term. You are most welcome.

**School family Disco in Term 4.** Spooky theme - it's.... **HALLOWEEN!!!!!!!!!!!!** Details to follow. Barb has already organised the music - free of charge!!!

**Farmers Direct Fundraiser** - We invite interested families to register and spread the word. Remember , Minerva School earns money from each order placed. Thanks to Barb (co - ordinator).



**Mobile Phones Fundraiser - \$165** profit raised! We need your help to complete a second tub of 40 mobile phones (to collect our \$3 per phone rebate). Phones must not be older than 8 years or have cracked screens. Please ask family or friends to donate and help our school! Deb (co - ordinator).

**Remember interested parents/carers are most welcomed to attend our P&C meetings at any time of the year. Hope to see you at a future meeting!**

**P&C Term 3 Meeting Dates:** *Monday 5th August* *Monday 9th September*

**Term 4 Meeting Dates:** *Monday 21st October* *Monday 25th November*

Minerva P&C wish to thank all of the parents/carers who donated money, drinks and time to make the Bunnings Kirrawee BBQ a great success.

We also wish to acknowledge our community sponsors for their generosity towards supporting the following fundraiser activities :

**Hot Cross Buns -Easter Fundraiser**

Bakers Delight - Miranda

**Support for Mothers Day Stall / Raffle**

Theo & Peter -Gifts 4 Us - Chipping Norton

Napolean Perdis - Miranda

Kerrie Broomhead & St George & Sutherland CWA - on going support.

**Mobile Phone Fundraiser**

Australian Mobile Recycling - Taren Point

**Community Business fundraiser**

LJ Hooker - Sutherland

Cartwright, Brown and Associates, Accountants - Campsie

Watkins Real Estate - Sutherland

Woolworths Menai

Menai Club Central

**Medical Well Being Initiative (Sensory Garden) Fundraiser**

Dr George Williams

**Support for BBQ**

Bunnings - Kirrawee

Bill and Sophie Manus (Chris' grandparents)

**Support for Garden Makeover**

Bunnings - Kirrawee

Sutherland Rotary

Sutherland Rotary

Como-Jannali Rotary

**Earn'n'Learn**

Woolworths - Engadine

Woolworths - Menai

Westpac - Sutherland

**Trivia Night 2014**

PKC Publishing - Sutherland

La Cucina - Menai

Taronga Zoo

Curves - Sutherland

Imax - Darling Harbour

Captain Cook Tours Darling Harbour

Le Creuset Australia- Cremorne

Rocksalt- Menai

Bliss Spa - Carringbah

Sutherland Dry Cleaning

Flight Centre - Sutherland

Kareela Golf Club

Lugarno Seafood Restaurant

Endota Spa Tradies- GyMEA

Gardiner Hairdressing Salon Menai

Dubbo Western Plains Zoo

**MINERVA P&C wish to finally thank Mrs Fiona Young and her team, for their continued assistance towards updating the P&C website. Thank you for supporting award winning Minerva School. Have a wonderful holiday everyone!!**