



MINERVA SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Learning for Life

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**DATES TO
REMEMBER
TERM I 2014**

MARCH

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 1st

PARENT TEACHER MEET & GREET

Monday 10th

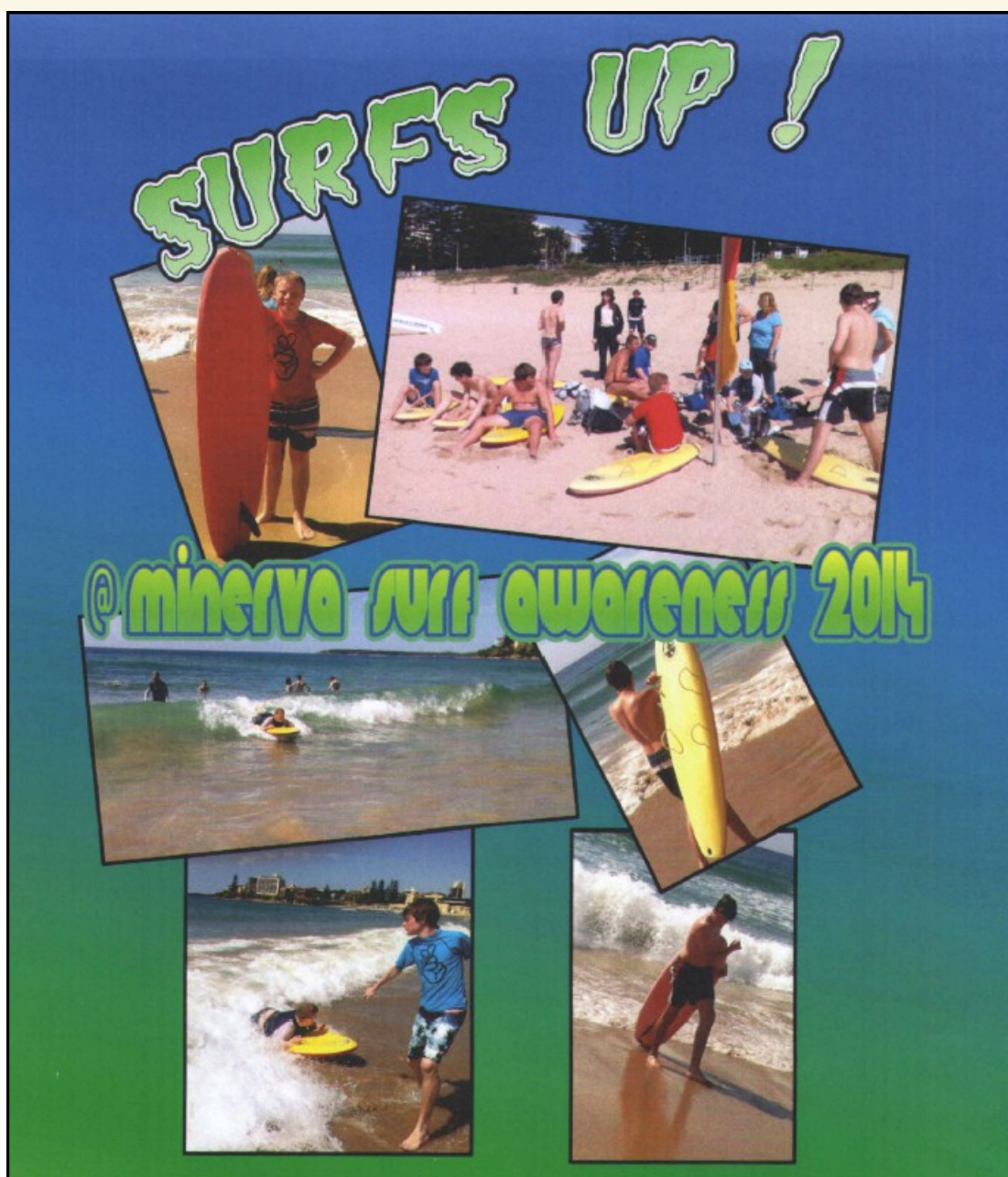
SWIMMING CARNIVAL Monday 17th

WORK EXPERIENCE BEGINS Thursday 20th

APRIL

LAST DAY OF TERM I Friday 11th

TERM 2 2014 STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL Tuesday 29th



Surfs up again and our senior students have had a great start building on the skills they learnt last year. The boys are much more confident with their footing and their ability to duck and dive through the waves. The program is run by a qualified lifesaver. The boys ran, swam, dived and smiled throughout the whole activity. Even the wipe outs were fun! Surf Awareness is proving to be a thoroughly beneficial, healthy and enjoyable experience.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome

Welcome back to all our students, parents and staff to the new school year and especially to our new students, and their families— Joshua, Dante, Kurt and Julian.

It is always pleasing to see how eager and happy the students are as they return to school at the beginning of each year. I am pleased to report that all the students have settled in well and are off to a busy Term.

Mates on a Mission

We are very fortunate to have Mates on a Mission as Sponsors of our school. On Christmas Eve I attended their Golf Day Fundraiser. We were one of their nominated recipients and received \$5000. This money is targeted for completion of the Sensory Garden. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Mates on a Mission for their wonderful ongoing support of Minerva.

Trivia Night

We are all looking forward to the P&C Trivia Night on Saturday 1st March at Club Central Menai. They have been working very hard for many months to bring this major school fundraising event together.

Sensory Garden

The Sensory Garden unfortunately still remains out of bounds. The Department is working with the school to resolve this issue. You will be kept up to date with the progress.

Tree Assessment

As you would be aware of the recent tragedy that occurred last week with a falling tree branch at another school, the Department has taken steps to ensure all schools have a qualified arborist inspect trees on all school properties. We have engaged an arborist to assess the trees in our school and the inspection is booked for Tuesday 4th March.

Weighted Lap Bags

One of our lovely School Learning Support Officers, Mrs Julie Dimmock, has been busy making weighted lap bags for the students across the school. The lap bags help the students to self calm and assist them to engage in their learning programs. We are in need of more lap bags. If you would like to help by donating any unwanted heavy weight or calico material that you may have at home (1 metre square or bigger) for Mrs Dimmock to make up more bags, could you please send it in via the office. Your donation would be very much appreciated. Thank you.



Some of the Weighted Lap Bags made by SLSO Mrs Julie Dimmock.

Parents Meet the Teacher & Staff Evening

We are introducing a Parents Meet the Teacher and Staff Evening with a BBQ kindly provided by the P&C. This is to be held on Monday 10th March at 6.00pm. A note will go home next week with further details. We look forward to seeing you here.

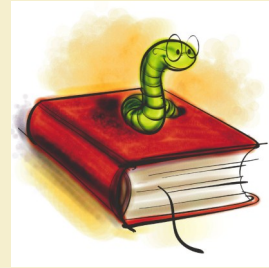
Kind regards,
Fiona Young
Principal

WHATS NEW IN THE LIBRARY



We have recently had some very kind donations to the library from students and their families. Thank you so much, your generosity and support is appreciated by the staff and students of Minerva School.

If you are going through your shelves, good quality books are always welcome.



CLASS Z

As part of our PDHPE program in health, students have been discovering what others like about them. Every Thursday afternoon during our health lesson we eat healthy snacks and discuss various Health topics. Over the past few weeks we have focused on understanding ourselves and the way we interact with others, particularly our friends in Class Z. We would like to share one thing we like about each student in our class. All these responses were written by the students.

Jake - "is good at tricking people"

Anthony - "is good at sport"

Luke - "is happy"

James - "loves his music"

Peter - "is a chatter box"

Sebi - "is a good friend"

Mal - "Is a funny boy"

*Peter, Miss Megan (visitor),
Sebi, Anthony, Miss Sharon, and
Mal (eating plenty of oranges !)*





CLASS A

Mason practising a song he has written.



Class A have been creating their own music using an application called Garageband.



Class A on rotating workstations in the work skills room.

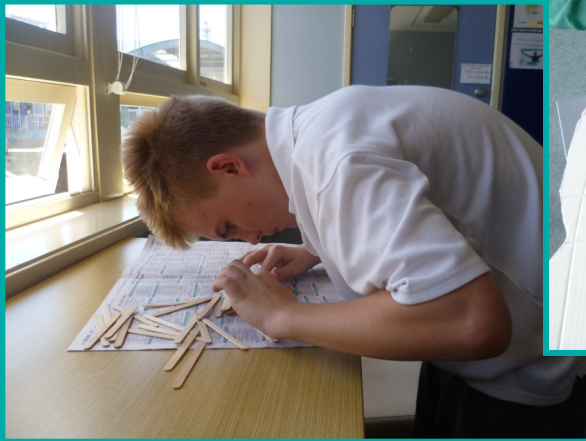
CLASS K

Students from Class K have been working hard developing their life skills such as cleaning, watering the garden, sweeping the paths and washing windows as part of their inschool work experience program.



CLASS D

Class D have been enjoying researching, designing, planning and building dioramas and robots using recycled materials.



CLASS L

Class L's theme for term 1:
THE WINTER OLYMPICS!
Class L had fun trying on Miss Tracey's snowboarding gear.

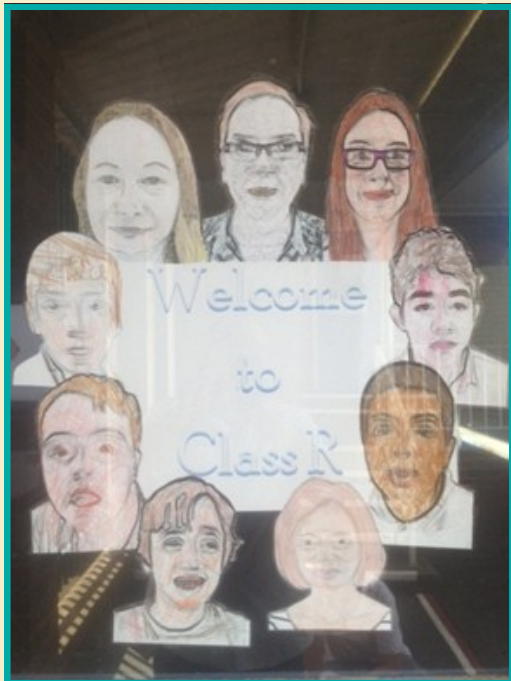




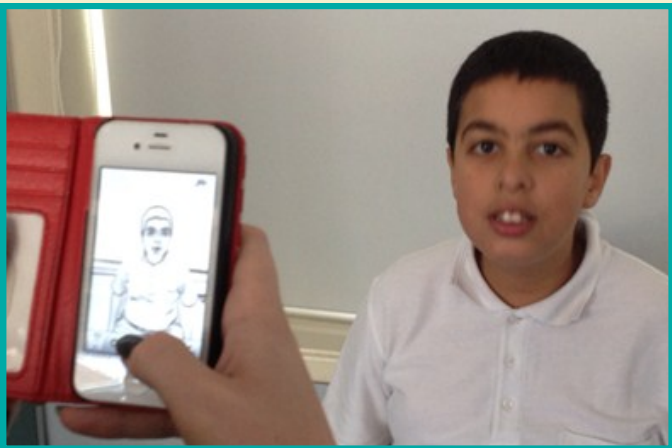
CLASS C

Class C are learning all about ocean life and coastal environments. Here is some of our very colourful 'Great Barrier Reef' mural. We are covering this theme through all of our different K.L.A's and are even lucky enough to go and visit the coast every Friday during our weekly Cronulla excursions





Class R have created art work for the class door with all our faces



David enjoyed having his face photographed ready for the art work

CLASS R

Joshua enjoys going to the sensory room



CLASS M

Daylan from Class M having fun on the climbing equipment during Class M's community access trip to Como Pleasure Grounds.

Sutherland Dyslexia Support Group



Sutherland Dyslexia Support Group is a forum where parents can talk, exchange ideas, information, resources and experiences with other parents.

The group keeps in contact via a Yahoo group, email, phone and meeting over coffee on the 4th Monday of the month at 10.30am at a café in Sutherland.

For further information or to join the support group contact

Paula Goulden on (02) 9528 4638 or email
psgoulden@tpg.com.au

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.

Royal Blinds & Carpets
 "giving you the royal service"
Jake
 ABN: 5814 7009 345
 M: 0450 111 900 P: 02 9681 2727

Ritchies Supermarket Community Benefit Program

Ritchies Supermarket at Taren Point run a Community Benefit Program whereby donations are made to a nominated School. Minerva School has been nominated by a few of their customers. So, spread the word to family and friends, to shop at Ritchies and get a community benefit card linked to our school. This is an easy way for family and friends to help support our school. Just use your card each time you shop at Ritchies and the store will donate to our School.

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