



*Learning for Life*

# MINERVA SCHOOL

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# NEWSLETTER

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Donations to Minerva School are now tax deductible.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### TERM 3 2017

#### AUGUST

**Sharks Make  
Bullying History**  
Monday 21st

**Book Week**  
Tuesday 22nd  
and Thursday 24th

**Parent Coffee and  
Chat**  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

**Groove Nation  
Dance Program  
Begins**  
Wednesday 30th

#### SEPTEMBER

**Assistance Dogs  
Incursion**  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>



## THANK YOU TO ROTARY CLUB COMO-JANNALI INC

On Tuesday 8th August, our Principal Sara Swift, was invited to the Como Jannali Rotary Club's Beneficiaries Night. Sara was presented with a cheque for \$2000 from the Club Secretary Mr Charles Mille. On behalf of the Minerva School Community we would like to thank the members of Como Jannali Rotary for their generosity and continued support of our school.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear parents/carers,

What a fabulous term so far!

Our students have participated in a Department of Education swimming program, enjoyed our annual visit from Healthy Harold and showcased their stimulating and engaging learning programs throughout Education Week, with the highlight being our parent open morning and Scintillating Science session.

It is always a pleasure to be able to celebrate the rigorous learning and exceptional opportunities offered to our students and it makes it so worthwhile for the students when they are joined by their friends and family on open days. We had a wonderful turn-out on Science Day, so thank you to all the parents, family members and friends who came along to share their students' educational journey and to take a moment out of their busy schedules to touch base with other families. As usual, the staff was welcoming, friendly and helpful and I think just a little bit chuffed to receive some positive and well deserved feedback from parents.

At the beginning of this term our whole staff attended a School Development Day in conjunction with the staff of Bates Drive School and Cook School. This day proved to be a dynamic and interactive day of professional learning which marked the official launch of our Learning for Life project: Integrated Occupational Therapy in SSPs. We were challenged to think outside the square and to welcome the possibilities of working with therapists in a team environment to provide the best opportunities for student success at school. Susan and Rachelle, our resident Occupational Therapists, have started work with our two pilot classes and will be presenting a parent information session on Monday August 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am. At the end of last term I sought your response about the proposal of widening our school entrance criteria and welcoming a Kindergarten to Yr. 2 cohort of students to Minerva. This idea was overwhelmingly supported by our school community and I am pleased to inform you that planning is now underway with our Assets Management Unit so that we can provide an appropriate, welcoming and safe environment for our new students next year. I will keep you informed about our progress and works during the coming months.

As I look forward to next year I am excited to think of some new possibilities and opportunities heading our way. As a school we are certainly responding to the needs and aspirations of our unique context and I thank you for and value your contributions whenever I ask for feedback and input. During the last half of this term I will be consulting with you in preparation for our next three year School Plan cycle, 2018-2020. It is hard to believe that our 'new' school plan, the current 2015-2017 plan, has almost reached a full cycle and we are now looking forward to determining what is important to us for the next three years! Some important projects and directions for you to consider during this time are: the opening of our new K-2 facility; our Learning for Life: Integrated Occupational Therapy in SSPs 3 year project and our Living Garden sustainability project. These are new and exciting projects and we will need to consider how we ensure they become embedded best practice in our school over the next three years and beyond.

**The remainder of this term is shaping up to be busy, busy, busy!! So please make sure you read and action the many notes that will be coming home in your child's bag.**

### Dates for your Diary:

21 <sup>st</sup> August	Tell Them From Me parent survey opens
21 <sup>st</sup> August	Beginning of Book Week - Buddy reading classes
24 <sup>th</sup> August	Term 3 Work Experience program commences
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Parent Coffee & Chat session - Integrated Occupational Therapy in SSPs
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Our first Post School student information session
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Groove Nation dance workshops commence
September 4 <sup>th</sup>	Minerva Student Reviews
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Assistance Dogs incursion
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bogan Bingo - major fundraiser for the 2017 year!!

Wow! That's a lot to fit in over the next five weeks.

A reminder that Bogan Bingo is now fast approaching. Many thanks for the wonderful array of prizes and donations we have received in support of our fundraiser - our parents, staff and community have been working really hard and it's going to make for a wonderful raffle and silent auction on the night. **Please call our school office and book your tickets for the night - so far we have only sold 60 tickets and we really need about 200 to make it a successful and fun evening.** Grab some family and friends and book a table of 8.

Finally, attached to this newsletter is an information and Frequently Asked Questions sheet about the Tell Them From Me online survey. This survey is an important means by which we can measure, assess and report insights from the parent perspective about student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. This survey is brilliantly easy to complete, as you can even do it in just a few minutes from your mobile phone!! **Let's aim for 100% response rate.** You can use your home computer, your mobile phone or you can even come into school on a Friday during Resource Room time and use one of our computers. The survey window is open from Monday August 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>. There is a unique logon for our parents to use: <https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/miner>

Enjoy the rest of the term. I'll be in touch soon to discuss future goals and directions, so start thinking about who we are? What we do well? And what focus might be important moving forward?

Sara Swift



Class Banksia went to visit Healthy Harold in Week Two

We learnt about our bodies and what is good fuel for them, the effects of sugar on our systems  
We also learnt about the importance of getting enough sleep and exercise

How being a good friend can change someone's life for the better







# endota spa



## Facials

	Duration	Price
Organic Infusion	50 min	\$120
Organic Express	30 min	\$75
New Age Light Therapy	60 min	\$165
Intense Radiance	45 min	\$140
Hydro-microdermabrasion	50 min	\$150
Dermalogica Skin	50 min	\$120
Dermalogica Active	60 min	\$145
Intense New Age	75 min	\$220

Power Series to repair

4 x 30 min treatment sessions of one of the following:

• Light Therapy (LED) or	\$340
• Hydro-microdermabrasion or	\$320
• Glycolic Peel	\$300

Power Programs to maintain

• Radiance	\$425
• Replenish	\$455
• Restore	\$520

Each program includes 3 x targeted treatments.

## Spa Packages

Surrender	75 min	\$155
Detox	60 min	\$135
Pregnant Pause	75 min	\$155
Revive	90 min	\$200
Grounding	60 min	\$100
Rejuvenate	120 min	\$270
Immerse	225 min	\$445

## Massages

	Duration	Price
Organic Relax	60 min	\$120
Deep Recovery	60 min	\$120
Remedial	50 min	\$120
Soothing Stones	80 min	\$165
Relax Express	30 min	\$75
Pregnancy	60 min	\$130
Custom	60 min	\$120

## Hands + Feet

Manicure or pedicure	45 min	\$85
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## Tinting

Lash tint	\$25
Brow tint	\$20
Lash + brow tint	\$35

## Tanning

Full body Organic spray tan	\$45
Full body Organic spray tan with exfoliation	\$85

## Waxing

Half leg	\$30	Bikini	\$25
Full leg	\$50	G-string	\$40
Half arm	\$20	Brazilian	\$65
Full arm	\$35	Lip + brow	\$30
Underarm	\$20	Upper lip	\$15
Chin	\$15	Stomach	from \$30
Face side	\$20	Chest	from \$30
Eyebrow	\$20	Back	from \$30

Visit our spa website for more treatment options and pricing.



endota spa GyMEA

At Tradies, 57 Manchester Road GyMEA NSW 2227

t. (02) 9002 5711 e. [gymea@endotaspaspa.com.au](mailto:gymea@endotaspaspa.com.au)

w. [endotaspaspa.com.au/gymea](http://endotaspaspa.com.au/gymea)



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the following students for the  
month of August  
Izack, James, Chris and Julian.



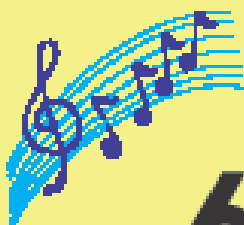
# MIRANDA NORTH Public School



*P. & C. Association invites you to join us in:*

**27 AUG  
2017**

**FROM  
10:00 AM  
TO  
3:00 PM**



*Celebrating*

**60 YEARS**

1957 ~ 2017

**SCHOOL FAIR**

**JOIN US AT THE SCHOOL**

**162b THE BOULEVARDE, MIRANDA**

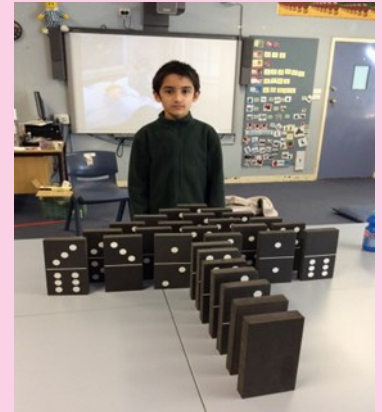
**FUN & GAMES FOR ALL THE FAMILY, RIDES\*, BBQ & FOOD OUTLETS  
CRAFT STALLS, MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT, SCHOOL MEMORABILIA,  
RAFFLES, SOUVENIRS & MUCH MORE. \*CONDITIONS APPLY**

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**Class Grevillea** has been completing assorted science tasks



Class Grevillea enjoyed making Volcanoes and watching them erupt !



Dante enjoys the Domino effect !



Dante and David testing items in the 'Sink or Float' experiment



Joshua records his results, Peter enjoys the chips and Dante loves the balloon fall outs

## Positive Behaviour Learning

Our teachers are continuing to teach and re-teach behaviours by focusing on a common behaviour throughout the week. Here is the planned teaching schedule for semester two:

Term	Week	Area	Expectation		Term	Week	Area	Expectation
3	1	Use the computers appropriately	Learning		4	1	Let others learn	Learning
3	2	Use equipment safely	Safety		4	2	Keep hands & feet to yourself	Safety
3	3	Share and take turns	Caring		4	3	Use the computers appropriately	Learning
3	4	Always do your best	Learning		4	4	Use equipment safely	Safety
3	5	Ask for help	Safety		4	5	Share and take turns	Caring
3	6	Care for each other	Caring		4	6	Always do your best	Learning
3	7	Keep personal space	Safety		4	7	Ask for help	Safety
3	8	Follow staff instructions	Learning		4	8	Care for each other	Caring
3	9	Be in the right place at the right time	Safety		4	9	Keep personal space	Safety
3	10	Use kind words	Caring		4	10	Follow staff instructions	Caring

The approach to teaching behaviors is just the same as for teaching academics, by focusing on what students should do, instead of what they shouldn't do. Each week we discuss with students what the expectation is, and show them what it looks like in the various areas of the school.





The Mind Matters team are continuing to implement and monitor the 2017 plan targets.

Following the success of previous Coffee and Chat Sessions being regarded as pleasant and worthwhile, the Term 3 Coffee and Chat Session is scheduled for 10:30am Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

We are pleased to be able to have the two Occupational Therapists who are working closely with our school: Rachelle Lewis and Susan Heiler presenting a session on **Sensory Processing**.

The staff at Minerva were provided with a presentation on the term 3 Staff Development Day, to which all staff found it enlightening and a consolidation of their previous understandings in managing and supporting the needs of our students for best outcomes.

As such we actively encourage any parent who is available to come along and join us on the **28<sup>th</sup> August at 10:30am**.

The Parent Information Area which is currently available on Fridays from 1.30 to 2.30pm, is an opportunity for parents to drop and access information on a wide range of topics relating to mental health, parenting courses, support agencies, respite services and more.

Web Sites of Interest:

[www.HEADSTRONG.org.au](http://www.HEADSTRONG.org.au)

[www.barnardos.org.au](http://www.barnardos.org.au)

# Library News

## NAIDOC Week

### Why do we celebrate?

NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our society.



Celebrating aboriginal culture, connection to each other, indigenous colours and craft ideas. This year we were inspired by the Tjanpi desert weavers from Northern Territory, students participated in weaving a rainbow snake. (now fondly named Stevie)

**Designing, making... Weaving, collaborating**



Together we learn about Australia's history and the significance of our indigenous people



# Book Week



Looking forward to celebrating Book Week with our Buddy Reading. Hope you can make it.

Congratulations to all the students who completed their Premiers Reading Challenge, certificates will be out next term.





# *Tell Them From Me* parent survey Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

## 1. What is the Partners in Learning parent survey?

The Partners in Learning parent survey is part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys on student engagement. The parent survey helps to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between parent and school.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights from the parent point of view at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

## 2. What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey questions aim at understanding parents' perspectives on their child's experience at school, including teaching, communication and the school's support of learning and behaviour. The survey also aims to understand parents' perspectives on activities and practices at home related to their child's learning.

The survey will ask parents questions about:

Parents feel welcome	Parents are informed	Parents support learning at home	Parents participation at school
School supports positive behaviour	Safety	Inclusion	School supports learning

## 3. How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open to all NSW government schools at no cost to them. Your school has decided to participate.

## 4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The parent survey provides school principals and school leaders with parents' perspectives on their school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home, and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour help build an accurate and timely picture that schools can use for practical improvements. Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

## 5. How does the parent survey relate to the student survey?

The parent survey is complementary to the *Tell Them From Me* student survey that your child may have been asked to complete. These surveys are offered (along with a teacher survey) to ensure schools can capture the views of students, teachers and parents.

For more detail on each of the surveys, see the survey website: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/>

## 6. What do I need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes 15 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, *The Learning Bar*. You will be provided with a link to complete the survey at home or your school may make computers available so that you can complete the survey during school hours.

## 7. Do I need to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Whilst your responses are very much appreciated, if during the survey, you feel uncomfortable, you can stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

## 8. Will the school be able to identify me or my child from my responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual parents or students from parent responses. To protect parent anonymity, schools will be provided with a single username and password for the school prior to the start of the survey period. This username and password will then be distributed to parents. Data suppression rules are applied to the school reporting tools where there are fewer than five responses.

## 9. What sort of analysis will be done of the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders can use the data to better understand the experiences and views of parents at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between parents and students' engagement, students' wellbeing, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

## 10. When will the Partners in Learning survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 21st August (Week 6, Term 3) and Friday 13th October 2017 (Week 1, Term 4).

### What is CESE?

The Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) is part of the Department of Education.

CESE has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in New South Wales.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all of education.

More information about CESE is available at: [www.cese.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cese.nsw.gov.au)

### What is *The Learning Bar*?

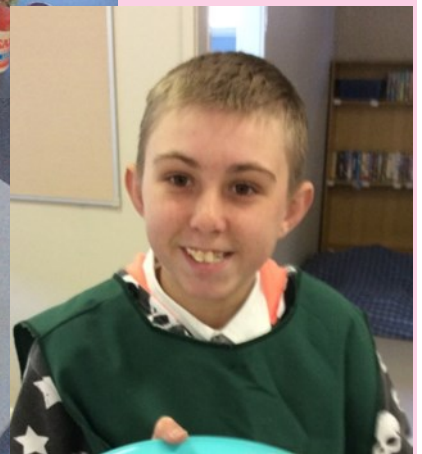
*The Learning Bar* specialises in research-based design and facilitation of student assessments and survey solutions for both primary and secondary students. The in-house research team led by the President, Dr J Douglas Willms, undertakes extensive projects used in the school system to effect national policy. It is against this research that the survey, *Tell Them From Me*, has become the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of the ten provinces. More than 4,500 schools and 3.5 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last twelve years.

Dr Willms holds the Canada Research Chair in Literacy and Human Development and played a lead role in the development of questions on student engagement for the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information about *The Learning Bar* is available at: [www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com)

If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: [TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au) or by telephone: 9561 8056 / 9561 8370.

**Class Wattle** are working on Early settlement of Australia in History. We have been finding out about how the Aboriginal people of Australia found food, water and shelter. Here we are preparing yams which are actually roots of certain trees- a staple in the aboriginal diet. Chris and Alessandro were the only two students brave enough to give them a try.



Class Wattle during the recent Science KLA day investigated which everyday liquids are acids and which are bases. Here we are in action





This term, for weeks 2,3 & 4 we were lucky enough to have Miss Tahlia, who completed her second professional experience, in **Class Waratah**. The students enjoyed her lessons and were actively involved in exciting, hands-on experiments. Class Waratah have also been busy with swimming, a visit from Healthy Harold and our lovely parents, joining us for our Science KLA day.



Seeing how water soaks into the ground with Miss Tahlia , and enjoying the lessons at the pool



Our visit from Healthy Harold, Miss Margot and our boys showing the parents what we can do.







Term 3 has been extremely busy and full of fun learning activities in the **Bottlebrush** classroom. We have been looking at "The Geosphere" and "The Rock Cycle" as well as volcanoes. We have been conducting experiments and creating amazing visual artworks. The boys have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen and have been absolute "rockstars". We have been completing Mathematics and Literacy activities on "studyladder" and the boys have all been working really hard.



ENGADINE PUBLIC SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS

**Family Fete**

**FUN DAY**

Sat 26 August  
9am - 3pm

OUR  
**85th**  
ANNIVERSARY

Proudly sponsored by  
**VISION**  
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**A DAY OF  
Awesome  
ENTERTAINMENT**

BBQ • CARNIVAL RIDES • CLASS STALLS • FACE PAINTING  
DUNK TANK • RAFFLES • TRASH N' TREASURE  
PETTING ZOO • HENNA ARTIST • GOZLEME • ICE CREAM  
DEVONSHIRE TEA • & MUCH, MUCH MORE!



## Class Protea and how to create a lovely bunch of flowers



**Class Eucalyptus** has had an action packed start to term 3. We enjoyed swimming lessons with our class mates and really appreciated our parents joining us for KLA open day. We are also learning new rugby league skills.

