

MINERVA SCHOOL

Learning for Life

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WEEK 5 TERM 4 2023

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I cannot believe there are only 5 weeks left of the school year. As I reflect on the year, it has been one of the most challenging and exciting of my career. We have encountered the trials of a teacher shortage, but it's through these challenges that we've emerged as a stronger, more resilient team.

Our teaching staff and support staff continue to be some of the best around. Their dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment to our students have been nothing short of inspiring. Despite the obstacles we've faced, they have persevered, ensuring our students receive a quality education and opportunities that they deserve.

Speaking of our students, I'm delighted to share that their progress has been nothing short of remarkable. Many of our senior students have achieved success in TAFE courses and EVET programs, setting the foundation for promising futures. Many students have also excelled and shown developing social skills during community access outings, displaying their growth and adaptability.

I'd like to take a moment to express my gratitude to the entire community for their active participation in our recent Aboriginal-themed Key Learning Area (KLA) day. This day was a great success and a testament to the importance of Aboriginal education and the rich cultural diversity within our community. Thank you to Miss Michelle, Miss Stephanie, Miss Tahlia and all involved in the planning of this fantastic afternoon.

This Term, we welcome a new student to Minerva School. Welcome to Rhianna who has joined class Grevillea and is settling into her new routines. We also welcome some new teaching staff to Minerva School. Miss Louise has been working with the Bottlebrush students on Mondays and Tuesdays and Miss Melissa who has been working across the Minerva classes.

In the midst of all the challenges we've faced this year, it's essential to celebrate the victories and milestones we've achieved. Together, as a united community, we are shaping the future for our students, and I'm incredibly proud to be part of this journey with all of you.

Presentation day is fast approaching. This is happening on Tuesday 6th December. We look forward to welcoming you all then. Our Year 12 graduation evening is happening on Tuesday 12th December.

As we approach the final weeks of the term, let's continue to support each other and our students, ensuring they receive the best education possible. Thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment to our school.

Kind regards,
Sarah Ellingham
Principal



Acknowledgement of Country Naggangbi gweagalgulli nguranhung nhay

We follow in your sacred steps, the custodians of our past and future.

We respect Dharawal Country, the land that brings us
together to learn and support one another.

We honour the whale who protects us and guides
us to calmer waters.

We reach for the sky to chase our dreams.
We touch the ground to show our strength.
We hold our hearts as we stand together.

CRUNCH & SIP

A huge thank you to the entire Minerva community for ensuring our students enjoy nutritious and wholesome lunches daily, which will support them to grow, learn and make good choices.

Crunch & Sip is a set time for you child to eat vegetables or fruit and drink water in the classroom.

A TOP TIP:

Involve your child in the process of selecting fruits and vegetables at the supermarket. Use this as an opportunity to explore different types of fruits and vegetables and encourage them to try new and unfamiliar ones!



Some members of Class Waratah enjoying their fruit and vege!

Don't forget to pack your Crunch & Sip!

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WATTLE

Class Wattle have had a great beginning of Term 4. We have enjoyed collaborating with Class Lilli Pilli for Science and History. We have had lots of fabulous fun in our dancing lessons on Fridays. We have also enjoyed having our Prac Student Ms Rebel helping us.



Miss Charmaine and Miss Julie B

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WARATAH



This term we are learning all about forces! Some favourites have been friction and magnets.

Miss Tahlia and Miss Peta

Class Lilli Pilli

Class Lilli Pilli continues to make spectacular progress in all their subjects. In English, students are advancing their literacy skills through the Sounds-Write program and are enjoying saying and writing CVC words. They're also immersed in a play-based study of the text 'Possum Magic' by the fabulous Mem Fox. In Mathematics, they are using long-arm scales to explore concepts related to weight, such as heavy and light, same and different, which translates into practical lessons on addition and subtraction. We are also learning about data and how to group and classify objects. In Science, we are Investigating items that can be pushed and pulled, thus encouraging hands-on learning and scientific inquiry. It is a great way for students to explore the laws of physics and understand the principles of force. In History, the focus is on 'First Contacts,' and we will soon be embarking on the journey of our 'present and past', providing a valuable context for students to learn about the history of our region. For PE, the dance program is enhancing their physical coordination and artistic expression. Our Lilli Pilli students are thriving in their academic, physical, emotional and creative development, and we look forward to their continued growth throughout Term 4.



Miss Nicole, Miss Charmaine and Miss Pauline

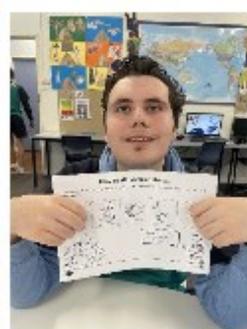
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BOTTLEBRUSH

Just amazing!



EUCALYPTUS

Class Eucalyptus

Class Eucalyptus have been exploring forces in science, including friction and gravity. In maths we have been gathering and depicting data in graphs and practicing our addition skills. We have enjoyed exploring parks in our community access, dancing with Miss Kara and making Halloween and Diwali treats in Food Technology.



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BANKSIA

Class Banksia in action



Harvesting celery and snow peas

Ball skills

Reading aloud daily

Chance and probability in Maths

Social board games

Ancient History

Canvas painting

PIC-COLLAGE

Mr Aris, Miss Julie D and Miss Merrel



Class Grevillea

Term Four is in full swing!

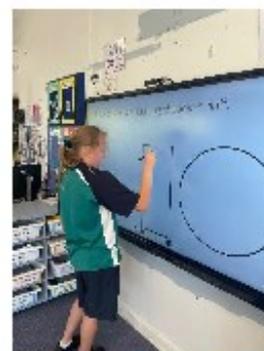
The students came back ready and willing to learn at the start of term four and we enjoyed hearing about everyone's school holidays!

This term we have got straight to work with our numeracy focusing on fractions as well as starting our data and chance topic. We will be studying the text, 'My Place' for English and continuing our Sounds-write programme. The students have started our history topic of Ancient Greece as well as dance as part of our visual arts curriculum.

In week three we were joined by a new student; Rhianna and we welcome her to Minerva school.

Thank you to those who were able to join us for KLA day it was lovely to share our aboriginal pedagogy with you all.

For the remainder of the term I will continue to be onsite everyday and we are fortunate to continue to have Megan as our SLSO full time for the year. We look forward to a fantastic end to the school year.



November 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4	5	6 Presentation Day	7	8	9
10	11	12 Yr 12 Graduation Evening	13	14	15 LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS	16
17	18 SDD	19 SDD	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30