DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 2 2015

JUNE
Friday 26th
LAST DAY OF TERM 2

TERM 3 2015

JULY
Monday 13th
Staff Development Day.

Tuesday 14th
Students Return to school for Term 3

Monday 27th
Annual Minerva Art Exhibition

AUGUST
Monday 3rd
Circus Quirkus

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE MINERVA LIVING AND WORK SKILLS ROOM

See page 3 for details

Donations to Minerva School are now tax deductible.
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Term 2 has been a very busy time for both staff and students. We have had Pyjama Day, a Disco, Cross Country, Mothers Day Shopping, School Photos, several Staff vs students competitions, the opening of the Living & Work Skills Room and lastly student reports for Semester One. I would like to thank the many families who have joined us this term for some of these activities. We welcome your support and enthusiasm and look forward to more events next term.

LIVING SKILLS ROOM COMPLETION

We had the official opening of the refurbished Living and Work Skills Room on Tuesday 16th June. Thank you to the parents who came to help us celebrate. Please take time to read all about it on the front cover and following page.

EDUCATION WEEK—ANNUAL ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

We will be holding our annual Art & Craft Exhibition next term during Education Week on Monday 27th July. We hope you will come along and see the wonderful items our students have been preparing. More details will follow early next term.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY TERM 3

Staff will return on Monday 13th July for Professional Development. We will be focusing on Positive Behaviour Learning and School Plan Strategic Directions and delivery of our new playground program. More information on this new initiative will be in the next newsletter. Students will return to school on Tuesday 14th July.

I would like to wish all our students, families and our hard working Minerva staff a relaxing and wonderful holiday break.

Regards
Fiona Young
PRINCIPAL
THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE MINERVA LIVING AND WORK SKILLS ROOM

On Tuesday 16th June 2015, we celebrated the opening of the newly refurbished Living and Work Skills Room. We also took the opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many businesses and individuals who have so generously given of their time, skills and goods to make this wonderful learning space come to fruition.

We now have a beautiful, modern and functioning learning space for the students. The programs delivered in this room focus on developing and building each student’s independence skills. Basic cooking, washing dishes, stacking a dishwasher, loading and starting a washing machine, hanging out the washing, folding and ironing, sweeping and vacuuming are just some of the skills taught. These programs not only allow the students to be as independent as possible, it also gives them an opportunity to put other skills like shopping, basic maths and reading to use in a functional way that will benefit them.

Before the renovation, the kitchen was a tired and bland area. The stoves were old and breaking down and the microwaves were no longer user friendly. Essentially it was in serious need of an upgrade which the school was unable to fund on its own.

The transformation of the kitchen has taken place due to the driving force of Tracey Youssef, a parent with a commitment to improving the learning opportunities of not only her son but for all the students of Minerva. Tracey coordinated the entire project—from tirelessly organising working bees involving staff and herself, she liaised with a multitude of businesses and individuals who donated their time, services and goods to refurbish the kitchen.

The massive project entailed new paint work throughout, new cupboards, a pantry, bench tops, sinks and tapware, 3 new ovens and stoves, 3 new microwave ovens, a dishwasher, fridge, new cooking appliances and utensils, new stainless steel work table tops and new blinds that are still to be delivered.

On behalf of Minerva staff and students we would like to sincerely say thank you to Tracey for her efforts and generosity. We would also like to thank Natasha Nagle from Ray White Menai who has once again provided significant support to the Minerva Community. We would also like to individually acknowledge and thank the following businesses that generously contributed to this project.

Bruno Inzitari from INZ Kitchens, Jamie Zanzoul from Whiteline Painters & Decorators, George Homsy for the tiling, Joe Rehayem from Turn Me On Electrical, Jay Katrib from Titanic Plumbing, Dib Jaajaa from DJ Plumbing & Gasfitters, Jake from Royal Blinds and Carpets, Sam from Pacific Tiles and of course our hard working P&C.

Please consider supporting these businesses in your next venture. Their contact details are on page 13 of this newsletter.

Regards
Fiona Young

Tracey doing a bit of demolition work in the old pantry!
MINERVA’S POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD SYSTEM

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have received the following awards during the month of June

Excellence Awards
Roland, Kurt, Daylan

The following students had earned enough stickers to choose from Mrs Young’s Prize Cabinet
Malachi, Kane, Julian

Keep up the good work!
Fiona Young
Principal

Happy Birthday to the following students for the months of June and July
David, Lachlan, Sebi, Peter Anthony, Kane, Michael P and Kieran.

CLASS N
We have been learning which environments animals live in.
Choose water as a drink

Tap water is not only thirst quenching, but it also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Water is:

- cheap
- readily available
- a thirst quencher without any kilojoules or sugar

essential for the optimal function of the body

Toddlers need around 1 litre of fluid a day and children around 1.2 litres each day to stay hydrated (more in hot weather). Most children enjoy drinking water if they get into the habit from an early age. Make water ‘the norm’ in your household by always having water available for children and drinking plenty of water yourself.

Class S has been working hard in the sensory garden every Thursday afternoon. We have been watering the plants, trees and flowers, going on treasure hunts finding clues and animal tracks, taking photos and videos of the natural environment and having lots of fun along the way!
Congratulations to all students on their progress so far with the Premiers Reading Challenge. Cosy up with a good read in the holidays and bring in your lists at the beginning of next term for the final count down! Happy holidays.
Class C

Our Term in Pictures
Class R have been enjoying the school recycling can crushing.

Warwick painting Queensland red

David and Joshua taking care in painting during work on Australia

Kieran really enjoys his music 'Choice Time'

And Nicholas completing a shape and size activity.
Class K have had a lovely Term. As well as our other subjects, we are learning about Australian animals and their habitats. We have also enjoyed our Sensory program, using the sensory room and the sensory garden as well as doing some yoga. We have been working creatively in Art on some special projects.

We also enjoyed playing against the staff in Sport. Having draws in Newcombe ball and softball /soccer and then we beat the staff at soccer! We are really looking forward to next term and more Minerva fun!

Have a lovely holiday from all of us...

Miss Kat, Miss Sharon, Miss Jane (on Wednesdays) Adam, Alexander, Bailey, James G, James H, Lachlan and Roland…
SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Minerva School Art & Craft Expo is on again this year.

Date: Monday 27th July 2015
Where: Minerva School Hall
Time: 1.30pm until 5pm

There will be a variety of art and craft items made by our students on display and available for sale on the day. Here are just some of the projects the students have been working on.
**Class A** have been working on a project called 'The Shire'. We have investigated popular places in the Sutherland Shire and identified useful services in the local community. We have designed and created our own map of the Shire. We have also looked at modes of transport and reading directions to travel around the Shire.

**We have been learning about cloud types. We have been using a cloud identifier.**

**CLASS M**

Julian shared some interesting news about a piece of coal he found on a visit to a railway museum.

We have been practising our soccer skills too!

Chris was using a bubble machine to make bubbles within bubbles!

The class M boys enjoyed pyjama day.
During Term 2, **Class L** have been going to Sutherland Leisure Centre to participate in Boot Camp fitness class. Over the past 5 weeks they have been taught various stretching techniques and have learnt how to use some of the gymnasium’s exercise equipment. The students have further developed gross motor skills along with getting fit and having fun. Well done guys, great effort for all involved!!!!

This term **Class T** have been looking at our community and environment, concentrating on our Aboriginal heritage and First Settlement. We have been doing a lot of research projects and created posters showing what we have learnt so far. We have also been continuing growing different herbs and spices in our Sensory Garden, and working hard to keep our school environment clean and tidy. As a class we continue working on our class rules through our Acts of Kindness and Friendships challenge, trying our best to be kind and friendly to others. Thank you from Class T.

Mr. Travis, Mrs. Edie and Mrs. Kylie
MINERVA LIVING AND WORK SKILLS ROOM
SUPPORTERS

Minerva School Community would like to thank the following individuals and supporters for their generous support and donations. Without their support we would not have been able to achieve the refurbishment of the Living and Work Skills Room. Please consider these businesses for your next purchase or venture.

Tracey Youssef and Family
Natasha Nagle of Ray White Menai/Sutherland Ph: 0415 500 215
Bruno Intazari of INZ Kitchens Pty Ltd Ph: 9607 5511
Jamie Zanzoul of Whiteline Painters & Decorators Ph: 0449 534 391
George Homsy for all your tiling needs: Please contact the school
Joe Rehayem from Turn Me On Electrical Ph: 0413 939 653
Jay Katrib from Titanic Plumbing Ph: 0403 363 666
Jake from Royal Blinds and Carpets Ph: 0450 111 900
Sam from Pacific Tiles

Our Sam with George Homsy who retiled the kitchen walls

INZ Kitchens Pty Ltd
Custom Made Designer Kitchens & Vanities

DJ Plumbing & Gasfitters
Licensed Plumber, Drafter, Gasfitter & LP Gasfitter

DIB JAAJAA
Mobile: 0414 669 667
PO Box 312 Miranda NSW 1490
SRC Pyjama day
FREE FOOD PANTRY
When: Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30pm.
Who: Southside Care aid to people on Centrelink or low income.
Where: At 175 Port Hacking Rd Miranda
Contact: Phone 9522 4300 for more details

LOW COST FOOD PANTRY
When: Wednesdays
Who: Free fruit, vegies, bread for people on Centrelink or low income.
Where: Hub Community Centre 38/52 President Avenue, Caringbah.
Contact: 9525 4971 for more details.

We would like to thank Bella Bakery at Sutherland for their recent generous support of our school.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KNITTING BLANKET SQUARES

“Wrap with Love” is a volunteer organisation that distributes blankets within Australia and to over 75 overseas countries, particularly countries that have suffered natural disasters and civil unrest. These blankets are made from 28 squares that are knitted by volunteers. The Rotary Club of Como Jannali has a band of volunteers that knit, crotched and help sew the 28 squares to make beautiful warm blankets. If you would like to help knit and/or sew please Contact Diane Curtis from Como-Jannali Rotary on 0408 125 971.
SENSORY SCREENING
FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Sunday 28th June
@ 11am
(entertainment in the foyer from 10am)

minions

Sensory Movie Day is an inclusive monthly event for families with special needs or sensory processing disorders.

Children are free to roam around the cinema, flap or stim, talk and generally be themselves. This is a non-judgmental session and there is no need for families to feel uncomfortable. Lighting stays on dim (not dark) and sound is lowered. Fire exit doors are monitored by volunteers for those escape artists.

Tickets: $8 each (You will need a membership card to purchase tickets at the cinema, but these are available in the foyer on the day).
Children 2 years and under are free.
Companion ID cards accepted.

Cronulla Cinemas 2 - 6 Cronulla St, Cronulla NSW 2230
sensorymovieday.cronulla@hotmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/SensoryMovieDayCronulla