

# Bulletin

## Minmi Public School

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Thursday 4th April 2019

## Dear Parents and Carers,

**Important Dates for your Calendar below**  
Events can also be followed on our  
**School Website and School App.**



DATE	EVENT
<b>Term 1</b>	
<b>Week 10</b>	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Out of Uniform for Easter Eggs
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	School Cross Country
<b>Week 11</b>	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Senior Girls Talk
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Teeth on Wheels Clinic
<b>Term 2</b>	
<b>Week 1</b>	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	School Anzac Day Service
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Zone Cross Country
<b>Week 2</b>	
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Mother's Day Stall
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	P&C AGM + Meeting
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	School Photo Day
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Lovely ladies Afternoon Tea + Performance
<b>Week 3/4</b>	
14 <sup>th</sup> May – 24 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN Online Test Times TBC
<b>Week 5</b>	
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Life Education Centre Visit

Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 6.30pm	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 6</b>	
<b>Week 7</b>	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	K-2 Pet Safety Talk
<b>Week 8</b>	
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Refugee Week
<b>Week 9</b>	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Carnival
<b>Week 10</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Sem 1 Reports Home
<b>TERM 3</b>	
<b>Change to Staff Development Day/ Pupil Free Day from Week 1 Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Week 5 Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August</b>	
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole School Presentation Day

## Have you seen these notes?

- Mega Note
- NAPLAN Information
- Authority to Share information
- Public Speaking
- Easter Hat Parade
- Wizard of Oz tickets EOI
- Senior Girls Talk

## Principal's Message

### Public Schools are awesome!

What wonderful endorsement of the values of Public Education when the Prize winning

school of the Wizard of Oz Dress Up Day Competition rings up to offer our school 100 tickets! I was so humbled to receive the call from Coal Point Public School to let us know they would like to share the prize tickets with us. They heard about how we were a small school and they were blown away by how many votes we were able to cast so wanted to share the prize. This is everything I love about Public education! As this event takes place in the holidays we realise that some students may not be able to attend and parent/ carer transport and supervision will be required. An expression of interest note will come home today and explains all the details. Students are able to return their notes from 8.30am next Monday and tickets will be distributed on a 'first come, first served' basis.

I have extended a huge 'Thank you!' to Coal Point Public School on behalf of our students for their generosity and kindness. I am sure everyone who gets to go along will enjoy the show enormously!

Mrs Bellamy  
Principal (Rel)



## P&C

The next Minmi Public School P&C General Meeting and Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 6:30 pm. The P&C Committee now have an email address. Please contact them if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

[minmipublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au](mailto:minmipublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au)



### AWARD GRINNERS WEEKS 8 & 9



## Easter Hat Parade

Come along and join the fun of our Easter Hat Parade at MPS on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm. We always have a great response to our parade with all students K-6 participating. The Kinder buddies love seeing their big buddies in an Easter Hat! Hats are to be made at home and brought on the day. They will be kept safe in classrooms until the event. As the weather is always unpredictable please don't decorate hats with chocolate as this makes a mess if they melt. The parade will start at 2pm but come along from 1pm to share a BBQ sausage sizzle lunch with your children before the parade starts. Following the parade we will be drawing the Easter Raffle! Don't forget to buy your tickets, extra books available from the front office.



## Leaders Link Day

Mrs McGilchrist and Mrs Bellamy spent Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March with school leaders from across the Callaghan West Community of schools. It was a fantastic day of leadership, public speaking and teamwork activities. Georgia, Lucas J, Ella, Lucas W, Elizabeth, Abby, Breanna and Mac did a great job working in their own team and with students from other schools who will be attending Callaghan College Wallsend Campus in 2020. It was wonderful to see some ex Minmi students who have gone on to leadership roles at High School.



## Tell Them From Me Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 11 March and 12 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students.

<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

## Cross Country

**CROSS COUNTRY FRIDAY 5th APRIL  
1:00PM**

Our Cross Country will commence at 1:00pm this coming Friday (5th April). The students will partake in an early lunchtime, starting at 12pm.

\*The 8/9 and under 10 age groups will run our circuit 5 times (2 kms) while the 11 and 12 age groups will begin with one lap around the school oval before attempting to complete the Cross Country circuit 8 times (3 kms).

\*If any parents are interested in lending a hand (manning a position around the course for a while, handing out zooper doopers or marking the students' laps, etc) please let Miss Buckle know on/before Friday.

\*Sports uniform and appropriate footwear must be worn. Students may wear house colours and accessories if they please.

\*Please bring/wear sun cream, a hat and a water bottle.

\*All children in Years 3 to 6 will be expected to participate unless a note from a parent or guardian is given to their teacher.

\*Boys or girls not turning eight this year from Year 2 will participate in a modified Cross Country course with the other K-2 students.

\*A team will be selected to represent Minmi at the Zone Carnival. A note will be sent home to the relevant students in T2.

\*All children participating will receive a zooper dooper ice-block at the conclusion of their race.

\*We need to make sure that the course is clear for runners at all times. It is important for spectators to watch the races from the bank alongside the oval or near the mini COLA, and choose an appropriate time, perhaps between races, to move around the course areas.

\*Our back up date for the school cross country is Friday 12th April.

\*Our canteen will be operating on Friday. Please let Katrina Melling know if you are able to help at any time on this day- especially to assist with handing out ice-blocks.

Happy Cross Country!!!!

Miss Buckle

## Car Parking Courtesy

Please be reminded to park carefully and courteously around our school. We have neighbours that we should be mindful of and a large amount of vehicles in a limited parking area can test the patience in all of us. Please be patient and courteous towards each other, if you are running late, please contact the office and drive and park safely.

## Be Allergy Aware

Please be reminded that no nuts or nut products are to be brought to school. We have students who are anaphylactic and it is up to all of us to keep them safe from a potentially deadly reaction.



## Safety Drills

Safety drills are a mandatory component of the WHS procedures in our school. In Term 1 all staff and students have participated in

Evacuation Drill - 10/03/2019

Lockdown Drill – 28/03/2019

School procedures ensure students with special needs are catered to in all drills conducted. All drills are evaluated and procedures and equipment are updated where necessary.

## World's Longest Coin Line

The aim was 76 kms of 5c coins. Unfortunately we didn't make it but \$27, 642 was raised for Childhood Cancer research. The event will run again next year in September and Minmi Public School has pledged our support to Lions Club Elmore Vale for such a wonderful event! Start your 5c coin collections now!

## NAPLAN Online 2019

The NAPLAN Practise test is designed to familiarise the students with the NAP Lockdown program and took place on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April (Week 10) There are no scores recorded from this test.

The official NAPLAN Online tests will take place in Term 2 Week 3 and 4 between the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> May.

## Term 1 Interviews

Thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to engage with classroom teachers on student learning. If you have not yet had the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher you can contact the front office to negotiate a meeting time.

## Note System

Just a reminder how our note system works. Notes will go home on 'Note Day Thursday' in most instances. There may be occasions where a note needs to be issued on other days. All students have been issued with a red 'note folder'. Please ensure this checked and is returned to school each day. Our notes are colour coded for specific purposes.

**Pink** = Payment Required

**Blue** = Sport

**White** = Information only

**Purple** = P&C

## Infectious Illnesses

Some schools in our local area have had cases of some infectious illnesses. Both Gastro and Whooping Cough, among other ailments have been reported in higher numbers in schools and daycare centres across the Newcastle and Hunter area. Information about a range of these illnesses and their 'exclusion time frames' is attached at the end of this bulletin for parents and carer information.

## Proposed Change to Staff Development Day Term 3

As a proud member of the Callaghan community of schools, Minmi PS staff are regularly supported to access high quality professional learning through our association. In Term 3 our staff will attend staff development with a number of our community schools which would normally be unaccessable for a small school staff. To access this learning there will need to be a change of Staff Development Day/ Pupil Free day in term 3. Instead of the first day of term 3 week 1 Monday (22<sup>nd</sup> July) the Staff Development Day/ Pupil Free day will be on the first day of week 5 (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August). This notice is to inform the school community and the matter was raised at the P&C Meeting on 20/03/19. If you have any concerns about this reschedule please contact the school.

## Opportunity Class Placement Offers for 2020

Opportunity classes cater for academically gifted and talented students who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.



Applications for opportunity class placement are considered mainly on the combined results of the Opportunity Class Placement Test and school assessments.

The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 31 July 2019.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2020, you need to apply soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from Tuesday 30 April 2019 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

The application website opens on Tuesday 30 April 2019 and closes on Friday 17 May 2019. You must apply by the due date.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Team for assistance after 30 April 2019.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

## **Soccer Knockout Competition**

A great effort for our soccer knockout team against Shortland PS with a 1 Nil win. Apparently it was a heart stopping game!



## **Meet Hamish!**



Hamish and his handler will be joining us from the Delta Society's 'Classroom Canines' program next term. As part of our commitment to the wellbeing of our students we recognise the positive impact pets as therapy animals can have. All safety processes and procedures will be completed before Hamish arrives next term. Please contact your classroom teacher if your child is allergic to dogs or overly fearful of dogs and alternative activities can be arranged.

## **Fence Construction**

Construction on our Woodford St boundary fence is programmed to begin next week and be completed throughout the holiday period. The work is expected to be completed during week 1 next term. Once gating is in place protocols around lock out times and access procedures will be communicated to the whole school community.

## **Kinder Interest for 2020 & 2021**

Future planning is an important part of managing any school and Minmi Public School is no exception. We are interested in gathering information about potential enrolment numbers for the future. Please notify the office if you have children who you believe will be starting school over the next few years.

# All Welcome

## Term 1 Assembly Item Timetable Fridays 2:30pm

Week 1	N/A
Week 2	Swimming Carnival
Week 3	1/2
Week 4	2/3
Week 5	3/4
Week 6	5/6
Week 7	K
Week 8	1/2
Week 9	2/3
Week 10	School Cross Country
Week 11	3/4
<b>Term 2</b>	
Week 1	5/6





# Infectious diseases of childhood

## Diseases Factsheet

*Children are at increased risk of some infectious diseases because they have not yet developed immunity to them, they tend to gather in groups, and they may have difficulty with some aspects of hygiene*

### Chicken Pox

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

10 to 21 days, usually 14 to 16 days.

**Symptoms** Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Immunise your child at 18 months of age. Immunisation is recommended for children at 12 years if they are not immune.

### Conjunctivitis

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

1-3 days.

**Symptoms** The eye feels scratchy, is red and may water. Lids may stick together on waking.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, while there is discharge from the eye.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Careful hand washing; avoid sharing towels. Antibiotics may be needed.

### Gastroenteritis

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

Depends on the cause: several hours to several days.

**Symptoms** A combination of frequent loose or watery stools, vomiting, fever, stomach cramps, headaches.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, at least for 24 hours after diarrhoea stops.

**How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing with soap and water after using the toilet or handling nappies and before touching food.

### German Measles (Rubella)

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

14 to 21 days.

#### **Symptoms**

Often mild or no symptoms: mild fever, runny nose, swollen nodes, pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time. Can cause

birth defects if pregnant women are infected.

**Do I need to keep my child home?**

Yes, for at least 4 days after the rash appears.

**How can I help prevent spread?**

Immunisation (MMR) at 12 months and 4 years of age.

### Glandular Fever

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

4 to 6 weeks.

#### **Symptoms**

Fever, headache, sore throat, tiredness, swollen nodes.

**Do I need to keep my child home?**

No, unless sick.

**How can I help prevent spread?**

Careful hand washing, avoid sharing drinks, food and utensils, and kissing.

### Hand Foot and Mouth Disease

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

3 to 5 days.

**Symptoms** Mild illness, perhaps with a fever, blisters around the mouth, on the hands and feet, and perhaps the nappy area.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until the blisters have dried.

**How can I help prevent spread?**

Careful hand washing especially after wiping nose, using the toilet and changing nappies.

### Head Lice

#### **Time from infestation to eggs hatching**

Usually 7 to 10 days.

**Symptoms** Itchy scalp, white specks stuck near the base of the hairs; lice may be found on the scalp.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** No, as long as head lice management is ongoing.

**How can I prevent spread?**

Family, friends and classroom contacts should be examined and treated if infested. Clothing

and bedding should be washed in hot water.

### Hepatitis A

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

About 4 weeks (can range from 2 to 7 weeks).

**Symptoms** Often none in small children; sudden fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, for 2 weeks after first symptoms or 1 week after onset of jaundice.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Careful hand washing; those that have had close contact with an infected child may need to have an injection of immunoglobulin; immunisation is recommended for some people.

### Impetigo (school sores)

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

1 to 3 days.

**Symptoms** Small red spots change into blisters that fill up with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until antibiotic treatment starts. Sores should be covered with watertight dressings.

**How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing.

### Influenza

#### **Time from exposure to illness**

1 to 3 days.

**Symptoms** Sudden onset fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until they look and feel better.

**How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing, especially after coughing, sneezing or wiping your nose. Immunisation is recommended for children with chronic illnesses.

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

# Infectious diseases of childhood

## Diseases Factsheet

*Children are at increased risk of some infectious diseases because they have not yet developed immunity to them, they tend to gather in groups, and they may have difficulty with some aspects of hygiene*

### Measles

**Time from exposure** About 10 to 12 days until first symptoms, and 14 days until the rash develops.

**Symptoms** Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts 4 to 7 days.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, for at least 4 days after the rash appears. **How can I prevent spread?** Immunisation (MMR) at 12 months and 4 years. Childcare/school attendees who are not immune may be excluded for 14 days after onset in the last case at the facility.

### Meningococcal Disease

**Time from exposure to illness** Usually 3 to 4 days (can range from 2 to 10 days).

**Symptoms** Sudden onset of fever and a combination of headache, neck, stiffness, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness or rash.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Seek medical attention immediately.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Individuals who have had close contact with the infected child should see their doctors urgently if symptoms develop, and may need to have a special antibiotic. Immunisation with Meningococcal C vaccine at 12 months of age.

### Molluscum Contagiosum

**Time from exposure to illness** 7 days to 6 months.

**Symptoms** Multiple small lumps (2-5mm) on the skin that are smooth, firm and round, with dimples in the middle. Lumps in children are mostly on the face, trunk, and upper arms and legs. Symptoms can last 6 months to 2 years without treatment.

**Do I need to keep my child at home?** No.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Avoid contact sports when a child has uncovered lumps.

### Mumps

**Time from exposure to illness** Usually 16 to 18 days (can range from 12 to 25 days).

**Symptoms** Fever, swollen and tender glands around the jaw.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, for 9 days after onset of swelling.

**How can I prevent spread?** Immunisation (MMR) at 12 months and 4 years of age.

### Ringworm

**Time from exposure to till illness**

Varies (may be several days).

**Symptoms** Small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until the day after fungal treatment has begun.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Careful hand washing.

### Scabies

**Time from exposure to illness** New infections: 2 to 6 weeks; reinfection: 1 to 4 days.

**Symptoms** Itchy skin, worse at night. Worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, groin and between fingers and toes.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until the day after the treatment has begun.

**How can I prevent spread?** Individuals who have had close contact with the infected child should be examined for infestation and be treated if necessary. Wash linen, towels and clothing worn in the past 2 days in hot water and detergent.

### Scarlet Fever

**Time from exposure to illness** 1 to 3 days.

**Symptoms** Sudden onset sore throat, high fever and vomiting,

followed by a rash in 12 to 36 hours.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until at least 24 hours of treatment has begun and the child is feeling better.

**How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing. Sick contacts should see their doctor.

### Slapped Cheek

**Time from exposure to illness** 1 to 2 weeks.

**Symptoms** Mild fever, red cheeks, itchy lace-like rash, and possibly cough, sore throat or runny nose. Can cause foetal disease in pregnant women if they have not been previously infected.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** No as it is most infectious before the rash appears.

**How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing; avoid sharing drinks.

### Whooping Cough

Infectious diseases of childhood page 6 of 6 **Time from exposure to illness** Usually 9 to 10 days (can range from 6 to 20 days).

**Symptoms** Starts with a running nose, followed by persistent cough that comes in bouts. Bouts maybe followed by vomiting and a whooping sound as the child gasps for air.

**Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until the first 5 days of a special antibiotic have been taken.

**How can I help prevent spread?** Immunisation at 2, 4, 6 months and 4 years of age. A particular antibiotic can be given for the patient and those that have been in close contact. The infected child should be excluded from childcare and school until 5 days after treatment begins. Unimmunised childcare attendees may be excluded from childcare unless they take the antibiotics.