As the year draws to a close I wish to thank the parents for their ongoing support for each student’s learning.

Both parents and students have embraced the new opportunities introduced this year of the Dance Troup, the clubs, the Elite Sport program and Reading Café.

Next year we will introduce a non-fee paying school.

This will require an email address from each family otherwise we may be required to establish an administration fee for mailing.

We are also introducing Student Learning Plans for all students which require - 85% attendance, no truancy, equipment brought to class and 100% submission of assignment work.

We have developed inbuilt strategies to support students to achieve these goals and believe this is possible.

I thank you again for your support and have a safe and happy holiday 

Cathy Anderson
Principal
Have you ever wondered what goes on during the day with your children?

Visit:
http://web1.mtdruitt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal/register

You will need an active email account and each student has an individual login.
Student Name: ______________________________
Access Key (Case Sensitive): ________________
ATTENDANCE: IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY!

Many students have their educational progress severely interrupted by absences which are more often than not unnecessary.

To reach their potential at school, students need to attend regularly. This means students may only be absent from school with genuine reasons such as being sick. The Department of Education and Training (DET) expects every parent to provide notification to the school for every absence either partial or whole day that a student has away from school either by contacting the school by means of telephone or in writing through a letter within 2 days of the student’s return to school.

How could any student be expected to keep up with work in such circumstances? Parents - you have a critical role to play in protecting your own child’s future.

Absences can be minimised by arranging dental and doctor’s appointments after school or during the holidays – you need to book ahead, why not book now for school holidays later in the year. Shopping, helping at home, and visiting relatives may all seem important at the time – but not as important as a person’s FUTURE. The DET does not recognise these reasons as genuine reasons and can request further investigation to take place by involving the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) in the matter.

We (parents and the school) need to work together to help students to understand the importance of being at school whenever possible, and trivial reasons for absences are not sufficient to discharge parents’ legal responsibilities.

Schools and parents have a legal responsibility to account for the whereabouts of young people daily (and in the evenings as well). Every child is expected to attend school every day until the age of 17.

Studies show there is a far greater chance of students becoming early school leavers and/or long term unemployed adults, if they don’t attend school regularly. For every day a student is absent from school, it will take 3 days for him/her to catch up on his/her work.

We all can work together to make a difference to your student’s future.

*Be on time, Be at school, that’s the rule!*
Dance in 2016

**CONTEMPORARY**

**ABORIGINAL/ CULTURAL**

**JAZZ/ HIP HOP**

Come along on Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunch time practices in the school hall.

Perform at local primary schools, formal assemblies, presentation night, audition for Sydney West Dance Festival and School Spectacular!

See Mrs Bunt in the PDHPE staffroom for more details.
A reminder that the CCMD Homework Centre runs every Monday of the school term in the library. It is held between **2:50pm** and **3:50pm** and a light afternoon tea is provided for students in attendance.

Students are able to access the computers, printers, library books and teacher support. They also have the choice of working independently or in small groups.

We are currently enjoying an outstanding staff turnout at Homework Centre each week, with specialised homework help available from teachers with experience in a range of learning areas, including English, Maths, Visual Arts, PDHPE and Technology.

Come along and see what it’s all about!

*Students are able to collect a permission note from Mrs Coid in the Library.*
Last term, In League In Harmony Ambassadors from our school were invited to attend the inaugural NRL In League In Harmony Ambassadors Conference. The conference was held at the Parramatta Leagues Club. Throughout the conference students participated in team building activities, leadership workshops and presentations by guest speakers. All students enjoyed the day and represented themselves, their family and school with pride. Congratulations to all our Ambassadors.

Mr Faamoe
On Wednesday 19th of August 2015, 9 of our Year 9 students attended an Indigenous Science experience at Redfern Community Centre, Redfern presented by Macquarie University students and staff.

Students were given a T shirt to wear, reading “IGNITE IMAGINATION”. They started their day by being divided into two groups, of demonstrators and participants. They were given a training to demonstrate various activities. There were students from different schools around the area who came to see the Science Experience.

Our students along with the students and staff of Macquarie University performed different activities for the students of that area and also for the Aboriginal elders of that area. There was a display of chemistry section where they made the volcanoes. Then there was a slime making section, followed by a dry ice stall. There were also sections based on biology. On level 3 there were all the stalls organized by the Aboriginal people, there were the skin of snakes, leaf insects, fur of the koalas and so on. The elders also taught the students to make ropes and bracelets using the tree bark.

The food stall showed all the food articles that can be made by using different plants from the bush. There was also a display of plants from the bush which has medicinal value. The students were provided morning tea and lunch. Heaps of Science magic tricks were demonstrated and students had real fun. Everyone had a great day and I’m sure it sparked a deeper understanding and interest for science amongst the students.

Our students continue to benefit from the Macquarie University-Science Faculty CCMDC partnership. Thanks goes to Joanne Jamie and her team from Macquarie University and Young Scientists of Australia.
Last term selected students from Year 10 participated in a career education workshop run by the Pasefika Achievement to Higher Education team from Western Sydney University. Students partook in activities which demonstrated their ability to bounce back from adversity and how culture and life at home may influence their choices at school. Year 10 were then invited on campus at Western Sydney University to experience life as a university student. They were exposed to lectures and mini tutorials and were about to walk around to see what campus life was like.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the workshop and campus tour.

Mr. Faamoe
On Wednesday the 2nd of December, a group of Year 9 students represented CCMDC at the Pasifika Achievement to Higher Education (PATHE) conference at Western Sydney University.

PATHE promotes options for Pasifika students to develop and gain new skills and new knowledge leading to greater opportunities across life. The conference attracted 400 Years 7, 8 and 9 students from across 16 High Schools to consider the importance of education on their future, whilst understanding the various pathways available to achieve their goals.

Students participated enthusiastically in a variety of workshops and represented our school proudly by performing a traditional Haka to the end day.

Mr Samia and Mr Faamoe
On Thursday 20th August 2015, 17 boys from Chifley College Mount Druitt took part in the Western Sydney Wanderers Schools Cup at Blacktown Sports park, Rooty Hill. The day consisted of 3 games of soccer played against other schools from all over the west of Sydney.

CCMDC entered a year 7/8 boys team. They won 1 of their 3 games and played with enthusiasm, fairness and pride. Although the team did not manage to win their competition, they were given the opportunity to play soccer against a variety of Western Sydney schools on state-of-the-art playing fields, develop their skills in fun training drills and they were given a WSW gift for their participation.

All students enjoyed the day and the staff at WSW congratulated our students on their great effort, excellent behaviour and admirable sportsmanship.
Mount Druitt Zone Sports Assembly

On Friday 20th November, the Mount Druitt Zone Sports Assembly was held at Plumpton High School to recognise students’ sporting achievements at the zone level. Eight of our students were recognised for their efforts this year in Cross Country and/or Athletics.

Harrison P – 14yrs Cross Country Age Champion 2nd place
Kashana N – 13yrs Athletics Age Champion 3rd place
Joseph E – 13yrs Athletics Age Champion 3rd place
Reshaun V – 14yrs Athletics Age Champion 2nd place
Ricky P – 14yrs Athletics Age Champion 2nd place
Neva T – 14yrs Athletics Age Champion 3rd place
Abigail M – 15yrs Cross Country Age Champion 3rd place and 15yrs Athletics Age Champion 2nd place
Joshua G – 16yrs Athletics Age Champion 3rd place

Congratulations to these students on their fantastic efforts!

Mrs Bunt
Chifley College Mt Druitt Campus support unit has had a rewarding semester. We have had some awesome experiences through Work Place Learning, Transition to Senior Campus, Transition to Year 7 2016 and Support unit Picnic Day.

We would like to thank all our Workplaces for their continued support of our Work Place Learning opportunities.

Rian at Thorndale
Travis
Mrs Bhandarkar and Alasika at the Pig Farm

Travelling to AFFORD

Year 6 to 7 Transition Bowling Day.
Meeting next year’s Year 7 students and having a great day bowling.
Look at Crystal’s bowling skills

Support Unit Picnic Day at Francis Park Blacktown. What a great day of fun sport and yummy barbeque lunch.

Year 10 students visiting Senior Campus for transition activities.
Check out the Chifley College Mount Druitt Website for more calendar events, news and information.

Use the following URL to get up to date with CCMDC news, events and regular communication:

http://www.mtdruitt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Or find us on facebook at:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Chifley-College-Mt-Druitt-Campus/383851265049163