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coming events

Mon 16 Nov 20 Nov

Yr 7 - 9 exams

Tues 17 Nov

P&C meeting 7:30 pm
DEA meeting 6.00pm
School Council meeting -
Face – Face 6.00pm

Tue 24 Nov Y10 Par-
ent Learning Group

Fri 27 Nov

Panel training Y10 Port-
folio Presentation.

Wed 2 Nov

Y7 2010 Orientation Day

Tue 15 Dec

P&C meeting 7:30pm
D'EA MEETING
School Council Face –F



Diary Dates

- 17 Nov- Y12 Formal - N'cle Jockey Club
- 14 Dec Y7 Y8 Y9 Presentation Assembly
- 15 Dec Y11 –Y10 Presentation Assembly
- 16 Dec Annual Presentation Day

MHS Jazz Ensemble

Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

Our final school term is progressing well with students and staff working towards the outcomes for the Semester 2 reports. Our Year 12 students have been sitting for their HSC examinations over the past two weeks and comments from the majority of students have indicated that the tests have been going well. Term 4 is an incredibly busy time at Merewether High School with the finalizing of many of the 2009 programs and the planning and organisation for the new year.

Recent Successes

We have had a huge number of student successes since our last bulletin. Our music students won the High School Premier Band section at *Bandfest* – a great achievement! Our senior Jazz Band and the junior Jazz Band received excellent recognition for their wonderful efforts. We have had great success in the Geography faculty with six students taking awards in Geography based competitions. We have had a Year 12 Drama student, David Hopkins, be nominated for *On Stage*, the exemplary performance showcase for HSC Drama, held at the Seymour Centre in Sydney. Another successful HSC candidate, Jesse Fildes, has been nominated for *Encore*, the exemplary performance showcase held at the Sydney Opera House. We have also had our *Formula 1* team go through to the state finals. Elyse Hudson represented MHS at the national titles for the public speaking Legacy Competition and three of our History students became state winners in the National History Challenge. We have students receive gold and silver medals at the national titles for the Titration Competition as well as a Year 12 student, Reilly Carroll, go to Sydney for the finals of a Sydney Morning Herald Writing Competition.

What an amazing list of success stories associated with our students! Congratulations to each and every student and to all staff who have been involved with the numerous competitions.

Our New Fence

Parents will have noticed that we have recently had our new boundary fence completed. With the completion of the fence we have important new procedures for the whole school community. All students and parents should be aware that after 9.10am it will be necessary to enter the school through the Administration Block on Chatham Street. This front entrance will be the only entry and exit point for the school after the Roll Call. If students are on a bus that arrives late to the school they will also have to make their way to the front office.

**Volunteers Needed**

We have a small, but very active, group of parents in the school who are asking for donations of cakes/slices for our 2010 Year 7 Orientation day (2nd December) and other important presentations later in the year. As well as this, on 25th November there will be a cooking day and any assistance that can be given on the day would be very much appreciated. Any parent who thinks that he or she could support the day is invited to phone Veronica Lingard on 0422715537

Fund Raising Policy

Merewether High School participates in numerous fund raising activities throughout the year and we have had to develop a policy that ensures that the school community is not overloaded with too many requests at any one time. Students who wish to request permission to do a fund raising activity should see Mrs Allen, the SRC co-ordinator, and ask for a MHS Fund Raising Request Form. All applications are considered by a school committee and students will be notified as to the success of their application.

Students and parents are advised that due to ongoing complaints related to the selling of chocolates in the school, we have had to stop all fund raising that involves the purchasing of chocolates (or confectionery). If we do not enforce this policy, we have found that it is possible to have literally hundreds of students selling chocolates in the school grounds on a daily basis. Parents will appreciate that such a situation is in contradiction to our healthy canteen policy and that it is in everyone's nutritional interest to stop the practice. It has also been common to have students' chocolates and money go missing, which has created unnecessary negative issues. I'm sure all parents will appreciate why it was necessary to implement such a policy. Any student who would like any point clarified, should see Mrs Allen or me.

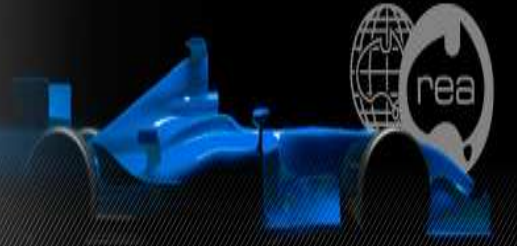
School Uniform

Thank you to all students and parents who are supporting our school uniform policy. There has been a significant improvement in the standard of uniform – particularly with the compliance of OH&S requirements for school shoes. Please refer to the pictures of shoes in this bulletin if you are in any doubt of the correct student footwear.

Yvonne Keever



THE FORMULA ONE
TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE



INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

F1 in Schools

Question: What travels 20 metres from a standing start in just over 1 second?

Answer: A CO2 powered F1 race car.

Five teams from Merewether High School competed at the Regional Finals held at Williamtown Airport late September. Out of a possible two teams to progress to the state competition, Merewether was to send three! Mrs Deborah Maloney, the state co-ordinator for F1 gave a special invitation to a third team. JATO Unit, RFDC Racing and Hasty Racing competed in the 2009 State Finals of the 'F1 in Schools' competition on the 26 October at NTC Powertrain in Sydney.

What an event! The level of competition was incredibly high and definitely a step up from the Regionals. The professionalism all students displayed had to be seen. JATO Unit impressively placed third in the Senior Professional division. Although we came home without any prizes, everyone was really pleased with their efforts and are planning for next year's assault.

In order to improve our performance, Merewether High School desperately needs several things:-

1. We need to purchase equipment: a milling machine, rapid prototyping machine and wind tunnel. This equipment is needed within the school to support not only Technology and Applied Studies, but Science and Mathematics also.

collaboration with people and organisations that are involved with engineering, design and marketing.

If you or your organisation may be able to contribute to Merewether High's assault on the F1 competition, please contact us. We are already planning and working on next year's competition.

Congratulations to every student involved in F1 this year. You can be very proud of your efforts! And a special thank you to Parsons Brinckerhoff Engineering our major sponsor and the many team sponsors who contributed this year.

M. Platt
TAS





SOCIAL SCIENCE

Australian Economics and Business Studies Competition 2009

This year Merewether High School students achieved outstanding success in the 2009 PwC Australian Economics and Business Studies Competition. MHS students competed against 8,000 students from over 250 schools across Australia.

The following students were recipients of a money prize and a certificate for their meritorious performance.

- Economics Competition:
Equal second place - Edward Burrowes and Shaun Bowes
Equal third place - Patrick Eades and Yang You
- Business Studies Competition:
Equal second place - Sam Hill
Equal third place – Alex Winn and Yang You
Equal fourth place – Zach Howard and Alexis Shaw

Congratulations!

NSW Geography Competition 2009

Students from Merewether High have also performed extremely well in the NSW Geography Competition. This competition attracted over 20,000 competitors from schools throughout NSW.

Year 10 student Joshua McLarty took out first place in the competition. This is an outstanding achievement from a talented individual.

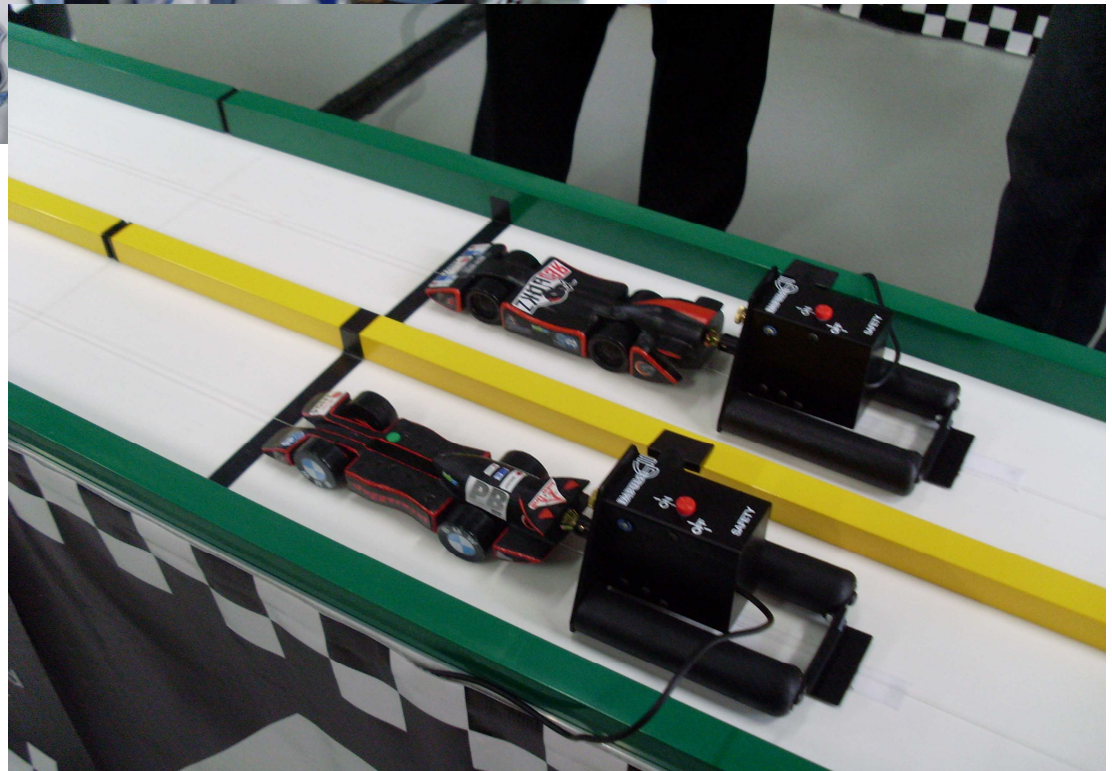
Elizabeth Brain, Graydon Hocking and Ivan Serafin were placed second in the competition.

All students should be proud of their efforts.

Kerry West
Head Teacher Social Sciences



Last Year at State



PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF





SRC – Donormobile

The next visit of the Red Cross Donormobile will be at Merewether HS on Monday 23 November. The students are pushing to win the Vampire Shield next year as Merewether HS was a close second behind St Paul's at Booragul in 2009. Family and friends are able to help our tally. If donating blood at other times, you inform staff you would like your donation to go towards Merewether's total. **HELP US WIN THE VAMPIRE SHIELD IN 2010.**

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service is celebrating their 80 years of blood services in Australia with a Birthday Fun Day at Civic Park on Saturday 28 November from 10am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome to join them in the celebrations. There will even be a Blood Typing Tent to find out your blood type.



SUPPORT UNIT

Concert and Year 12 Graduation

On Wednesday 4th November students from Merewether High School Support Unit travelled to Newcastle Panthers to perform at the annual IOTAS (Hunter) Concert and Year 12 Graduation. The class from Merewether opened the concert with a vibrant and energetic performance of "Shake It" by Metro Station. This item was choreographed by our first intern, Felicity Israel. The audience appreciated the performers' enthusiasm and the clapping was thunderous.

The students are keen to perform at a school assembly before the end of the year.

Ben Andrews and Jessica Thomas as Year 12 leavers were presented to the audience receiving a certificate and key ring. They both looked very stylish in the Merewether HS blazers. Congratulations!

Our second intern, Lucy Player, was in attendance early on the day of the concert assisting behind the scenes to ensure everything was ready when the performers and audience arrived.

Six members of the Events crew were involved backstage at the concert and rehearsal. The boys were excellent ambassadors of our school with no request too difficult or too much trouble for them. A big "THANK YOU" to Kip Hamiltons, Warwick Muir, Ben Hjort, Dylan Morice, Michael Shen and Joshua Reeves.

Denise Hughes



IOTAS



SUPPORT UNIT

Riverwood Downs Camp

At the end of September students from Merewether HS support unit attended a camp to Riverwood Downs at Upper Monkerai with peers from other schools – Cardiff HS, Francis Greenway HS, Tomaree Education Centre, Hunter River Community School, Cessnock HS. It was an action packed camp with students participating in lots of activities such as canoeing, bush walking, horse riding, milking dairy cows, toasting marshmallows on the camp fire, platypus spotting, spotlight tractor tour, swimming and more.

The students travelled from Newcastle Station to Dungog by train then were collected by bus for the remainder of the trip. The weather on the Monday and Tuesday was perfect but unfortunately the Wednesday was the day of the red dust so activities were restricted to the large indoor hall.

The camp was a huge success giving the students an opportunity to renew friendships and establish new friendships with students from other schools.





MHS Musos Win Again!

Breaking news...MHS Musos have swept the floor yet again at this year's Hunter BAND-FEST! The Concert Band, under the capable direction of our new conductor Michael Jobson, came first in the Premier section, Senior Jazz Band also came first in the Jazz Band section and Junior Jazz Band received a Commended for their outstanding efforts in the competition. A big thanks to Mrs Julie Bevan for her outstanding efforts with Senior and Junior Jazz Band this year in Mrs McClure's absence. Our instrumentalists have worked exceptionally hard once again and deserve big congratulations.

Some other students that have been working very hard are the talented vocal group "Connect 4", under the direction of Mrs Alison Tenorio. On Saturday they performed at Newcastle East Public School's 'Colonial Fair' where they provided entertainment for 40 minutes. Sunday was also a busy day for the group where they performed at Charlestown Uniting Church for half an hour. The group will next be performing at Adamstown Uniting Church's Annual Evening Gala Concert as part of their Interlude Series on Saturday 14 November at 7.30pm (see Mrs Tenorio for further details).

Thank you to ALL our fabulous musicians for another great year – we certainly have a talented bunch!

Rebekah McClure
Music Teacher

THE MARCHING KOALAS WORKSHOP EVENING



Tuesday 10th November 4-7pm
Waratah West Primary School
Free Sausage Sizzle for all members and their families
For more information phone
Candice Bergin 0413 186713

Uniform Shop Opening Hours



TERM 4 - 2009 - JANUARY 2010

CONTACT NAME: **Janette 0**

413650634



DAYLIGHT SPORTSWEAR PTY. LTD"

	NOVEMBER		
SATURDAY	28th	9:00 -	3:00
MONDAY	30th	12:00 -	4:00
	DECEMBER		
THURSDAY	3rd	8:00 -	12:00
SATURDAY	5th	9:00 -	3:00
MONDAY	7th	12:00 -	4:00
THURSDAY	10th	8:00 -	12:00
MONDAY	14th	12:00 -	4:00
THURSDAY	17th	8:00 -	12:00
	JANUARY		
THURSDAY	14th	9:00 -	3:00
MONDAY	18th	9:00 -	3:00
THURSDAY	21st	9:00 -	3:00
SATURDAY	23rd	9:00 -	3:00
THURSDAY	28th	9:00 -	3:00

PRICE LIST / ORDER FORM ON THE BACK

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:

"DAYLIGHT SPORTSWEAR PTY. LTD"

MASTERCARD, VISA & EFTPOS FACILITIES AVAILABLE.

Can you make and cut sandwiches?



IF YOU can answer YES to any of these questions then:

Are you able to make tea & coffee?



**Merewether High School
P&C Association needs YOU !!!!!**

DONATIONS OF CAKES AND SLICES

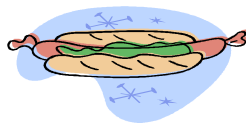
**When: Wednesday 25 November
Cooking Day COOKS and HELPERS NEEDED**

**Wednesday 2 December, Orientation Day
DONATIONS OF CAKES AND SLICES**

**Wednesday 9 December, Sports Presentation
Luncheon - HELPERS NEEDED**

**Wednesday 16 December, MHS Presentation Luncheon -
HELPERS NEEDED**

These functions are for the benefit of all of our children, so if you can help in any way, please contact Veronica Lingard on 49574452 or Penny Finnegan on 49528138 and indicate where or how you can help.



FOR A GOOD CAUSE OF OURS.



Nov 2009		
Mon 09/11	OBOS School Certificate tests	Participating students
Tue 10/11	Y8 Parent Learning Group-LC-9:00-10:30 OBOS School Certificate tests	Interested Parents Participating students
Wed 11/11	Y10 Elective exams	Participating students
Thurs 12/11	OBOS SC Computing Skills-mandatory	Participating students
Fri 13/11	Y10 Elective Exams Y11 AH-Newcastle West-Black Box Theatre DEA applications in for Bronze	Participating students Participating students Participating students
Mon 16/11	Y7-9 yearly exams 16/11/09-20/11/09 inclusive. AS Y9 English-Composing this week	Participating students Participating students
Tue 17/11	Y9 Parent Learning Group P & C meeting –library-7:30 Y12 Formal-Newcastle Jockey Club DEA meeting 6:00pm –library School Council meeting—electronic/FTF	Interested Parents Interested Parents Y12 2009 & parents DEA members Participating students Participating students
Fri 20/11	Technology T&D –pd6 DEA notification of acceptance in Bronze	Participating students
Mon 23/11	Donormobile on site-back fields AS Y7-English –Website this week AS Y7 English– Sem2 exam this week AS Y8 English—Topic Test– Portfolio this week AS Y8 English—Sem2 exam this week AS Y9 English-Sem 2 exam this week	Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students
Tue 24/11	Y10 Parent Learning Group –LC-9:00-10:30 ESSA test	Interested Parents Participating students
Fri 27/11	DEA payment for Bronze Parent Panel training for Y10 Portfolio presentations pd 6—common room	Participating Parents
Mon 30/11	Y10 Crossroads + All My Own Work	Participating students
Dec 2009		
Tue 01/12	Y10 Crossroads + All My Own Work	Participating students
Wed 02/12	Y7 2010 Orientation Day	Y7 2010 Parents & students
Thur 03/12	SP HSSA girls cricket trials Parent/Teacher Y12 interviews 3:15-5:30	Participating students



Dec 2009		
Fri 04/12	Y10 Leadership Day	Participating students
Sat 05/12	Book Sale -	
Mon 07/12	Y10 Portfolio Presentations– All Day	Participating students
Tues 08/12	Y10 Portfolio Presentations -All Day Y10 Drug Ed seminars	Participating students Y10 students
Wed 09/12	SP HSSA girls Softball trials Sports Presentation Assembly MHS –11:00	Participating students
Thurs 10/12	SP HSSA boys cricket trials OBOS –SC results released	Participating students
Fri 11/12	SP HSSA Blues Presentation Y10 Welfare Day	Participating students Participating students
Mon 14/12	Y7 Presentation Assembly MPC–pd1/2 Y8 Presentation Assembly MPC-pd 3/4 Y9 Presentation Assembly MPC-pd 5/6	Y7 students & parents Y8 students & parents Y9 students & parents
Tue 15/12	Y11 Presentation Assembly MPC-pd1/2 Y10 Presentation Assembly MPC-pd 3/4 P&C meeting - library -7:30pm DEA meeting 6:00pm - library School Council Meeting – FTF-6:00pm	Y11 students & parents Y10 students & parents Interested parents DEA parents Council members
Wed 16/12	Annual Presentation Day –11:00 - MPC OBOS—HSC results released	Students & parents
Thur 17/12	Y12 BBQ ATAR results released School Development Day—staff only	
Fri 18/12	End of Term School Development Day—staff only	
Jan 2010		
Wed 27/1	Teachers Return	
Thurs 28/1	Y7-Y11-Y12 return	
Fri 29/1	Y8-Y9-Y10 return	

Supporting Merewether High Rugby Teams

 burke elphick & mead LAWYERS	<i>Supporters of</i> Merewether High Sporting Program 2009
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FREE SCHOOL TRAVEL - IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE?

If your child is a NSW resident aged 4 years and 6 months or older, they are eligible for a free school travel pass if they are enrolled under one of the following conditions:

- an infant student (Years K-2)
- a primary student (Years 3-6) who lives outside a 1.6km radius from the school or subject to Ministry of Transport (MoT) approval, 2.3km or more by the most direct walking path to the school.
- a high school student who lives outside a 2km radius from the school or subject to MoT approval, 2.9km or more by the most direct walking path to the school.
- a student who is approved for free school travel on health or safety grounds by the MoT.

The Busways School Travel Department (9497 1861) can advise you on your child's eligibility status.

DID YOU KNOW?

Students who are progressing to Year 3 or Year 7 need to reapply for their free school bus passes.

Application forms are available from your school office. It needs to be filled out by the applying student's parent/guardian and handed in to the school.

FREE

Duke of Edinburgh – Camping Equipment

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Parent Support Group will be holding a second hand camping equipment sale at the Duke of Edinburgh Gear Expo to be held on Tuesday 9 February 2010. The Parent Support group will take a small commission from each sale, with the proceeds put towards the purchase of updated safety equipment for Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. This is a great opportunity for those of you who bought gear to do Bronze but did not continue with the awards to do something with that unused equipment. We would be interested in any items such as backpacks, camping mattresses, stoves, boots, waterproofs etc.

If you have any camping equipment in reasonable condition that you would like to



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Information for Bronze Candidates 2010

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is operational at Merewether High School and a number of students in year 9 or 10 in 2010 may join the program at the introductory (Bronze) level. The Award is a youth self-development program for all young people. It is non-competitive and encourages candidates to set and achieve goals appropriate to their individual needs. There are four sections that must be completed for a young person to qualify for an Award: Community Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Expedition. These provide an opportunity for students to acquire and develop skills, initiative and self esteem which will help them become more confident members of the community.

Participation in the Award is highly regarded by many employers. The scheme has three Award levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold. Year 9 students may start at the Bronze level. To obtain the Bronze Award, students must be at least 13 years and 9 months old to start and must complete the following 4 sections:

1. Service: undertake voluntary Community Service averaging 1 hour a week spread over 3 months or complete an appropriate course of specialised training such as a First Aid course.
 2. Expedition: complete training and a practice trip and then three 2-day expeditions with overnight camping.
 3. Skills: pursue a cultural or social activity leading to a deeper knowledge of the subject and the attainment of a reasonable degree of skill eg. Playing a musical instrument, for an average of 1 hour per week for a minimum of 3 months.
 4. Physical Recreation: regular participation in one physical activity for an average of 1 hour per week for a minimum of 3 months resulting in some improvement in that activity.
- In addition to 3 months of each activity, candidates must complete a further 3 months of one of these activities.

The school is the Registered Operator of the Award program, but administration of the Award is done by volunteer parents under the auspices of the Parent Support Group. In particular, all training and supervision of expedition activities, including risk assessment and management, is carried out by parent volunteers (who receive appropriate training through the PSG).

Library Event

new moon party

Ages 12 and up

Bookings essential

\$5 per person

Wallsend District Library

Monday 16 November

6.00 - 7.00pm

Ph: 4985 6680

City Library

Wednesday 18 November

6.00 - 7.00pm

Ph: 4974 5342

New Lambton Library

Thursday 19 November

5.00 - 6.00pm

Ph: 4904 3340

Trivia, Prizes, Food

