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## Coming Events

Yr 10 Parent Learning  
Group 16 November

Sports Presentation  
Assembly 24 November,  
11:00am

Year Assemblies—see  
Event Diary

Presentation Day  
15 December, 11:00am



## Diary Dates

P & C Meeting 7:30pm 16 Nov

See Year Assembly details in Event Diary

Yr 10 —Panel Training — 2.30 pm Fri 26/11

See Event Diary page 10 for all events

Dear Parents,

Our final school term for 2010 is quickly passing and both staff and students are focusing on the year's final assessing and reporting. November has seen the conclusion of the Higher School Certificate examinations for Year 12 as well as the completion of the School Certificate Tests for Year 10 students. The results for both year groups will be released in December. The vast majority of our HSC candidates reported that they were happy with their final exam papers so we wait with anticipation for the last week of school when their results will be released. Year 12 students are invited to return to school for a post HSC barbeque on 16<sup>th</sup> December so that students and staff have the opportunity to celebrate their achievement.

Our Hospitality students have delighted members of our school community during the last semester by demonstrating their excellent culinary skills by catering for various functions at our school. During Term 3 the students catered for several major school functions that provided for large numbers of guests. All events were extremely successful with students impressing all in attendance with their high standard of food quality and presentation. Congratulations to our Hospitality students on their excellent efforts and a very big thank you to Mrs Narelle Sheahan for her guidance and support with the class.

We had a fantastic night organized by the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty on the last Wednesday of Term 3. This showcase of our very talented performing arts students pleased the audience with the high standard of work and the breadth of creativity in visual arts, music and drama. Congratulations to all students who contributed to the evening and a big thank you to Mrs Gilbertson, Mrs Tenorio and Ms Gillam who made the occasion possible. This CAPA night was yet another platform for the presentation of MHS talent and was enthusiastically supported by our school community members.

We have recently held four information sessions that commenced our orientation program for students entering Year 7 in 2011. The sessions allowed the Year 6 students to become familiar with our school setting as well as meet some of our staff and students. Our school captains, vice captains, prefects and selected Year 7 students assisted with the organisation of the program and their participation and efforts added to the success of the days. The sessions received excellent feedback and proved to be most beneficial in allowing our new students and their parents to initiate new friendships with other students and parents from other schools.

It is just weeks before the school year concludes so the remainder of this term will be busy as we evaluate many of our 2010 programs and plan and prepare for the new school year.

**Yvonne Keevers**



### YEAR 10 TO 11 TRANSITION PROGRAM STAGE 5 ORAL PRESENTATION PROJECT

Merewether High School includes an **oral presentation** as an extra credential in the Year 10 School Certificate Folio.

Each Year 10 student will be required to collect evidence of their learning throughout the year, in order to produce an **academic portfolio**. The portfolio will contain up to 3 pieces of work that they are particularly proud of, reflecting their learning and anticipated directions for their future as well as additional information that is relevant to them. Each student will present their portfolio to an interview panel in Week 9 Term IV.

The portfolio is **supplementary** to the Year 10 curriculum. It offers authentic assessment of student learning and the opportunity to further develop skills in communication, decision-making, problem solving, socialisation and self-discipline as well as the ability to work independently.

A portfolio is a collection of student's work which tells the story of that student's efforts, progress or achievement at school. It can assist in teaching students to think about themselves, their strengths and their abilities.

**The interview** will last for approximately 15 minutes. Students will need to be selective in the information they choose to present. The presentation should be professional and interesting. Visual displays, technology as well as display folders may be used. It is the student's responsibility to pre-arrange all technological hardware prior to the completion of the interview timetable. The panel members may prompt with questions but the time is basically to provide evidence that the student understands the process of learning, can overcome problems and reflect on the experience as well as plan for the future.

Each student will need to speak clearly and intelligently and evaluate their presented tasks to show how **skills and knowledge** can be transferred to other areas of their life, and in particular to their senior studies. **Full school uniform** must be worn with excess jewellery removed. Feedback in relation to the portfolio presentation will be in accordance with the attached Competency List.

**Interview panels** will comprise a staff member and a community member. The interview panels will be trained prior to the interviews. Each student will have opportunity to discuss their learning experience at the interview. Each student will receive a Certificate of Completion, in conjunction with their MHS School Report, and School Certificate transcript to keep with their Record of Academic Achievement.

It is important that students understand the oral presentation concept and that they plan accordingly, ensuring that time and resources are managed well so that they can offer a quality, authentic display of their learning in Year 10.

**Graeme Muddle**  
Deputy Principal

NOTE: Full details of the Yr 10 Final Weeks Learning Program are detailed under Notices on the school website. Parent Volunteers for interview panels are sought and volunteers can phone the school on 49693855 to leave their details—training will occur on 26/11/2010 at 2.30 pm. Further info is also available by contacting G Muddle on the same phone number. Any assistance in relation to Interview Panels would be greatly appreciated. A Yr 10 Parent Learning Group is also scheduled for Tuesday 16 Nov 2010—see Event Diary



## Envirothon 2010

On Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 October 2010, Dean Pike, Josh McLarty and ourselves, April Wilk and Bec Cooke, participated in the Newcastle, Hunter Valley and Central Coast Envirothon at Glenrock State Conservation Area. Envirothon gives the opportunity for students to apply their geographical, analytical and biological skills to real issues faced in the park. We began the two day competition with a 2km bushwalk from the top of the park, down past Flaggy Creek to Burwood Lagoon and Burwood Beach, and back to the Scout Camp where we were to stay the night with the other schools' teams. The following day involved a series of fieldwork activities such as surveying and abiotic testing as well as a dramatic presentation of our findings on the day. The aim was to provide Glenrock State Conservation Area with a sustainable development plan, where recreational use as well as environmental, cultural and historical heritage would be sustained. After a tight presentation round, Merewether High School prevailed as Envirothon champions. The team would like to thank Mrs Tonks and Mrs Donnelly for their support and encouragement, and we would like to suggest to any Year 10 student wishing to study Geography in their Preliminary Course to participate. It was a rewarding experience which allowed us to physically apply the skills we learn in class and to further our geographical and cultural knowledge of our local area.

### April Wilk and Bec Cooke Year 11



## CAPA FACULTY

### Hunter/Central Coast Music Festival

On Wednesday evening 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010, members of Merewether High School music ensembles performed at the 50<sup>th</sup> Hunter Region Music Festival, held at the Civic Theatre.

Instrumentalists performed with professionalism in the Regional Wind Ensemble and Big Band items. Soloists in the big band included three very talented Merewether students: Aidan Johnson (Yr 12), Rees Carmen (Year 11) and Ed Johnson (Yr10).

Our Vocal Ensemble participated in the Massed Choir of 300 students with works arranged by Daniel Wilson and original composition by Gordon Hamilton (ex Merewether student).

### Alison Tenorio Ensemble Director



### **Red Cross Donormobile**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November will be our last opportunity for 2010 to donate blood at school. Students at Merewether have been very supportive of the donor program over the last 12 months coming third in the region and 10<sup>th</sup> in the state. Excellent!! We want to be at the top in 2011 so families and friends get behind Merewether HS when you donate and ask to have your donation added to our tally.

**Denise Hughes**  
**SRC Donormobile Co-ordinator**



#### **Newcastle Permanent Introducer Program**

As part of their sponsorship of academic awards in the Social Science faculty, the Newcastle Permanent Building Society has invited Merewether High School to participate in their Introducer Program.

For every new home or business loan over \$100 000 that is approved for an applicant that mentions a connection to Merewether High and the program, the school will receive \$300 to spend on new equipment, facility upgrades or school events.

Newcastle Permanent Building Society has been very generous in their recognition of students' academic achievements at Merewether High School and your support of the Introducer Program will be very much appreciated.

**Miss Bonnie McKinnon**  
**Social Science Faculty**



## SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

It has been a busy time for the students in the support unit dominated by a variety of performances at a number of venues.

In August there was an opportunity for the support unit students to try a number of sports at Newcastle University's The Forum. Players and coaches from the various sports gave instructions for skill building and playing the games. The sports played were cricket, rugby union, softball; and bocce. PDHPE interns, Miss Ball and Mr Curtis, were enthusiastic participants encouraging top efforts from all students.



The annual IOTAS(Hunter) athletics carnival was in September at HunterSports Centre with 20 schools from across the Hunter competing. Merewether HS support unit students were joined by year 10 Sports Science students. The year 10 students marched in the march Past then helped out the remainder of the day on track and field events. Well done and THANKYOU. Merewether HS came third in the March Past and third in tunnel ball. There were some excellent individual results including Georgina Whitton first in intermediate girls shot putt and discuss; Veronica Croucher third in intermediate girls long jump; and Emma Batty second in intermediate girls high jump.



The annual IOTAS(Hunter) concert and year 12 graduation proved to be another great success in October at Newcastle Panthers. Merewether HS had three graduates - Heather Mlekus, Henry Hely and Jesse Swadling- who joined 38 leavers from other schools from across the Hunter to received certificates of graduation and key ring.





### SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

Our item, "All the Single Ladies", was well received with Henry and Jesse putting all into their last performance at a school concert. The students are looking forward to performing at the International Day for People with a Disability function at the Tram Sheds at Honeysuckle on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Six members of Merewether HS Events Crew worked backstage at the concert rehearsal on 20<sup>th</sup> October and four of this group backed up again at the concert on the 27<sup>th</sup> October. A big THANKYOU to Ben Hjort, Dylan Morice, Warwick Muir and Skye Riley on a very professional job.



Last Friday the Support Unit students hosted an afternoon tea for their guests both family and teachers. The students had baked muffins, quiche and pastry pinwheels under close supervision from Mrs Rosser, Food technology. Dips were prepared. Cheese and cabanossi cut. Refreshments served. Due to the success of the afternoon it is anticipated this will become a regular event on the Support Unit calendar.



Denise Hughes  
**Class teacher**

# Merewether High School

## *Uniform Shop Special Opening Hours*

**TERM 4 – 2010**

*(including Christmas holidays opening times)*

**CONTACT NAME: Janette 0413650634**

**“DAYLIGHT SPORTSWEAR PTY. LTD”**

	<b>OCTOBER</b>		
MONDAY	11 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	14 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	18 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	21 <sup>st</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	25 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	28 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
	<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
MONDAY	1 <sup>st</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	4 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	8 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	11 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	15 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	18 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	22 <sup>nd</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	29 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
	<b>DECEMBER</b>		
THURSDAY	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	4:00
TUESDAY	CLOSED		
WEDNESDAY	8 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	4:00
THURSDAY	9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
MONDAY	13 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	4:00
THURSDAY	16 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	12:00
	<b>JANUARY 2011</b>		
MONDAY	17 <sup>th</sup>	9:00	3:00
WEDNESDAY	19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00	3:00
FRIDAY	21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00	3:00
TUESDAY	25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00	3:00
MONDAY	31 <sup>st</sup>	8:00	3:00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP UNIFORM SHOP

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Rec #: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	PRICE \$\$\$	SIZE	QTY	TOTAL Incl GST
<b>GIRLS</b>				
<i>Tartan 2 Pleat Skirts - Standard</i>	<b>\$48.50</b>			
<i>Tartan 2 Pleat Skirts - Long</i>	<b>\$48.50</b>			
<i>SNR White Blouses</i>	<b>\$27.00</b>			
<i>JNR Sky Blouses</i>	<b>\$27.00</b>			
<i>Navy Slacks</i>	<b>\$38.00</b>			
<i>Navy Shorts</i>	<b>\$35.00</b>			
<b>BOYS</b>				
<i>Beltloop Shorts</i>	<b>\$35.00</b>			
<i>Elastic Waist Shorts</i>	<b>\$35.00</b>			
<i>Beltloop Trousers</i>	<b>\$42.00</b>			
<i>JNR Sky Shirts</i>	<b>\$26.00</b>			
<i>SNR White Shirts</i>	<b>\$26.00</b>			
<b>UNISEX</b>				
<i>Wool Jumper</i>	<b>\$75.00</b>			
<i>School Jacket</i>	<b>\$65.00</b>			
<b>SPORT/PE</b>				
<i>Sports Polo</i>	<b>\$33.00</b>			
<i>Microfibre Track Pants</i>	<b>\$35.00</b>			
<i>Microfibre Sports Shorts Standard</i>	<b>\$25.00</b>			
<i>Microfibre Sports Shorts Super Sizes</i>	<b>\$25.00</b>			

TO PAY: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CASH

CHEQUE

CREDIT CARD

PER .....



## BOOKS IN SCHOOLS ANGUS & ROBERTSON KOTARA

Dear Parents,

At Angus & Robertson we are aware that most State Schools receive zero government funding. But because we are passionate about the issue of literacy in Schools we have launched an exciting new community based initiative **Books in Schools**.

Simply head into Angus & Robertson Kotara mention the name of your school and **5% of the sale will then be donated back!** This can be used for the purchase of books and book related products for your school library.

Look forward to hearing from you,  
**Sue Ellen Poynting - Store Manager**



**Angus & Robertson Kotara**  
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### Parents' and Citizens' Association

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Wednesday November 17<sup>th</sup>** – MHS Cooking Day: We cook from scratch all foods that can be frozen and reheated for the upcoming functions. This cooking day is usually held in the school's kitchens, however this year we will be using the Macedonian church hall commercial kitchen.

**Wednesday November 24<sup>th</sup>** – MHS Sports Presentation Day: Hot and cold finger food luncheon held in the learning centre after the presentation ceremony. Lots of volunteers are required to make sandwich and fruit platters, heat food, plate up, set up, serve and clean up. We cater for all the recipients of sporting awards, their parents and the PDHPE and Sporting staff.

**Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup>** – Orientation Day: Morning tea is put on to welcome all the parents who have children coming into year 7 at MHS next year. This is held at the back of the school hall and we need volunteers to plate up cakes and slices, prepare sandwich and fruit platters, serve tea and coffee. *If you are able to donate cakes or slices (which you can leave at the canteen) they will be greatly appreciated.*

**Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup>** – MHS Presentation Day: This function is held in the learning centre and requires lots of volunteers to prepare, serve and clean up a hot and cold finger food luncheon. The luncheon is for all award recipients and their parents to recognise their academic achievements



## EVENT DIARY

<b>Friday 12 November – Friday 17 December</b>	
<b>Fri 12/11</b>	Year 10 Elective Exams –day 3/3
<b>Mon 15/11</b>	Year 7-9 exams this week –day1/5 Year 12 Formal-Town Hall Premiers Debate Challenge for Years 9 and10 final this week
<b>Tue 16/11</b>	Yr 10 Parent Learning Group 9.00—10.30 am—MHS Learning Centre DEA meeting 7:00pm P&C meeting 7:30pm Year 7-9 exams-day 2/5
<b>Wed 17/11</b>	Year 7-9 exams-day 3/5
<b>Thu 18/11</b>	Y7-9 exams-day 4/5
<b>Fri 19/11</b>	Y7-9 exams-day 5/5 Final Day for Year 12 Clearance
<b>Mon 22/11</b>	Year 8 Indonesian LRW
<b>Tue 23/11</b>	Blood Bank Donormobile on site ESSA written test-Year 8 Year7 @ Wallsend H-inter-school Gala Day
<b>Wed 24/11</b>	MHS Sports Presentation-MPC
<b>Fri 26/11</b>	Year 10 parent panel training—2:30pm
<b>Mon 29/11</b>	Year 10 Special Program –day 1/4 Year 7 Police talks-periods 1,2,3 Selective High School application forms due for submission this week
<b>Tue 30/11</b>	Year 10 Special Program –day 2/4 Year 7 Police talks – periods 1,2,3
<b>December Wed 01/12</b>	Year 10 Special Program –day 3/4
<b>Thu 02/12</b>	Year 10 Special Program – day 4/4 Year 12 Parent Teacher formative interviews—MPC 3:15pm-5:30pm
<b>Fri 03/12</b>	Year 10 Welfare day-Raising Generations
<b>Mon 06/12</b>	Year 10 Portfolio Presentations – day 1/2 Year 7 Luna Park Peer Support Training –Year 9 in Learning Centre Premier's Debate Challenge Years 7/8 Championships this week
<b>Tue 07/12</b>	Orientation Day Year 10 Portfolio Presentations - day 2/2
<b>Wed 08/12</b>	Year 10 - Crossroads / AMOW –day 1/2



<b>Thu 09/12</b>	Year 10 Crossroads / AMOW - day 2/2
<b>Fri 10/12</b>	Year 10 Presentation Assembly - 11:00am Year 11 Presentation Assembly 11:00am
<b>Mon 13/12</b>	Year 9 Presentation Assembly periods 1:30pm Year 7 Presentation Assembly - 11:00am
<b>Tue 14/12</b>	Year 8 Presentation Assembly - 1:30pm Presentation Day 11:00am –MPC HSC results released
<b>Wed 15/12</b>	Last day for students ATAR results released –Year 12 BBQ
<b>Thu 16/12</b>	School Development Day-No Students Last Day of Term 4
<b>Fri 17/12</b>	School Development Day –No Students



**PARENT EMAIL CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL AND P&C**

The school and the P&C are working closer together to more effectively communicate with parents.

The P&C, as representatives of the parents, does not have a good communication system with the parents.

The P&C intends to improve efforts to keep parents informed of P&C initiatives and decisions, all of which are aimed at benefiting your children. This information will be used for P&C communication purposes **only**. The process of establishing a P&C contact list will enable a more efficient and effective way of sharing with you updates of parental involvement at MHS.

Privacy issues are paramount in this matter. The P&C is therefore proposing:

- 1. that MHS provide its records of your email details to the P&C – your permission is required.
- 2. that parents who haven't supplied their email address to the school to do this as soon as possible.

The necessary details to provide are:

- Parent full name
- Student name/s- Student year/s
- Email address
- Advise of your agreement or disagreement as follows:

**YES, I do AGREE that MHS pass my details (as above) to the P&C contact list, or  
NO, I do NOT AGREE that MHS pass my details (as above) to the P&C contact list**

To enable this to happen would you please preferably, respond to

[merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

**P&C Association – Statement of Interest  
Please fill in the slip below and return it to the school office**

I, ..... (name)

parent /guardian of .....(name child)

am interested and would like to volunteer in (more than 1 box can be ticked):

- Canteen activities
- Families Matter activities
- Tidy up the gardens project
- Future activities

Please contact me:

by phone on: ..... , or

by email: .....(email address)



# Merewether High School Sports Tour 2010

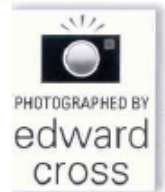
We wish to thank the following for their generous support of our 2010 touring team

## Associate Supporters

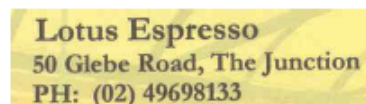
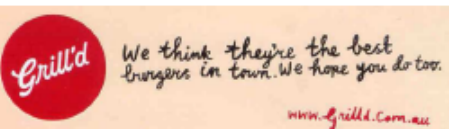
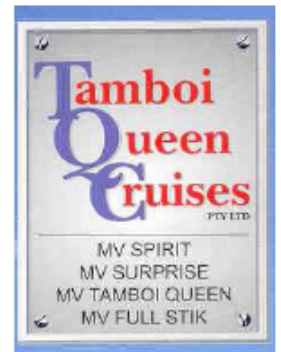
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First Class Engraving  
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**Merewether Carlton  
Rugby Club**

**Merewether High School  
Rugby Programs  
are  
sponsored by  
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