



- this issue**  
P1 Principal's Message  
P2 Science Comps  
P3, 4 Social Science  
P5 Blood Bank Support Unit  
P6 Music Function  
P7 School Council  
P8 Nomination Form  
P9 Event Diary  
P10 P & C Letter  
P11 Homework Help  
P12 Uniform Shop

- coming events**  
16 March 2010  
School Photos catch up  
  
26 March 2010  
Newcastle Show Day  
  
1 April Last Day Term 1  
  
19 April 2010  
Day 1 Term 2 All students Return



**Diary Dates**

- 16 March Y12 PLG - LC - 9:00-10:30  
DEA Meeting 6:00pm  
School Council Meeting 6:00pm  
P & C Meeting -Library -7:30pm  
23 March Y7 PLG -LC-9:00-10:30  
See Event Diary P9 for all events

MHS Jazz Ensemble

**Principal's Message:**

Our school is so fortunate to have an active parent body that continually supports our students and staff. My appreciation goes to the twenty five parents who volunteered their time for our working bee on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February. As a result of the efforts on the day, the grounds are looking great. I also want to acknowledge and thank the parents who supported the school with their presence at our recent school dance as well as those who assisted with the catering at our Prefects' ceremony.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> February we held our Prefects' Investiture, our first formal event on the school calendar for 2010. This important function was well attended by proud parents and family members who joined us for the special assembly, morning tea and luncheon. The list of our newly invested captains, vice-captains and prefects follows this report. Congratulations to our new student leaders. A special mention must go to Mrs Veronica Lingard who made the delicious Prefects' cake for the day. Our ceremony also included recognition of our outstanding 2009 HSC students who achieved exceptional results in their HSC courses. The dux of 2009, Lauren Heath, was also in attendance and received much deserved accolades.

Students in Year 10 are being given the wonderful opportunity to participate in a Volunteer Program in Term 4. This program relates to the Service Learning initiative that began at Merewether High last year with a group of our students supporting the literacy needs of students in a local primary school. Service Learning is being developed in several schools across the region with the purpose of allowing students to have the opportunity to experience the intrinsic rewards associated with giving back to the community. Year 10 students are currently researching the areas in which they would like to volunteer their time for the program. I wish to acknowledge the Year 10 Advisers, Mrs Greenland and Mr Platt for their enthusiasm with this worthwhile project and, in particular, Mrs Greenland, who is organizing and co-coordinating the procedures in preparation for the program's busy schedule ahead.

Our athletics carnival at Glendale on 25<sup>th</sup> February was a most successful event with a significant increase in student attendance. My congratulations go to the many students who participated in the numerous events on the day and who generated great house spirit with their energy and enthusiasm.

Our Year 12 students are about to commence their mid-course exams. I wish our seniors the very best of luck with these and trust their preparation will allow them to reflect their true ability.

**Yvonne KeEVERS**

**Congratulations to our 2010 Prefects**

**Captains** - Owen Elsley and Eleanor Warwick

**Vice Captains** - Alexander Winn and Katie Dobinson

**Prefects** - Jamie Arthurs, Ryan Avery, Blake Deller, Jocelle Cardona, Emily Clulow, Cameron Dorn, Rebecca Gallego, Anya Gore, Ainsley Hughes, Nilarni Jayakumar, Thomas Kovacs, Elle Lingard, Bede Moses, Oshin Pancholi, James Peek, and Sai Siritharan

## SCIENCE COMPETITIONS 2010



Dear students, parents and caregivers,

This year we are again offering our students the opportunity to enter 3 State/National science competitions. These competitions provide a chance to extend and enrich the work we do in class. The information obtained from these external agencies is extremely valuable because;

- For Individuals – the feedback obtained can be used to develop their strengths and compare their performance against others across the State and also identify any areas of weakness that can be consolidated
- For the Faculty – the analysis of the collective data obtained is very useful as it assists with faculty planning and programming

Awards gained in these competitions also assist in building up a learning portfolio of achievements, which are always useful when applying for future scholarships and the like.

I encourage all students from Yr 7 – Yr 12 to consider enter 1, 2, or all 3 of these competitions and see this as an opportunity to challenge their understanding of science and scientific concepts. Yr 10, Yr 11 & Yr 12 students should also see this as valuable practice of sitting exams under formal examination conditions in preparation for the School Certificate Examination and HSC later in their course.

**Closing date for these competitions is approaching soon. Please fill out the following form and;**

- i) return it to the front office with your payment, or
- ii) call the school office (49 693 855) and pay by credit card

by **Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010** to ensure that your entry to these competitions can be accepted.

John McDonald (Competition Co-ordinator)



## SCIENCE COMPETITIONS 2010

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Science Teacher

Tick as approp	1	Name	Examination Date	Cost	Dissection Code <small>(Office use only)</small>
	1	UNSW Science Competition <a href="http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/prepare">www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/prepare</a>	9/06/2010	\$6.60	054 – 006
	2	Aust National Chemistry Quiz <small>(sample Q's <a href="http://www.anco.com">http://www.anco.com</a>)</small>	22/07/2010	\$5.20	054 – 013
	3	Rio Tinto Big Science Competition <small>(see sample Q's ..... <a href="http://www.rtbsc.edu.au/www/index.cfm">http://www.rtbsc.edu.au/www/index.cfm</a>)</small>	1/09/2010	\$6.00	054 – 010
Total Payment				\$	



## Social Science

The Social Sciences staff would like to welcome two new teachers to the Faculty. Mr Rob Berry comes to Merewether High School from Rose Bay Secondary College in Sydney and Ms Bonnie McKinnon comes from Callaghan College. Mr Berry and Ms McKinnon have enjoyed their first few weeks at MHS and are keen to assist students in their academic endeavours this year.

### News From Geography Teacher' Association Competition 2009

The Geography Teachers' Association of NSW (GTANSW) organised a competition for students and schools to foster enthusiasm in Geography. The competition has a strong emphasis on fieldwork and the collection of primary data.

Merewether High School Geography students were highly successful in the competition. Bronwyn Burstal received a Highly Commended Award in the Year 11 Brock Rowe Fieldwork category. Bronwyn's work focused on the "carbon footprint" of Merewether High School.

In the Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8) Visual Presentation Category, Year 8 students "scooped the pool" by coming first, second and third and, the award recipients were: Megan O'Riordan, Lily Iervasi and Samantha Nguyen and Rachael Long and Kathy Nithiyananthan.

In recognition of the overall high calibre of student work, Merewether High School was awarded the prestigious award of "Most Outstanding School, 2009".

Bronwyn, Megan and I attended the award ceremony in Sydney which was a wonderful occasion.

### Regional Trivia Competition

In December 2009 eighteen students (3 teams) accompanied by Ms Donnelly attended the regional Year 8 Geography Trivia Competition. For the second year in a row one of the teams took out first place, with each student being awarded with a trophy for their efforts. Well done!

**Kerry West**  
**H T Social Sciences**

### Mock Trial Begins

Our year 11 Legal Studies students representing the school in the state competition began with a successful defence of a charge of assault and an overall points victory. The opposition was Warner's Bay High School and the final score was 225—186.

Team members are:

Elizabeth Brain, Lauren Brain, Reid Butler, David Gray, Flossy Hamiltons, Elyse Hudson, Jacqui Krynda

The team is once again prepared by teacher Wayne Gill and their legal adviser, solicitor, Michael Evers.

In Round 2, the team will be suing for damages arising from a motor vehicle incident and the opposition will be Scone Grammar School.

**Wayne Gill**  
**Legal Studies**  
**Social Sciences**



## Year 12 Melbourne Excursion Report

On Monday the 8 February, 20 Year 12 geography students woke up TOO early to be at Newcastle airport by 5:00am, to board a plane to Melbourne. Accompanied by Mrs Donnelly and Mr Bailey, bleary eyed and sleep deprived, we stepped onto a plane, some were unlucky enough to get the middle seat

We landed in Melbourne at about 8am. After an enlightening run-in with Peter Costello at the airport we boarded a bus to Hotel Discovery, where we were staying. After dropping off our luggage at the hotel, we made our way to Flagstaff Gardens for our Melbourne City Tram Tour, where we had to observe different urban processes throughout the city.

After a short lunch we headed to the Immigration Museum, where we learnt about the journeys of immigrants coming into Australia in the early 1900s. After an interactive two hours there, including a walk-through ship that was a replica of an immigrant vessel, and interactive computers and artwork, we headed to the Eureka Skydeck, which was most people's favourite part of the trip.

At 88 floors high and 300 meters in the air, the Eureka Skydeck is the highest public vantage point in the Southern Hemisphere. Some were even brave enough to tackle The Edge, a glass box jutting out 3m from the side of the building. After completing field sketches and maps on the 88th floor, we headed back to the ground. Tired and weary, we made our way back to the hostel, grabbing some dinner on the way back.

The next day, we rose bright and early at 7:30am to have breakfast before heading to Queen Victoria Markets. After the markets, we all headed off to the St Kilda Eco Centre. It was well worth the hot tram ride there, after learning about environmental sustainability, and some things we could all do at home to help the environment. We also learnt about the education programs they run for help the environmental sustainability.

The group then went to the Docklands, a large scale urban renewal project in Melbourne. After completing some fieldwork, we met with the heads of the Vic Urban Docklands project, who talked to us about the large amount of work and money put into the project, and the things that still need to be done in order to create a vibrant city feel.

On Wednesday, after storing our luggage and checking out of the hostel, we headed to the Ceres Environment Park for some interesting fieldwork activities. We each calculated our ecological footprint, many of us learning that our impact on the environment was much bigger than we had ever anticipated! We spent three hours looking at this huge park, which includes hundreds of solar panels to create clean energy, and its own huge vegetable patch project, where members of the community can buy patches of fertile land to grow vegetables, to eat themselves, or to sell at the market, also located within Ceres.

After a quick lunch we headed to Flagstaff gardens for an orienteering competition which turned out to be more like The Amazing Race, but taught us map skills and orienteering. After Lucy and I won the challenge, we went back to the hotel to collect our bags, and sleepily caught the bus back to the airport. After plane delays due to a storm in Melbourne (which over the next few days caused flash flooding in most of the CBD), we returned home.

We would like to thank Mr Bailey for accompanying us on the trip and Mrs Donnelly for her organization and commitment to the Year 12 Geography class.

**Yr 12 Geography Class 2010**



**RED CROSS DONORMOBILE 16 FEBRUARY 2010**

The first visit of the Red Cross Donormobile was very successful with 56 donations. Congratulations to the senior students and staff for their donations. Our next visit will be on Tuesday 11 May.

Remember family and friends donations to the Red Cross blood service may also go towards our Vampire Shield total.

Each student/teacher/parent/friend wanting their donations to be counted towards our school need to register online once—any further donations will automatically be added to our school tally.

Anyone interested in entering a competition to create a radio jingle or advertisement for the Red Cross Blood Service, please see Mrs Hughes, Mr Goyette or Brennan Fell, Year 11, for more details.

**Denise Hughes**



**Support Unit Students in Action March 2010**





**Year 12 Music Evening at Lizotte's**

**When:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 - 7pm

**Where:** Lizotte's Restaurant – 31 Morehead Street, Lambton

**Experience the talent and skill of Merewether High's Yr 12 HSC musicians. Sit and enjoy a delectable evening of music & food.**

**TICKETS:** for the evening are available directly from the Lizotte's website at \$10 per person + booking fee  
[www.newcastle.lizottes.com.au](http://www.newcastle.lizottes.com.au)

An al-a- carte menu is also available on the evening. The prices of the al-a-carte on average are entree \$15-\$20, main \$25-\$30, dessert \$10-\$17 and the snack bar menu ranges from \$6-\$17.50 and includes tapas style food.

Limited seats available



## MHS School Council

### Annual General Meeting – Election of Parent Community Members

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the MHS School Council will be held on Tuesday 16 March 2010 at 6.00 pm in the Foley Library at the school. All members of our school community are invited to attend this meeting.

Two (2) parent community members need to be elected to the MHS School Council for 2010. Any parent from the MHS school community is eligible to stand for the position of parent community member.

Attached to this Bulletin is a parent community member nomination form. Nomination forms may be posted to the school or lodged at the school's administration office. Nominations close for the position of parent community member at 3.00pm on Tuesday 9 March 2010. A secret ballot will be conducted and ballot papers can be collected from the school administration office after this date for those that cannot attend the meeting. Completed ballot papers must be returned to the administration office at the school by 3.00pm on Monday 15 March 2010.

The election will be held at the School Council meeting on Tuesday 16 March 2010 – all parents in attendance will cast their vote – these votes and all postal / returned votes will be tallied and the successful candidates will be announced at the meeting.

# NOMINATION FORM

## PARENT COMMUNITY CONSTITUENCY OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

### **PART A: TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINATOR AND SECONDER**

#### **CANDIDATE DETAILS**

Mr/Mrs/Ms:

*NOMINATED* by Mr/Mrs/Ms:

Signature:

*SECONDED* by Mr/Mrs/Ms:

Signature:

### **PART B: TO BE COMPLETED BY CANDIDATE**

I accept nomination for one of the elected parent community member positions on the MHS School Council. I

have sighted the MHS School Council Constitution, accepting my responsibility to report regularly to the

parent community of the school. I provide the information below for the inclusion with the ballot paper if required.

Signature: Date:

*Please supply the information below and any other which you feel will assist in your election. Add an*

*attachment with information if necessary.*

#### **PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND INTERESTS**

#### **WHAT YOU HOPE YOU CAN ACHIEVE THROUGH THE COUNCIL**





## EVENT DIARY

Term 1	Tuesday 27 January –Thursday 1 April	
<b>March 2010</b>		
Sun 14/03	DEA Bronze candidates—Glenrock	Participating students
Mon 15/03	HSSA Girls Basketball Trials	Participating students
Tue 16/03	School Photos—catch up day HSSA Boys Football Trials Y12 Parent Learning Group—9:00-10:30 – LC DEA meeting 6:00pm School Council meeting 6:00pm P&C meeting—Library—7:30pm	Participating students Participating students Interested parents DEA members Council Member Interested parents
Wed 17/03	HSSA RL Trials	Participating students
Thu 18/03	Selective High Schools Entry Test 2011 –MPC	Yr 6 Primary students
Fri 19/03	Y 7 Merewether Cup Cricket City Zone Netball Trials Y12 Mid Course exams commence—2 weeks Y7 Merewether Cup Cricket Y8 G/M Commerce—Westfield—9:00-11:00 Y7/8 RU—Gateshead—9:00-3:00 Y7 Maths	Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students
Mon 22/03	Y12 mid course exams—week 1/2 HSSA AFL Trials Y8 N/B Commerce—Westfield—9:00-11:00 Y11 Geography—Blue Mountains—day 1/2	Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students
Tue 23/03	Y7 PLG—9:00-10:30—LC Y8 C/E Commerce—Westfield—9:00-11:00	Participating students Participating students
Wed 24/03	HSSA Girls Football Trials	Participating students
Thu 25/03	HSSA RU Trials,HSSA Water Polo Trials	Participating students
Fri 26/03	Newcastle Show—Gazetted holiday HSSA Netball Trials	Participating students
Sat 27/03	DEA Bagnell trip for parents—Bronze	Participating students
Sun 28/03	DEA Bagnell trip for parents—Bronze	Participating students
Mon 29/03	Y12 mid course exams—week 2/2 CHS Swimming Sydney—day 2/3 CHS Rowing—Penrith—day 1/2 Encore Stage 6 Music—Opera House Y12 mid course exams—MPC—2 weeks	Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students Participating students
Tue 30/03	CHS Swimming Sydney –day 3/3 CHS Rowing –Penrith—day 2/2 Y10 Geog Fieldwork—Stockton/CBD –9:00-2:50	Participating students Participating students Participating students
Wed 31/03	Combined Schools' ANZAC service-Civic Theatre	Participating students
Thu 01/04	Last day term 1	
<b>Mon 19/04</b>	<b>Day 1 Term 2—All students return</b>	Whole school





### Homework Help @ Newcastle Region Library

This FREE hands-on course for Years 6-8 students looks at:

- Planning assignment tasks
- Short cuts for using the internet
- Finding newspaper and magazine articles online

Term 1 workshops: 4pm – 5.30pm

Wallsend District Library	Thurs 18 March
City Library	Mon 22 March
Wallsend District Library	Tue 23 March

Bookings are essential. Ph 4985 6692

### HSC Blitz @ Newcastle Region Library

This FREE hands-on course for Year 11 & 12 students examines:

- Print resources, study guides & exam papers
- Specialized help available for research
- Online databases to sources newspaper & journal articles

Term 1 workshops: 4pm – 5.30pm

City Library	Mon 1 March
Wallsend District Library	Tue 9 March

Bookings are essential. Ph 4985 6692

*Julie Swane*

**Children's & Young Adult Librarian  
Newcastle Region Library  
Laman St  
Newcastle NSW 2290  
ph 02 4985 6692**

# Merewether High School

## *Uniform Shop Special Opening Hours*

**TERM 1 2010**

**CONTACT NAME: Janette 0413650634**

**“DAYLIGHT SPORTSWEAR PTY. LTD”**

	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
MONDAY	1 <sup>st</sup>	12noon - 4:00pm
THURSDAY	4 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	8 <sup>th</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	11 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	15 <sup>th</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	18 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	22 <sup>nd</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CLOSED</b>
SATURDAY	27 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
	<b>MARCH</b>	
MONDAY	1 <sup>st</sup>	12noon - 4:00pm
THURSDAY	4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CLOSED</b>
SATURDAY	6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am - 12noon
MONDAY	8 <sup>th</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	11 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	15 <sup>th</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	18 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	22 <sup>nd</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
THURSDAY	25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am – 12noon
MONDAY	29 <sup>th</sup>	12noon – 4:00pm
	<b>APRIL</b>	
THURSDAY	1 <sup>st</sup>	8:00am – 12noon

*PRICE LIST / ORDER FORM ON THE BACK*

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:**

**“DAYLIGHT SPORTSWEAR PTY. LTD”**

**MASTERCARD, VISA & EFTPOS FACILITIES AVAILABLE.**