



## Diary Dates

P&C Meeting-Tuesday, 19th  
November - 7:30pm - ILC



## This Issue

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## Dates to Remember

**Friday 22/11 - Y11**  
Prefects' Investiture -  
11:00am -MPC

**Thursday 28/11 - Sports**  
Presentation Assembly-  
MPC - 11.00am

## Principal's Report

### HSC

The Higher School Certificate finished on the 6<sup>th</sup> November with some very happy Year 12s relieved that the hard work is now over and a well-earned rest can be had by all who sat their final exams. There are many Year 12 students who are to be congratulated because despite many hardships, including evacuations and fires thrown their way throughout the exams they persevered and demonstrated amazing resilience. We look forward to receiving their results on the 18<sup>th</sup> December and celebrating with them on the 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11:00am at our annual Year 12 BBQ.

### Yearly Exams

Years 7 – 10 are to be congratulated on the way they have conducted themselves over the past two weeks completing their yearly examinations. Their application to these tasks was evident as they completed their written exams. Reports will be issued in Week 11 of this term at each of the Year Assemblies held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

### Attendance – Term 4

The last day for all students, Years 7 – 11 is Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. If due to family circumstances you need to take early holidays please ensure you apply for an exemption from school for the period if it falls during school time. Exemption forms are available from the front office. Now that yearly exams have been completed students will complete any incomplete units of work from their current year work but they will also commence important foundation work for next year.

### School Development Days – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December

The last two days of the school year for staff will be the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December. Throughout these two days staff will be involved in updates on Anaphylaxis Management, Emergency Care, CPR, HSC Analysis and will join with the staff from Lambton High and Hunter School of Performing Arts to participate in professional learning with Michael McQueen an award-winning speaker, social researcher and best-selling author. Staff will not be available on these two days as they will be engaged in professional learning – I would ask if you need to speak to us before the holidays please contact us prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> December.



### **Anaphylaxis Care**

Later in this bulletin there is an article in regards to Anaphylaxis Care. We are always looking for ways to ensure we are caring for your children when they are with us. To do this we need all the information you have available. Please read the article and if you believe we need to have more information about your child than we already do contact us so as a meeting can be organised and an appropriate plan put in place.

### **Thank you**

To the SRC who have throughout this term helped to make a number of events successful as a result of their willingness to always help out. The SRC catered for the Year 12 Learning Conference and the Year 7 Challenge Day ensuring everyone was well catered for on the day.

### **Congratulations**



Yang-Ming Goh – Year 12 - as a result of her HSC performance examination has been nominated for inclusion in Encore – a celebration of outstanding performances from the HSC.

Claire Burgess – Year 12 - as a result of her HSC major art work Claire has been nominated for inclusion in ARTEXPRESS - a celebration of outstanding works from the HSC.



Abbey McPherson - Year 9 - a finalist in the National Moran Photography Prize.



Phillip Johnson – Year 12 – winner of the 2013 NSW Year 12 Engineering Studies Competition – in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences' NSW Senior High School Technology Competitions.



Estelle Hughes – Year 12 – a finalist in the Hunter Academy of Sport awards.



Suji Yoo – Year 12 – first in the HSC Korean Background Speakers course through the Open High School Program.



Rizina Yadav – Year 8 – State Grand Finalist in the UN Youth Public Speaking Voice Competition with the final being held at NSW Parliament House.



**From the DP****Junior Exams:**

Congratulations to our junior students who have been completing their exams during the last week. The diligence with which they have approached their study and preparation is to be commended. It is great to see and hear students talking confidently about their exam performance and their ability to manage and organise their time during this period. It all leads to the point that many students will be celebrating the achievement of their Personal Best. I look forward to joining them in that celebration through our presentation assemblies on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17th and 18th December.

**Board meetings:**

Year 7 and 8 students confidently presented their learning reflections to a Board Meeting of their peers during weeks 4 and 5 this term. This process gave students the opportunity to revisit their learning goals and to set key strategies in place for their ongoing success. The discussion with their peers about their skills as learners was very positive and students were able to learn new techniques and reinforce their understanding of various learning methods with their fellow students. The quality of the Portfolios presented was excellent and students have commenced their preparation in knowing how to present their skills and knowledge to others such as, the skill needed when preparing for scholarship and college applications as well as part time work and future employment. I would like to congratulate the students for their commitment to this process and I would also like to recognise the outstanding work of Mrs Abbo and Mrs Schouten who have assisted me by leading board meetings and providing feedback on the student portfolios.



Students reflecting on their Portfolio feedback out on the AB lawn

**E Diary**

The student diary for 2014 will provide choice and new innovation to students in terms of their school organisation. We have developed a student diary that will again be distributed in hard copy containing all the regular features that students have become used to. In addition to all students being issued with a hard copy diary, they will also receive a personal login to a corresponding e-diary. The e-diary will be set out in the same way as the printed diary and in addition it will have the facility for live information links to daily notices, school policy information and calendar updates which will be merged from the school's central calendar. The e-diary will also have a parent login enabling parents the opportunity to view homework and assessment requirements to further support their students' organisational skill development. The e-diary will be accessible from a range of technologies from PC, tablet and smartphone. The choice for students to use either a manual or e-diary allows students to organise themselves in a manner that suits their 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and preferred method.

**Classroom Visits**

I have had the privilege over the last couple of weeks to sit in on some classes and observe student work samples. Year 9 History made me welcome when they were investigating the role of Middle Harbour out in the Pacific as part of the war strategy during WWII. Students engaged in detailed inquiry and a very deep and thought provoking learning exchange. I was also delighted to have a visit from the students in the Year 9 Textiles class who had donned their personal costume creations from movie sets. The effort and detail that went into creating these amazing bodies of work was fantastic. Congratulations to all students.

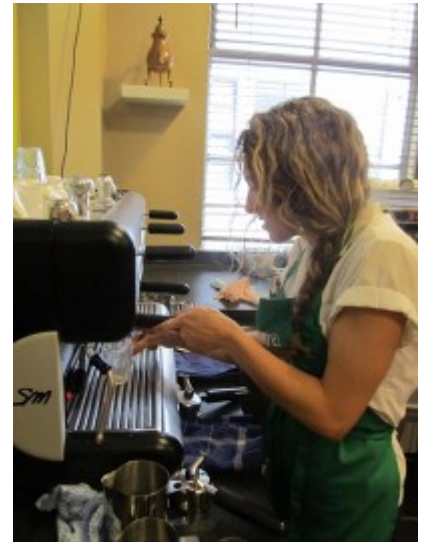
**PLG**

Parent Learning Groups have been well attended this term for the junior year groups. I would like to thank the parents who have been able to attend these sessions across the year and remind all parents that the resource booklets for the PLG sessions are made available for download on the school website. The final PLG for this term will be with our Year 7 parents on Tuesday of week 9 - 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

**N Harvey**



## HOSPITALITY



### Coffee Course Excursion and Coffee Shops

Lattes, macchiato, mochas, flat whites.... It was a caffeine overload at the Australian Coffee School in Sydney last week as the Hospitality class spent a day learning everything there is to know about coffee! While it was a very educational experience, it was also a lot of fun as students participated in a course covering everything from barista skills to latte art.

Students now have the opportunity to practise their skills ready for our two coffee shops on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November for invited guests and takeaway customers. All money raised from the coffee shops will be donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Australia.

An added bonus for students was the return of Tim Lord to MHS. Tim was a member of the Year 12 Hospitality class 2012 and very experienced in the Hospitality industry. Tim volunteered his time to help students prepare for our fund raising activity and to assist them achieve their competencies in Food and Beverage units of work. It is always such a pleasure to have our previous students come back to offer their advice and expertise to our current students.





**More Work Placement Nominations**

In a previous bulletin, I was able to announce that six of our Year 12 students had been nominated for work placement awards. We have recently discovered that five of our Year 11 students have also been nominated for a Careerlinks Work Placement Excellence Award in Hospitality.

Congratulations to Harriet Osborne, Callum Roope, Celine Lee, Maggie Plint and Rachel Leonard on these nominations.

**Wendy Rosser**  
Hospitality Teacher







## ENGLISH

In English, students in Year 7-10 classes have been finalising the study of their last module and preparing for the second semester examinations. Students in Year 11, both Advanced and Standard English, have been exploring the Area of Study, Belonging. These Year 11 students should be preparing for their major assessment task which takes place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of week 8 this term.

### Writing Competitions

A significant number of our students entered the *Write4Fun* writing competition. There were more than 12,500 entries in this competition. Over 10 of our students successfully progressed past the initial stages of judging and Merewether High School received a **Certificate of Excellence** recognising the outstanding quality of our students' writing.

These successes are indicative of the students' emerging talents and maturity as writers. Congratulations to every student who entered a writing competition this year and to Mrs Martinez for promoting and coordinating the entries for the various writing competitions throughout the year.

### Public Speaking and Debating Successes

Congratulations to Sammy Sethumadhavan and Rizina Yadav on progressing to the **State Finals** of the UN Speaking competition. In addition to this, Sammy has been invited to attend the United Nations Youth Conference next year. This conference is only open to students from Years 9 -12 and is a great opportunity for Sammy.

After winning their zone final, our Year 7 and 8 debating team progressed to the Hunter Central Coast Regional Finals. This team was coached by Mrs Burdekin and made up of Elizabeth Mee, Elena Pavlou-Watt, Thomas Suters and Fia Sankoorikal. This group of students represented Merewether High School and the Newcastle Zone with distinction but were however, narrowly defeated in the Regional semi.

Success in these debating and public speaking competitions is only possible because of the hard work and dedication demonstrated by both the students and their teacher coaches. Every student involved in these competitions should be recognised for their commitment and for the way they represent MHS school in the community.

### Year 12 Karen Yager Tutorials

On the 12<sup>th</sup> December all of Year 12 will be participating in a series of English tutorials with Karen Yager. Karen will offer our students valuable insights into the HSC English course and how to prepare for their HSC English exams and assessments. Year 12 students will receive further information regarding the structure of this day through their English teachers.

**Esme Corney**

**Head Teacher English**

## TAS

### Year 10 Food Technology

Year 10 Food Technology students have been studying a unit this term called 'Let's Celebrate'. In this unit students examine a range of special occasions and prepare foods unique to specific celebrations. Food presentation and service is a focus of the unit and students learn how to present and garnish foods appropriate to a given setting.

Recently students have explored a range of special occasions celebrated by various groups and have prepared foods for Halloween. They had fun decorating the outdoor balcony near the commercial kitchen and then serving a range of platters. Some foods served included, Hags Fingers, Chocolate Spiders, Fizzy Potions, Eyeball Quiches and decorated creepy cupcakes.







### Year 9 Textiles Technology

Year 9 Textiles Technology students have really enjoyed a unit called 'Enter Stage Right'. They have discovered that fashion designers are not only confined to the designing of clothing for the public, but designing clothing, accessories, or sets, for film, stage or even small theatre productions. Each student was required to select a film, stage show or school production as inspiration for this project. They then designed and produced a costume or accessory for this particular production.

Some project work for this unit included inspiration from *Hairspray*, *Grease*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Fame*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Lord of the Rings*, *The Great Gatsby* and *Hunger Games*.



Designing costume for theatre and film presents new challenges and endless creative possibilities as the pictures below demonstrate.

**Jenny Goldstein**  
Textiles Teacher







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Web: [www.supersonicspeedf1.webs.com](http://www.supersonicspeedf1.webs.com)

### SUPER SONIC SPEED • NEWSLETTER • OCTOBER 2013

#### Super Sonic Speed Success at State

On the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> October, Super Sonic Speed competed at the NSW state finals for the F1 In Schools competition. We are very pleased to announce that we are NSW state champions and will be moving to the national finals in Canberra early next year.



Super Sonic Speed placed first in two categories – Best Engineered Design and Best Team Portfolio – and placed equal first overall against six other teams. We had an overall point score of 779/900.

Our car raced a time of 1.101s, the fastest time produced by a Super Sonic Speed car.

After our controversial second placing at the regional finals, Super Sonic Speed finally has success, and has bettered last year's result. Super Sonic Speed are the first team from the Hunter/ Newcastle/ Maitland regions to place first at the F1 in Schools state competition and progress to a national final.



#### Success at Best Engineered Design at a State Level

Though Super Sonic Speed hasn't won a fastest car category, we have certainly been successful at Best Engineered Design. Our engineer design results were improved from the Regional competition to State with the inclusion of test results from real testing. Real testing results supplemented the virtual testing results from computer simulated CFD programs.



The University of Newcastle granted us access to their wind tunnel facilities so we could test our cars. We tested our regional and state cars from last year, a regional car from this year and a modified design. From the results we found that our modified design performed the best. Super Sonic Speed also organised race testing sessions at school, where we tested different wheels, lubricants, car stopping systems and reaction times. From these tests we were able to improve our car design as well as show good solid results for our engineering. Thanks to Mitchell Gibbs from the University workshop for his help and advice. Thanks also to our teacher Mr Platt for helping us to borrow and set up the race track during the school holidays in September.





## SUPER SONIC SPEED • NEWSLETTER • OCTOBER 2013

### Improvements for Nationals

Our focus for nationals will be on more improvements to our car. The Super Sonic Speed car placed third in the grand prix racing; however our team received a 0.1 second time penalty. We received the penalty as our car fell onto its back wheels when the power source – CO2 canister – was inserted into the back. This was caused as our back wheels were too far forward – brought forward to keep them away from the canister housing for a more streamline design – but too far to move the centre of gravity behind the rear axle. This penalty moved us down to fourth – out of the 10% range of first place, which we were

told is where we need to be to stay competitive.

Though many teams received time penalties, the two that didn't placed first and second in the GP racing. With penalties applied, total time was 1.201s, an improvement on our regional car times.

After a series of breakages that have been haunting Super Sonic Speed for three competitions over two years, we all were very nervous at the beginning of car racing during the State competition, though quietly confident the car would hold up this time.

After the regional competition design changes were made to the car and we tested our car multiple times to ensure it didn't suffer breakages (shown on right). Improvements were made to the car front end that proved beneficial

aerodynamically in the wind tunnel and structurally on the test race track.

Out of the seven teams competing in our division, our car was one of two that didn't suffer breakages. Our team is very pleased with this result.



### Major Improvements and Innovations between Regional and State

#### Front of car notch filled in:



The notch at the front of the regional car (centre) is filled in for our state car (left and right). This change was made to make the car stronger (tested during race testing), and in the process helped the car aerodynamically (tested in a wind tunnel). This innovation proved a success.

#### Wheels with holes and no bearings:



A change in wheel design allowed for a lighter wheel that didn't wobble. This innovation came about late in the manufacturing stage – when we realised that the car was too heavy to be competitive. Drilling six holes in each wheel improved the weight of the car. Instead of bearings, we changed the design so it would spin directly on the axle shaft. This created a much quicker and more consistent car wheel without wobble.

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## SOCIAL SCIENCE



### Guest Speakers

Georgia Marjoribanks, an ex-student of Merewether High school visited our Year 9 Commerce classes and spoke about her personal experiences in law. She told us about her work with the Hunter Community Legal Centre and some funny stories volunteering at the Newcastle Court House. She mainly helps with free legal advice by phone and helps in many forms of law like family and general law.

It was great to meet somebody who had experience working within the legal community and I think some of us are very keen to follow in her footsteps. The class would like to thank Georgia for her time and her legal expertise.

**Claire Sandhoff - Year 9 Commerce**

### Amnesty International

On Tuesday, 22nd October Merewether High and Year 10 Geography had the pleasure of a visit from two volunteers from the NGO Newcastle Amnesty. Amanda Macokatic and Anne Robinson gave up their time to come to the school and speak to Year 10 on the organisation, their role in Newcastle as well as the work Amnesty does internationally. Amanda and Anne also spoke on the topic of Human Rights which Year 10 has been studying. The guest speakers provided some valuable knowledge on current Human Rights issues and the role of Amnesty in recognising and responding to these issues. Thank you to our guest speakers Amanda and Anne for speaking to Year 10 Geography.

**Mrs Rachael Tonks – Year 10 Geography Coordinator**



The Social Science Faculty would like to acknowledge two new sponsors for the faculty's award for excellence program for 2013.

McGregor and McGregor Financial Services will sponsor the Year 10 Commerce Award for \$100. Law firm wildelegal will sponsor a Year 9 Geography prize for \$50 and a Year 8 Geography prize for \$50.

The faculty appreciates the generous assistance of these two local firms in recognising student achievement at Merewether High school.

**Mrs Kerry West - Head Teacher Social Science**



### Newcastle Permanent – Introducer Program

The referral payment under the Introducer Program agreement is now \$600, double the previous amount of \$300. It is easy - if taking out a loan with Newcastle Permanent for a new home or business loan (over \$100,000) mention Merewether High School and they will donate \$600 to the school on your behalf.



### HSC Business Studies Update

Year 12 Business Studies classes have enjoyed a busy start to the HSC course. Complementing our classroom work on the first topic of Operations, students visited the NBN offices and studios in Cooks Hill. We were given a behind the scenes tour of the NBN complex, learning how the news and specialist sport programs are produced as well as gaining an appreciation of the influence of technology on the changing operations process of traditional television networks.

Students sat at the NBN news desk and watched as experts produced audio and graphics for commercials, television productions and the NBN news.

NBN will be an excellent case study of a service based business that students can use to illustrate course concepts in operations and finance in the HSC.

Our thanks to Kerry Reagan, (father of Casey – Year 10) and Greg Sellers for their time and efforts in leading the NBN tour.



Following on from our NBN case study, Mr Berry's class has created a hypothetical production based business called 'Pancake Espresso'. Students have acted as consultants in formulating an operations production plan for producing pancakes for their hypothetical business. The operations plan was tested in real time in the classroom. The class split into two teams producing pancakes from scratch, taking into consideration input costs, quantity, quality control, product differentiation and process layout. It was decided that the team that was ranked as outsiders to win the best pancake prize (consisting of mostly boys) actually won the competition due to their genius inclusion of raspberries into their pancake ingredients – hence Berry pancakes. Students will use their experiences in running a hypothetical production business to assist them in illustrating operations concepts in the HSC.

### Mr Rob Berry - Year 12 Business Studies Coordinator





## CAPA

### Music

#### Special Olympics

Brooke Farr has been selected to perform as a soloist for the Closing Ceremony of the 2013 Special Olympics to be held in Newcastle. Brooke is a talented Year 9 Elective Music student. Congratulations Brooke.

#### Meet the Music

We attended our final Meet the Music Concert in October for 2013. Students had a wonderful time and were able to experience a world class Pipa performer. A Pipa is a Chinese string instrument. The Pipa Concerto No. 2 by Zhao Jiping, amalgamated Eastern and Western Music, a wonderful experience for all those who attended. We were also privileged to see past Merewether High School student, Rebecca Gill perform in the first violin section of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. This series will be offered again in 2014 with the first concert to be held in March.

#### Bandfest

The annual Bandfest competition was held again in Week 2, Term 4 at Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre. This competition allows Music Ensembles from Hunter and Central Coast DEC schools to “show off” their hard work in rehearsals by competing in a friendly environment. This year we had 3 ensembles enter: Concert Band, Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble.

Concert Band took out **first place** with an outstanding performance and a glowing report from the Adjudicator. Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble were both Highly Commended, again with outstanding performances. We are so grateful for the commitment our Ensemble students put into MHS Ensembles. Congratulations!



MHS Concert Band





**MHS Jazz Band**



**MHS Percussion Ensemble**



**HSC Music**

Our HSC Music students were all well prepared and completed their HSC Performance Examinations in September. We wish them all the best for their upcoming results.

**Starstruck Auditions**

Students interested in being soloists and backing singers are currently auditioning for a place in 2014 Starstruck. We wish them all the best.

**Hunter Singers' Auditions**

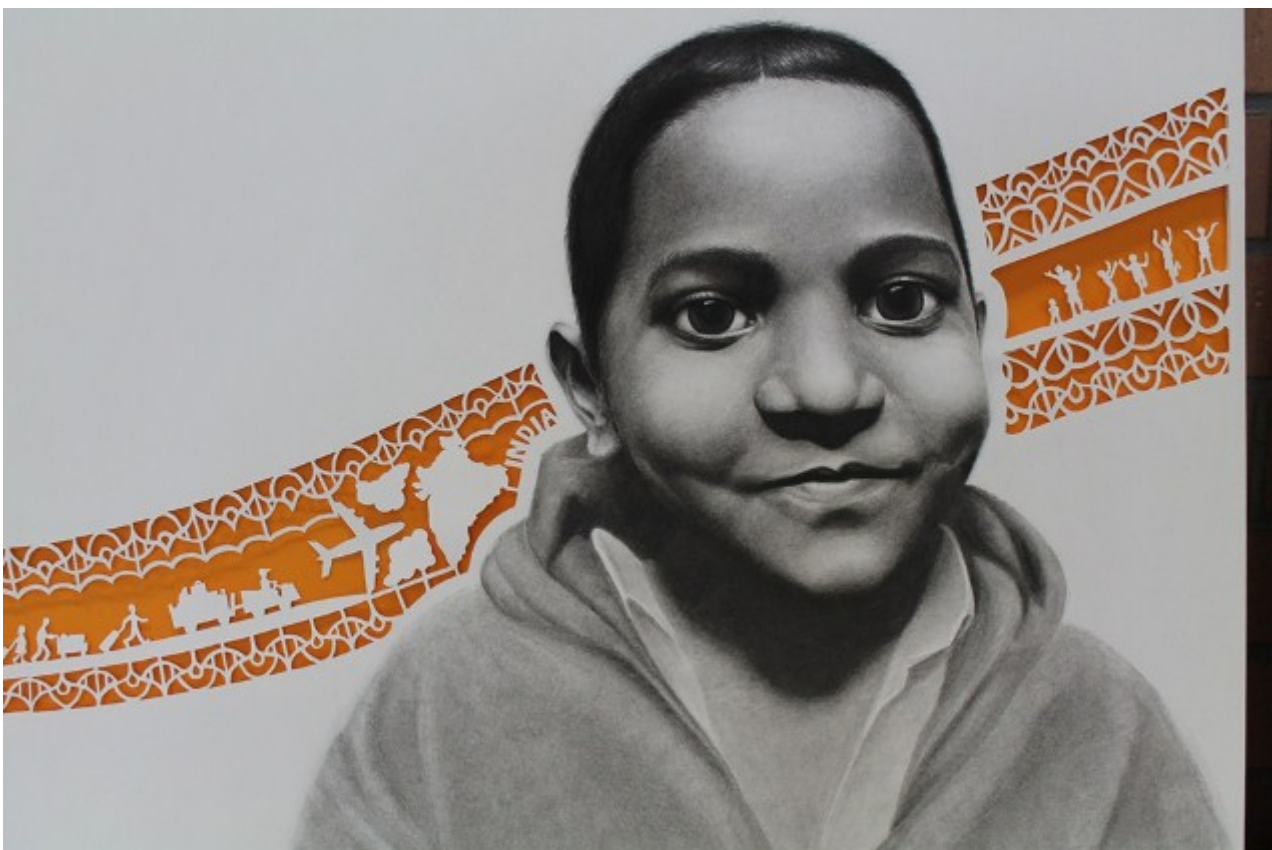
Auditions will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm at St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Auckland Street Newcastle. Information and application forms are available at [www.huntersingers.com](http://www.huntersingers.com)

**Visual Arts**

Congratulations Abbey McPherson, Year 9 on being selected as a finalist for The Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize. This national competition invites photographic entries that interpret 'Contemporary Life in Australia' with an emphasis on day-to-day life. The Moran Prize is acquisitive and the winning photograph/s immediately become the property of the Moran Arts Foundation, to be held and exhibited permanently as part of the Moran Arts Foundation Collection.



More congratulations! Year 12 student Claire Burgess' artwork "Caste Aside" was nominated for ARTEXPRESS. ARTEXPRESS is the state wide exhibition for exemplary Body of Works produced by HSC Visual Arts students. Artworks are hung in The Art Gallery of NSW, as well as travelling exhibitions to other galleries around the state. It is a prestigious exhibition and always one of the best attended by audiences across the state. Congratulations Claire!





## LANGUAGES

### Ube Sister City Exchange Program 2013

On the 24<sup>th</sup> September I went to Japan for the Ube Sister City Exchange Program. The purpose of the trip was to expand on my knowledge of Japan and Japanese as well as strengthening the bonds between Newcastle and Ube. Masashi, who visited Newcastle in August, hosted me for a week while I stayed over there. On the Sunday that I stayed over there, Masashi's family took me sightseeing to many places including traditional houses, a limestone cave, multiple Japanese restaurants and many other places. The Ube City Council was also extremely generous taking us to various temples, Hiroshima, restaurants and many other sightseeing spots. We were awarded with medals for winning the speech contest and we had a formal dinner to congratulate both the Japanese and Australian winners. The trip was great fun and I'm looking forward to going again next year for another experience of a life time. I would encourage all students of Japanese to participate in the Speech Competition in coming years.

**Kepler Manu-Long**

**Year 12 Japanese Beginners**



## SUPPORT UNIT



### Transport in the Newcastle Area

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November, the Support Unit went on a minibus to Newcastle Airport where Kahli showed us behind the scenes. We walked through security and Mrs Bishop was tested for explosives. She was clean. Outside we saw the repair hanger where they were working on a jet. In the baggage area we saw the sorting machine which was worth 2 million dollars. The control tower is black and yellow on the RAAF base and is staffed by the RAAF. RAAF jets go first, taking off and landing. The airport pays the RAAF to use the runway.

Fighter World was our next stop where everyone climbed into the cockpit of the old fighter jets. Outside the "hornets" were taking off and landing. They were very noisy taking off. Terry from Fighter World guided us around the RAAF base. Lots of men and women were playing sport and jogging to keep fit. We were very close to the jets as they landed. We were not allowed to take any photos on the RAAF base.

Back on Kooragang, Mr McMahon guided us around Port Waratah Coal Services (PWCS). We drove under reclaimers worth \$42 million and next to stackers worth \$26 million. They are able to export 165 million tonnes of coal each year. We saw the coal ships berthed and another ship being pushed into place by 3 tug boats. PWCS is paid \$2.90 for every tonne of coal shipped.

It was a busy day where we saw many forms of transport for people, animals and things including planes both old and new, helicopters, boats, buses, cars and bikes.

### The International Fleet Review and Tall Ships

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013, we caught a train to Sydney to see the Tall Ships. We caught a bus to Darling Harbour. At Darling Harbour we saw Navy ships, lots of Tall Ships and the Welcome Wall. We caught a ferry to Circular Quay. On the way we saw Luna Park, The Wharf Theatre and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. We caught another ferry to Manly Wharf. On the way to Manly we saw the Sydney Opera House, Kirribilli House, Fort Denison and some whales. On the way back from Manly we went through the Tall Ships race. When we got back to Circular Quay we had McDonalds for lunch. We visited the First Fleet Park. We then caught a train back to Central station and had our photo taken under the big clock. We caught the 3.15pm train to Broadmeadow. It was a fantastic day!







### **IOTAS Concert and Year 12 Graduation**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, students from the Support Unit glittered and shined on stage at Newcastle Panthers as they danced to the upbeat song "Walk like Rhianna". The four Year 12 students, Emma Batty, Georgina Whitton, Andrew Martin and Veronica Croucher joined the 50 graduates on stage from across the Hunter Region to be congratulated by the audience of friends and family.

A big thank you to the hardworking Merewether HS Events Crew who worked tirelessly backstage during the concert and on rehearsal day. Great work Josh, Tim, Tane, James and Jonathon. The SRC representative, Bridget, was excellent on door sales.

**Denise Hughes**  
Support Unit teacher





## Careers

Below you will find information on a wide range of careers related topics. Please note that all dates should be checked on the relevant websites and all event/course related information is relayed from external sources and is not endorsed by Merewether High School.

For more information about any of the topics below, students from Years 9-12 should refer to the weekly careers newsletter which students can access via their DEC portal email account or by contacting Mrs Abbo.

[Levina.abbo@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Levina.abbo@det.nsw.edu.au)

### Event Calendar

November - 29<sup>th</sup> UTS Hands on Engineering excursion

December - 18<sup>th</sup> ATARs released

### Positions Vacant

#### SUMMER-TIME SPORTSGIRLS

Sportsgirl is more than just a store: it's a community of girls across Australia who are individual, playful, confident and of course, oh-so fashionable! With a reputation as an up-to-the minute fashion leader, we are committed to discovering and supporting new talent. So, what are you waiting for? Join the Sportsgirl love in.

We are looking for passionate, inspired Christmas Casual Team Members to join our fashion universe during the Summer-time! We think it's the best time of the year with the hottest trends in-store to keep you excited and stylishly dressed. Dust off your sunnies and jump on board to secure a place in one of our amazing store teams.

All Christmas Casual positions are a 3 month contract period.

To apply, please visit our careers website [www.sportsgirl.com.au](http://www.sportsgirl.com.au). Be quick!

#### FABULOUS. FOCUSED. FASHIONABLE.

Sussan is a leading Australian women's fashion retailer, offering fashionable collections, which allow customers to find their own personal style.

It's almost that time again, Christmas is just around the corner!

Come and join the Sussan team and earn some extra dollars to fund your summer wardrobe. If you are fashion savvy and love to provide the ultimate customer experience, we can provide you with a friendly and fun working environment where you can apply your previous retail experience. You can also look forward to a generous staff discount.

All Christmas Casual positions are a 3 month contract period.

To apply, please visit our careers website [www.sussan.com.au](http://www.sussan.com.au).

### Year 12

**Macquarie University has a new 4 year Bachelor of Laws degree.** Alternatively, combine law studies with finance, media, IT, commerce or psychology. Find out about entry pathways, industry connections and internships, exchange opportunities and extra-curricular activities. [https://mq.edu.au/future\\_students/undergraduate/coming\\_events/macquarie\\_law\\_school\\_information\\_evening](https://mq.edu.au/future_students/undergraduate/coming_events/macquarie_law_school_information_evening)

### Early Entry Schemes

Follow the links provided to get more details on early entry schemes. Also check the university you are looking at attending to see if they have a similar scheme. If you have any questions about the early entry schemes please see Mrs Abbo. I am here to help you with your application.



### 90 OR ABOVE GUARANTEES YOUR PLACE FOR 2014

You've worked hard to achieve outstanding results so we would like to take the guesswork out of uni entry by guaranteeing your place in most of our undergraduate degrees.

If you receive an ATAR of 90 or above you can relax knowing that you've secured your place at a world-class university for 2014.

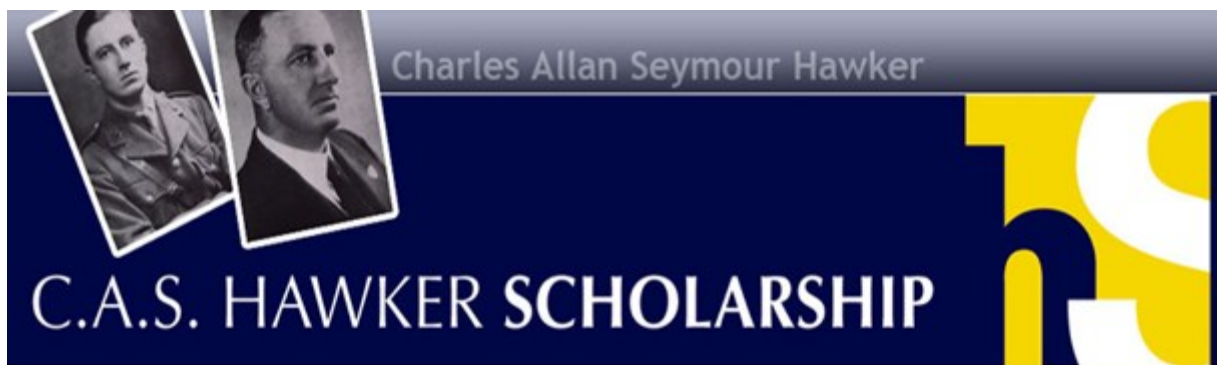
[FIND OUT WHICH DEGREES ARE ELIGIBLE](#)

[http://www.newcastle.edu.au/degrees/#utm\\_campaign=High%20ATAR%20Guarantee&utm\\_medium=Web&utm\\_source=World-class%20uni&utm\\_content=](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/degrees/#utm_campaign=High%20ATAR%20Guarantee&utm_medium=Web&utm_source=World-class%20uni&utm_content=)





## Scholarships



Applications for the 2014 Hawker Scholarship open on Monday 9 December 2013 and close Friday 3 January 2014.

### Who can apply?

The C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship is available to any Australian student undertaking a three or four year course of study approved by the Trustees. Undergraduate students who have commenced their studies are also eligible to apply for the scholarship. Successful applicants can choose to study at one of the nominated Australian universities or colleges. In some instances the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship is also offered to postgraduate students who can undertake a one year course of study at the University of Cambridge in the UK.

### What is the value of the scholarship?

The value and number of scholarships each year are determined by the Trustees after having regard to all relevant factors including the applicants' personal circumstances.

A full C.A.S.Hawker Scholarship normally covers all college fees and university HECS fees.

Subject to availability and the location of the chosen course of study, the scholarship requires successful applicants to take up residence at St Mark's College in Adelaide, Robb College in Armidale, Burgmann College in Canberra, Roseworthy Residential College in Adelaide, Marcus Oldham College in Geelong and Trinity College in Cambridge. Payment of monies associated with the scholarship will be made in a manner determined by the Trustees.

Before any monies are paid, scholarship holders must provide to the Trustees evidence that he or she has been accepted for admission to the approved course and where applicable to the associated college.

## ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS

Industry experience and leadership development while you study

Are you interested in taking your engineering career further, faster?

The Engineering Leadership Scholarship is one of the most valuable engineering undergraduate scholarships offered in Australia in terms of financial support and leadership development.

This scholarship provides many opportunities including:

- An annual structured professional experience placement program with some of Australia's leading firms - so you can graduate with business and leadership skills without having to extend the length of your degree
- Leadership insights, including working with Design Researcher [Professor Andy Dong](#), the Warren Centre's Chair in Engineering Innovation, and with the [John Grill Centre for Project Leadership](#)
- Direct access to an industry mentor
- Access to a valuable industry network with regular functions where you can meet with alumni, government and industry leaders - including from your sponsor organisation
- Additional support through online networking forums
- An annual stipend of \$18,000 (tax free) to support you financially through your 4 year degree.

[http://  
sydney.edu.au/engineering/scholarships/undergraduate/future/leadership.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/engineering/scholarships/undergraduate/future/leadership.shtml)



### Equity Scholarships 2014

The equity scholarship link had not opened at the time I checked but you need to keep an eye on this link.

#### What are Equity Scholarships?

Equity Scholarships assist financially disadvantaged students with the costs associated with higher education <http://www.uac.edu.au/equity/> See Mrs Harvey for more information.

#### Educational Access Scheme 2014

Most institutions that participate through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) have an Educational Access Scheme for applicants who've experienced long-term educational disadvantage due to circumstances beyond their control or choosing, which has seriously affected their educational performance. A long-term educational disadvantage should normally be experienced for a period of at least six months. <http://www.uac.edu.au/eas/> See Mrs Harvey for more information.

### Medical

For all health program requirements the following UAC newsletter is ESSENTIAL reading. <http://www.uac.edu.au/documents/publications/news/2013/March.pdf>

### Information Sessions, Courses and Opportunities

#### Politics

Who can apply: Students who have finished Year 10 or Year 11 in 2013

When the course runs: 6<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014

How to apply: interested students should see Mrs Abbo for an application form. Note this needs to be approved by the principal.

Applications for the 2014 summer school close Friday 22 November 2013. Late applications will be considered, subject to the availability of places.



### INTRODUCING WORLD POLITICS, A BOARD OF STUDIES ENDORSED HSC COURSE

From terrorism to trade and from climate change to war, world politics affects us all. The HSC World Politics course taught by the University of Sydney aims to give students a deep understanding of global events by exploring the major political forces at work in the world and how they shape the decisions of governments and their leaders. We examine the classic and contemporary debates about how the world works, including questions about whether war is natural and inevitable, whether there is any more to international politics than just power, and whether governments and citizens can hope to rectify long-standing problems of injustice and deprivation. This course will teach students how to think critically about the actions of governments and other powerful decision-makers, and how to absorb current events into a broader understanding of the workings of world politics.

### Parent Resources

"Careers Talk"

Looking for a good resource to help you start talking future pathways with your child? This booklet is a good starting point.

[http://foi.deewr.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/parents\\_talking\\_career\\_choices.pdf](http://foi.deewr.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/parents_talking_career_choices.pdf)

In addition, the myfuture website is an excellent resource for both students and parents.

<http://www.myfuture.edu.au/Assist%20Others/Parent%20and%20Community/Support%20your%20Child.aspx>





## PREFECTS' REPORT

It is with good wishes and gratitude we farewell our outgoing prefects for 2013 and thank them wholeheartedly for all their time and effort in supporting so many events at Merewether High School over the past year, from assemblies, to Moofest, RU OK Day and junior mentoring. Our prefects have acquitted themselves as quality leaders both within the school and out in the community. So our best wishes for a fantastic and fulfilling future go to Beau McEvoy and Sankare Siritharan (Captains), Prudence Dorn and Luke Brouwer (Vice Captains), Claire Burgess, Sam Docker, Bryony Beal, Casey Baldock, Kate Gagulic, Emily Frost, Ben Ilgen, Brendan Mulcahy, Rosie Iervasi, Lily Iervasi, Callum Walker, Sarah Willing, Erika Sorby and Lusungu Tembo.

*Prefects 2013 (with Mrs Rippon, Mr Muddle, Mrs Harvey and Ms Gilbertson)*



We do, however, have a new group of prefects, keen and enthusiastic to continue with the legacy of prefects past. They have already demonstrated a commitment and desire to serve the school on many different levels in their previous years at MHS, achieving a Principal's Leadership Award in Year 11. From the sporting field to creative and academic pursuits, the prefects have a well-rounded, balanced and energetic approach to challenges in various disciplines. So congratulations go to Rachel Leonard and Hamish Lorang (Captains), Cameron Allen and Elizabeth Dorn (Vice Captains), Eliza Avery, Julia Barton, Meg Buckner, Zane Butler, Emily Chen, Oliver Di Pietro, Joshua Edwards, Zac Hamilton-Russell, Patrick Hartsuyker, Vanessa Langley, Ethan Muddle, Arjun Raju, Brigitte Roman, Michael Squires, Samara Thambar and Betrice Walker. We look forward to working with you all in 2014.





## **IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANAPHYLAXIS SHOULD HE OR SHE CARRY THEIR OWN EPIPEN® OR ANAPEN® TO AND AT SCHOOL?**

### ***What is this article about?***

If you have told the school that your child is diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis you should have received a letter from Mrs Christine Rippon and Mr Grahame Byrnes.

This article provides more information about anaphylaxis.

### ***What is an EpiPen® and an Anapen®?***

EpiPen® and Anapens® are the emergency treatment for children who are having an anaphylactic reaction.

### ***What is anaphylaxis?***

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sometimes sudden allergic reaction. If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor as being at risk of anaphylaxis there are some important things to remember that will help the school to support your child's health care needs.

***Why you need to keep us informed if your child is diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis or if his or her condition changes. This includes if they have an anaphylactic reaction while not at school.***

The school can only respond to risks it knows about. Please keep Mr Grahame Byrnes (Relieving Head Teacher Welfare) informed so that we can plan to support your child at school.

***Why you need to provide the school with your child's current ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis and an EpiPen® or Anapen® signed by their doctor***

The plan sets out the steps the school needs to follow in an emergency. It is essential for us to have this to keep your child safe.

We will keep a copy of your child's ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis stored with your child's EpiPen® or Anapen®.

***Why it is important to talk regularly with your child about some simple steps to help keep them safe***

It is important to regularly talk with your child about when and where they are at risk of contact with the things they are allergic to and how to avoid this. If you have told them not to take part in sharing food at school, regularly remind them of this.

Reassure them that if they do come into contact with something they are allergic to or they feel unwell at school they won't get into trouble.

**They need to tell a teacher immediately.**

***Consider whether your child should carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen®***

If your child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis you can request that they carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen® to school and at school. A request form has been sent home and is also available from the front office, Mrs Olga Hietbrink.

If you request that your child carry an EpiPen® or Anapen® with them to school and at school you will still need to provide the school with at least one additional EpiPen® or Anapen® for storage in a central location within the school and for access by staff in an emergency.

The school will contact you about any request you make for your son or daughter to carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen®.

***Why does the school need to know if your son or daughter is carrying their own EpiPen® or Anapen®?***

Staff need to know your child carries an EpiPen® or Anapen® in an emergency. For this reason this information will be included in your child's individual health care plan.

They also need to be able to find it quickly so it is important that it be in an easily identifiable and accessible spot (eg not a locker).

To find out more go to the Department's public schools website: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/index.php>





Merewether High School

"An academically selective school for gifted and talented students"

Chatham Street, Broadmeadow

PO Box 1013, Hamilton 2303

Phone: (02) 4969 3855

Fax: (02) 4961 2246

E-mail:

8<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.

### ***Crossroads Program Overview 2013-14***

Dear Parent and Student,

*Crossroads* is a mandatory personal development course for Stage 6 students in NSW government schools. The course provides an opportunity for senior students to extend and build upon the outcomes achieved in the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education program during Years 7 to 10.

*Crossroads* reflects some of the contemporary issues facing young people with the course organised around two key strands; relationships and drug use. The *Crossroads* course commences during term 4 this year as part of the Year 10 Transition Program and continues during Stage 6.

An overview of the course follows:

**2<sup>nd</sup> (B C E) or 3<sup>rd</sup> (G M N) December, 2013 – Safer Celebrations, Diversity and All My Own Work sessions from 9.00am to 3.10pm**

**July, 2014 Jindabyne Excursion – Relationships**

**Day 1 Term 4, 2014 – Year 12 Study Skills Day**

**Term 4, 2014 – Roadwhyz Driver/Rider Education**

Specific details for each session will be issued closer to the set date of the activity.

All students are required to attend the programmed activities. Students who are unable to attend due to illness or approved leave will be required to complete an alternate research activity in their own time. Failure to attend sessions or complete the alternate activity may make a student ineligible to receive their certificate of completion for their Preliminary HSC studies.

Please contact Ms Morrison at school if you require more detailed information about the *Crossroads* program.

Thank you for your support,

Ms R Morrison  
Head Teacher PDHPE  
*Crossroads* Co-ordinator

Mrs C Rippon  
Principal



SUPPORTING PROSTATE CANCER & MALE MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES



# MOVEMBER

*Knowledge is Power • Moustache is King*

Mr Smith in Science, Mr Singh in Maths and Mr Berry in Social Science have taken on the Mo challenge in "Movember".

During November each year, Movember is responsible for the sprouting of millions of moustaches around the world. With their "Mo's" men raise vital funds and awareness for prostate and testicular cancer and mental health. As an independent global charity, Movember's vision is to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health.

To find out more about the programs we are supporting by growing our mo's visit:

<http://au.movember.com/programs>

To donate to our Merewether High team and see photo updates of our mo's visit:

<http://mobro.co/merewetherhigh>

Movember's not just for men. The women of Movember are known as Mo Sistas. They play a vital role in the success of Movember by supporting and encouraging the men in their life to get involved.

The Merewether High Movember team believes it is important for the young men at Merewether High to gain an understanding of the health issues that men face in their adult lives. We will be promoting this cause at assemblies and holding a celebration event at the end of November to shave our mo's and promote men's health.



**KNOWLEDGE IS  
POWER  
PREVENTION IS  
EVERYTHING  
EARLY  
DETECTION IS  
KEY**





## Merewether High School International Sports Tour 2014-15

... is proud to announce our continued association with Robert Crawford Real Estate. Robert has come on board for his second successive tour as the major sponsor of the rugby and boys soccer teams. We are honoured to accept Robert's sponsorship of the Sports Tour program.



... in recognition of Robert's financial support, we encourage all members of the Merewether High School community to consider Crawford's for ALL your Real Estate needs.

Ph. 02 4957 6166 – New Lambton

Ph. 02 4955 7888 – Elmore Vale

[www.robertcrawfordrealestate.com.au](http://www.robertcrawfordrealestate.com.au)

- we would also like to acknowledge the following local business groups for their generous support

102.9 KOFM  
106.9 NXFM  
Anchorage. Port Stephens  
Aphrodite's On The Lake  
Aqua Lilly Hair Design  
The Athlete's Foot  
Babyshop  
Bakers Delight  
Belmont Golf Club  
Belmont Hairdoo  
Bi-LO. Cardiff  
Board Crazy  
Bunnings Warehouse  
Cellarbrations - Adamstown  
Christiane's Hair Design  
Colour de Rose  
Cupcake Espresso  
Dan Murphy's  
Darby Street Pharmacy  
Deneng Pty Ltd  
Donut King  
Elite Mobile Locksmiths  
Extraless Prices Variety Store  
Gateshead Tavern Bottle Shop  
Gemelli Estate  
Global Packaging  
Good Guys Kotara  
GR Brassiere  
Graze at Valentine  
Greencross Vets  
Grill'd – The Junction  
Healing Wave Chiropractic

House  
Howards Storage World  
Hoyts. Charlestown  
Hunter Business Golf Group  
Hunter Gourmet Pizza  
ITW Group - Cyclone  
Jarret's Quality Meats  
JB Hi-Fi  
Jenda Collection  
Joslin St Butcher  
Junction Fair Pharmacy  
The Bottle-O Kahibah  
Kathmandu  
KFC  
Koko Hairdressing  
Kylie's Hair Specialists  
Lambton Fridge  
Lambton Fruit Market  
Lombard- The Paper People  
Lucky 7 Supermarket  
Macs Home Timber & Hardware  
Megamania  
Merewether Golf Club  
Merewether Hair Studio  
Moo Culture  
Nesbitt Hair and Body  
Newcastle Family Dental  
Office Works - Newcastle West  
Open Dorz  
Pacific Dunes  
Paul's Asian Affair  
Pegs - Cafe

Perfection Point - Skin & Body  
Pharmacy for Less. Kotara  
Poppies Garden Centre  
Priceline Pharmacy  
Pulse Climbing  
Restaurant Mason  
Robert Crawford Real Estate  
Rosie's School of Rock  
Salamander Village Florist  
Scott-Dibben Amcal Kotara  
Scrap Needs  
Seaview Malaysian Restaurant  
Sesames - On the Lake  
Strachans Day Night Pharmacy  
Suki Hairdressing  
Super Strike. Salamander  
Tackle Power  
The Forum University  
The Letter Q  
The Wests Group  
Tri-Benedict Solutions  
Warners at The Bay  
Wax in the City  
The Bottle-O Whitebridge  
Whitebridge Butchery  
Woolworths - Cardiff  
Worimi Framing Services  
XY Body Treatments





November	
<b>Mon 11/11</b>	Y7,8,9 Yearly exams commence - MPC
<b>Tues 12/11</b>	Y10 PLG - LC - 9am Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 2/5
<b>Wed 13/11</b>	Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 3/5
<b>Thur 14/11</b>	Y11 ROADwhyz Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 4/5
<b>Fri 15/11</b>	Y11 ROADwhyz Y7,8,9 Yearly exams conclude
<b>Tues 19/11</b>	P&C Meeting - ILC-7:30pm
<b>Wed 20/11</b>	Y8-11 Language Cultural Infusion-MHS
<b>Fri 22/11</b>	Prefects' Investiture-MPC - 11.00am
<b>Mon 25/11</b>	Y12 English (Standard and Advanced) Task-Area of Study Speech this week Support Unit Disco-MPC
<b>Thur 28/11</b>	Sports Presentation Assembly-MPC - 11.00am
December	
<b>Mon 2/12</b>	Y10 BCE Crossroads and All My Own Work Y12 English Extension Task-Vive Voce this week
<b>Tues 3/12</b>	Y10 GMN Crossroads and All My Own Work
<b>Wed 4/12</b>	Y7 (2014) Orientation Day HSSA Blues Presentation Y10 Portfolio Presentations day 1/3
<b>Thu 5/6</b>	Y10 Portfolio Presentations day 2/3
<b>Fri 6/6</b>	Y10 Portfolio Presentations day 3/3
<b>Mon 9/12</b>	Y10 Community Service Day 1/4
<b>Tues 10/12</b>	Y10 Community Service Day 2/4
<b>Wed 11/12</b>	Y10 Community Service Day 3/4
<b>Thur 12/12</b>	Y10 Community Service day 4/4
<b>Fri 13/12</b>	Y10 Welfare Day
<b>Mon 16/12</b>	Y10 Assembly - MPC - 11am Y9 Assembly - MPC - 1:30pm
<b>Tues 17/12</b>	Y8 Assembly - MPC - 11am Y7 Assembly - MPC - 1:30pm
<b>Wed 18/12</b>	BOS HSC results released Presentation Day - MPC - 11am
<b>Thur 19/12</b>	School Development Day - No Students Y12 BBQ - 11:00am
<b>Fri 20/12</b>	School Development Day - No Students





## The Uniform Shop

0401 725 885

[merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au](mailto:merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au)

Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:

**Monday 8.00am – 12.00pm**

**Thursday 1.00pm – 3.30pm**

The uniform shop can be contacted during these hours by phone or email:

[merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au](mailto:merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au) .

**Ph: 0401 725 885**

Payments can be made direct to Alinta Apparel on the day of purchase. Alinta will take payments in the form of cash, credit card, or debit credit card.

Uniform price list & online shopping available at:

[www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au)

### **Newcastle to host huge music line up at the Opening Ceremony**

Secure your tickets now to Newcastle's biggest entertainment event since the Newcastle Earthquake Relief concert of 1990, and help raise funds for our school in the process! The Special Olympics 2013 Asia Pacific Games Opening Ceremony will be held at Hunter Stadium from 7pm on Sunday 1 December 2013, and should not be missed. Some of Australia's best known musical performers including Human Nature, Anthony Callea, Iva Davies, Marcia Hines, The McClymonts, Silvie Paladino, Doug Parkinson, Darren Percival and Marina Prior will perform at the event along with Special Olympics Athletes and performers from across the Newcastle-Hunter region. Our school has secured reserved seating in the Stadium, enabling our families to purchase very affordable tickets directly so that they are seated together and can enjoy the festivities as a school community. Ticket prices are for a family four (two adults and two children) and cost just \$44 (plus school levy). This includes a small P&C fundraising levy, which will be directed back to our school to purchase much needed equipment. Please get behind this wonderful event, and show your support for the Special Olympics athletes who have trained for months and plan to travel long distances to compete at the Games. To secure your tickets or to find out more head to [www.specialolympicsasiapacgames2013.com](http://www.specialolympicsasiapacgames2013.com)