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Dates to Remember

Tuesday 18th November

Y11 (Y12-2015) - PLG
 9:00am - 10:30am - LC

Thursday 20th November

Y11 Assembly 11:15am - MPC

Friday 28th November

Prefects' Investiture
 11:00am - MPC

Diary Dates

P&C Meeting
 Tuesday, 18th
 November
 7:30pm - ILC



Principal's Report

Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement

Congratulations to our 2014 School Captain Hamish Lorang who on the 5th November received an award for Excellence in Student Achievement from the NSW Minister for Education, The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP at NSW Parliament House. Hamish was recognised for his all-round achievements across all aspects of school life. Students receiving this award demonstrate leadership skills; sporting achievements; academic excellence; commitment to the school community; and values such as integrity, respect, responsibility, cooperation, participation, care and fairness. Twenty students from across the state received the award through nomination and a rigorous selection panel process conducted by the Public Education Foundation.





Australian Mathematics Competition Medal

Each year the Australian Mathematics Trust awards a limited number of medals in each division of the Australian Mathematics Competition for performances which are outstanding both within a state or region and overall in the competition.

Sharvil Kesarwani of Year 7 received his medal for the Junior Division of the Australian Mathematics Competition on Friday 7th November at Government House in Brisbane.

As a result Sharvil has now been invited to participate in a ten day Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee School of Excellence to be held in Melbourne at the beginning of December.



2014 ICAS Medal Presentations

Congratulations to Sharvil Kesarwani and Samuel McIntyre who will receive medals at a ceremony to be held on Friday 28th November at The University of New South Wales for their performances in, Sharvil, Mathematics and Samuel, English in the 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools.

ICAS High Achievers' Reception

Congratulations to the following students who will receive awards at the 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools High Achievers' Reception to be held on Friday 28th November at The University of New South Wales.

Muhammed Al-Mudafer – Mathematics and Science
Christopher Chen – English
Eamonn Garvey – English
Alexander Gore – Computer Skills
Nicola Gray – Writing
Mark Holdsworth – Science
Isabella Malaspina – English
Abbey McPherson – Writing
Ashley Milton – English
Kate Miskin – Writing
Jacob Mockovic – Writing
David Park – Mathematics
Tessa Pascoe – English
Cameron Shaw-Carmody – Mathematics and Science
Meg Stevens – English
Tom Su – Computer Skills, Mathematics and Science
Elizabeth Tembo – English
Annaliese Turner – English
Priya Vakil – Writing
Emma Westbury – Science
Thomas Whitehead – Science
Aymon Wuolanne – Mathematics
Hailin Zhao - Mathematics

**2014 Engineering Studies High School Competition - Patrick Hartsuyker and Arjun Lewis**

Patrick Hartsuyker (Year 12 2014) and Arjun Lewis (Year 11 2014) have been successful in winning major prizes in the 2014 Engineering Studies competition run by the University of Wollongong which is open to Year 11 and 12 students. Students submit an engineering report that they have done as part of their Preliminary HSC or HSC course throughout the year, with the competition available for any student in the state of NSW.

The 2014 National History Challenge

Congratulations to Todd O'Dea who won the State Award for the category of Year Level 10 in the 2014 National History Challenge.

World Championships – Aerobics

Congratulations to Casey Smith who received a Bronze Medal at the World Championships in Aerobics held in Prague during October.

Indonesian Scholarship

Congratulations to Carson McGovern who has received a scholarship to travel to Indonesia to study. Carson participated in an extensive process to win this scholarship which was contested state wide.

HSC

The Higher School Certificate finished on the 5th November with some very happy Year 12s relieved that the hard work is now over. We look forward to receiving their results on the 17th December and celebrating with them on the 18th 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. Reports will be issued in Week 11 of this term at each of the Year Assemblies held on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th December.

Attendance – Term 4

The last day for all students, Years 7 – 11 is Wednesday 17th December. If due to family circumstances you need to take early holidays please ensure you apply for an exemption from school if the time falls during school time. Exemption forms are available from the front office.

School Development Days – 18th and 19th December

The last two days of the school year for staff will be the 18th and 19th December. Throughout these two days staff will be involved in updates on Anaphylaxis Management, Emergency Care, CPR, HSC Analysis and online learning in Quality Teaching. 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 17th December.

From the Deputy

Do I Know You??

It is not unusual to run into a past student here or there and I must admit that I normally fumble around the fact that I don't recognise them (perhaps this is symptomatic of either my advancing years or the number of students I have had the pleasure to run into!) The conversation usually goes something like this.....

"Hi Mr Southward, how are you? Are you still teaching?? " *(I frantically try and place the face of an ex-student? or parent? Or??)* This normally brings no memory so I press on.

"Yes, I am well, still teaching.... How are you?? I wouldn't recognise you!" *(after a little bit of awkward silence I press on with)* "Have you seen anyone else from school" *(I am obviously fishing for a little hint of where? When or who can connect one of my past students to the dark recesses of my memory).*

The fact is; I love that we all have such a positive connection to our school years and I am overjoyed that some of my past students still want to touch base and reminisce with me.

Many of you may have read recent articles in the *Newcastle Morning Herald* or *Myall Coast Messenger* relating to an ex- student of Merewether High; Sam Willis or Dr Samuel Willis. The articles outline his great success and acknowledgement as a future leader in World Economic Policy. It is interesting to see that Sam goes to great lengths to acknowledge the input of public education by championing his two schools, Tea Gardens Primary and Merewether High.

Sam's father, Gary contacted me at school recently to reinforce his appreciation of the efforts of our school and I have been in ongoing email communication with Sam over the last month. He is keen to give back to our school and I am trying to organise an opportunity for Sam to address an assembly in December. When I asked him if he had any message to pass on to our school community he said;

Hawks Nest Boy becomes Oxford Don

Congratulations to Tea Gardens Primary School and Merewether High School in Newcastle.

Thank you to all our Teachers and Congratulations and well done Dr Samuel Willis

he graduated in the top 500 students nationally. Sam says, "I'll always be grateful for the quality of public education in Australia. Lots of kids at Oxford went to very expensive schools, castles really, but ultimately it all comes down to the teachers. We're very lucky because in Tea Gardens, Merewether and public schools around Australia we have some of the best teachers in the world looking after our kids". After school Sam received a scholarship to study Actuarial Studies at UNSW. There Sam received the University Medal for his work designing ways to make pensions safer, which was awarded prizes internationally. After working in Sydney Sam received full funding to study at Oxford, which he combined with rowing, AFL and being the President of his College. Sam completed his PhD earlier this year, earning the prize for the top student in his field with a thesis titled, "Macroeconomic policy in resource-rich economies". "I've tried to focus on topics that are important to Australia: pensions because of our aging population, and natural resources because of their importance to our economy". Sam's job now involves researching, lecturing and advising countries on managing resource wealth - including Libya, Iraq, Ghana and Uganda. When asked about the future Sam says, "Eventually I'd love to make a contribution at home in Australia".

By Carol Willis

Hawks Nest lad Dr Samuel Willis has recently been awarded a prestigious Future Research Leaders fellowship in Economics at Pembroke College, Oxford University. Sam grew up in Hawks Nest, his parents Gary and Carol are local school teachers and his roots in the Myall Lakes go back five generations. Sam began his academic career at Tea Gardens Primary School where he was a Prefect and eventually Dux. He then braved a daily four-hour bus journey to attend Merewether High in Newcastle, where

"I think it's important for Merewether students to adjust their expectations, to realise that anything's possible. Since I've been at Oxford there have been quite a few former MHS students study here, and we have others at the University of Cambridge, the University of Chicago and other top places around the world. MHS has bright students and great teachers, so with a bit of hard work the world is your oyster."

It is wonderful that young people continue to value their school experience. Whether they are a future world leader or active member of their local community, it reinforces the responsibility we have as teachers to support and guide all students, build learning skills and instil the values of life long learning in all.

If only I could remember their names.....

Tony Southward
Deputy Principal



English

Once again I begin this report outlining further successes in debating. Recently our Year 7 and 8 debating team, progressed to the State Championships in the Premiers Debating Challenge. Students in this team are Rosanna Gately, Lucy Witherdin, Callum Donnelly, Harry Su and Rachel McVicar. This team, successfully defeated Hunter School of the Performing Arts in the Hunter Central Coast Regional Final and will now represent the region at the State Championships from Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 December at The Women's College of Sydney University. A total of 413 teams from across NSW entered this competition and to reach State championship level is an outstanding achievement for everyone involved. Congratulations to Ms Burdekin and her team of debaters and good luck for the upcoming debates in Sydney.

Our Year 9/10 debating team also had the opportunity to debate at State final level and competed in the 9/10 Premier's Debating Challenge State semi final. All the debaters in this team represented both Merewether High and the Hunter/Central Coast region with great skill. Unfortunately, on the day they were defeated. This team and their coach, Ms Burdekin, deserve congratulations for their outstanding achievements this year in debating.

As students in Years 7 – 10 receive their Semester 2 examinations back they should take some time to reflect on the results they have achieved in English throughout this year. I would encourage all students to think about the feedback they have received on various tasks throughout the year and set learning goals to focus on achieving as they move into 2015.

Our new HSC students, both Advanced and Standard English students, have been studying the Area of Study Discovery and should be preparing for the first of their HSC English assessment tasks. This task will be an oral presentation. These presentations will be assessed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of week 8 this term. All students should have booked a time slot on the booking sheet outside the English staffroom.

On the 12th December all of Year 12 will be participating in a series of English tutorials with Karen Yager. Karen is the Dean of Studies at Knox Grammar and is also one of NSW's leading curriculum specialists. She will offer our students valuable insights into the HSC English course, with a specific focus on the Area of Study Discovery. Year 12 students will receive further information regarding the structure of this day through email and their English teachers closer to the date.

Once the Semester 2 Examinations conclude I will be commencing a stocktake of English textbooks. Any student with an English textbook at home should ensure that they are returned to the library ASAP.



CAPA

MUSIC

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 a record 5 ensembles enter: Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Clarinet Ensemble and Saxophone Ensemble.

Concert Band, Jazz Band and Clarinet Ensemble all took out **first place** in their sections with outstanding performances and glowing reports from the Adjudicator. The Percussion Ensemble and Saxophone Ensemble were both Highly Commended, again with outstanding performances.

We are so grateful for the commitment our students put into MHS Ensembles. Congratulations!



**Choralfest**

Following a week of Bandfest, students then competed in Choralfest the following week. Like Bandfest, this competition allows students to sing in a fun and friendly environment, whilst receiving some constructive feedback from a professional adjudicator. The students also see what other High School vocal ensembles are doing and meet like minded musicians. The Vocal Ensemble received a Highly Commended and performed brilliantly, despite the fact that half the choir was unable to attend! Well done to all our wonderful musicians!

**HSC MUSIC**

Our HSC Music students were all well prepared and completed their HSC Performance Examinations in September and their Aural Examination two weeks ago. We wish them all the best for the remainder of their exams.

Year 11 Soiree

To finish off their Preliminary Music course, Year 11 Music 1 and Music 2 students performed in an intimate musical Soiree. There are so many talented students in this year group and it was an absolute pleasure to see them all perform for family and friends on this night. All the best for Year 12; we can't wait to see what you do!

End of Year Assembly Auditions

Auditions for Year 7 & 8 Year Assemblies will be held on Friday 14 November, lunchtime in KM1.

Meet the Music

The final Meet the Music excursion for 2014 was held on Thursday 6 November. We were treated to an outstanding concert/film presentation. The film West Side Story was shown in full, with live orchestral accompaniment. It was quite a technical feat, as the vocal tracks were still on the film! We are all looking forward to the 2015 Meet the Music Series.

**HUNTER SINGERS AUDITIONS**

The Hunter Singers 25th Anniversary concert will be held at Newcastle Conservatorium on 23 November. Tickets are available at www.trybooking.com/FNSN.

Auditions will be held on Tuesday 25 November at 4:30-6:30pm at St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Auckland Street Newcastle. Information and application forms are available at www.huntersingers.com



VISUAL ARTS



We have exciting news for Year 9 elective Visual Arts! On Monday, 8th December, Lizotte's Newcastle will unveil a collaborative artwork created especially for the theatre restaurant by our students. It will be one of four pieces created and designed by students from various schools in the region and the night will include performances by Merewether High School students. The Year 9 students designed their own assessment task based on the brief given by Lizotte's, handing over full ownership of the project to our budding artists.

They are currently working very hard to complete the work ready for the big reveal at 6pm on the night. If you would like tickets to the night, they are available at Lizotte's on

4956 2066 or check their website www.newcastle.lizottes.com.au/live/index.asp



DRAMA

Onstage nomination!

Congratulations to the Year 12 Drama group, which was nominated for Onstage, the exemplar showcase of Drama HSC works across the state! Onstage is Drama's answer to Artexpress and Encore, so the students are naturally very excited. Miss Sellers is also thrilled with the nomination, as it means the markers thought the performance was noteworthy, unique and effective.

The Group nominated consisted of five students: Loryn Hibbard, Emma Elsley, Kristen Wunderlich, Jemima Webber and Tiernan Baldwin. The piece was called 'Oestrogenation' which was about a company which can be used to create the 'perfect woman'.

The performance explored what this might even begin to mean, with a lot of wit and sarcasm. They had a great script which addressed contemporary, comedic and often controversial issues surrounding modern female experiences, such as body image, the scandalous idea of ¾ length shorts in the workplace, Tinder and even the almighty 'Kimye'. The group worked very hard and showed upmost dedication in perceptively represented their creative and collaborative ideas. Miss Sellers was very proud and congratulates the girls, and the whole class on their impressive efforts during HSC Drama 2014 and wishes them all every success in the future.

CAPA Excursion to WICKED - The Musical

There are a few tickets remaining for the excursion to WICKED on Wednesday 26th November. We have now open this opportunity up for any interested MHS students and/or parents. The cost is \$100 and is to be paid to the cashier. Permission notes can be collected outside the CAPA staffroom, or are available on MHS website (Curriculum/Activities/Recent Notes). This is a wonderful opportunity to experience Theatre Music at its best! We will leave from outside the CAPA staffroom at 8:50am and return to school approximately 6:30pm.



Social Science

Business Studies



The HSC Business Studies class recently received their first brief for the HSC Operations topic in their role as Berry Consultants. Berry Consultants have been approached by a hypothetical business "Pancake Express" to improve their operations function, namely the production of pancakes. In teams, students were required to create a pancake production 'operations plan' for the business, which required the consideration of issues such as; quality of inputs, variation in volume and variety and compliance with quality regulations. The result was a Berry Consultants Pancake Express day, where students put their operations plans to the test. Mrs West was head of quality control for the event, with Social Science staff assisting in determining the best pancakes based on the criteria of plate presentation, taste and would someone in a restaurant seriously eat that? HSC students are able to use the hypothetical business "Pancake Express" as an example to demonstrate an understanding of business concepts in their written examination responses.

Finally a big congratulations to the 'Build-a-Burger' team of Luke Ellis, Sam Pearson & Harry Holmes who have been successful in making the final four of the University of Newcastle Business Plan Competition. The students have won \$1,000 in prize money for themselves and \$500 for the school. They will now present their business plan to a panel from the School of Business at UoN for additional prize money and the chance to win scholarships to UoN. The boy's business idea was inspired by the Maoz Vegetarian business concept in Europe. They have worked really hard to get to this point and we wish them every success in the finals of the competition.

Mr Rob Berry
(Business Studies Coordinator)



**Guest Speakers - Year 9 Commerce**

Police Liaison Officer, Mr Darren Fleming visited our Year 9 Commerce classes recently. He spoke about a wide range of topics including; the Young Offenders Act, youth and criminal acts and his role in the local community and Mr Fleming's police work prior to his current role in the force. The students were enthralled with Mr Fleming's work in solving criminal matters. Students also enjoyed discussing and raising questions about the rights and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the legal system.



Ms Melanie Wild from local law firm Wilde Legal, also visited Merewether High School to provide Year 9 Commerce students with another perspective of the legal system. Ms Wild is a solicitor who is passionate about passing on her expertise in the law to students. Ms Wild spoke about criminal proceedings and civil litigation. As well, she fielded technical legal questions from the students.



The students would like to thank Mr Fleming and Ms Wild for taking the time out from their busy schedules to provide a contemporary framework to the work done in class on the topic Law and Society.



Thank you to Wilde Legal for their continued support and sponsorship of the Social Science awards program in 2014.



**Year 12 Business Breakfast – Final Guest Speaker: 2014**

Gareth West from Newcastle based firm

Pricewaterhouse Coopers recently spoke to the HSC Accelerated Business Studies class as part of the business breakfast program. This program is about enhancing students' knowledge of aspects of the HSC Business Studies course by supporting syllabus content with real world case studies in business practice.

Gareth spoke about key aspects of the finance topic; including financial statements and the limitations of financial reporting. Students gained an excellent understanding of how businesses use financial information in the planning and monitoring of business activities.

The Australian School of Business Economics and Business Studies Competition

Mitchell Thomson achieved outstanding results in the Australian School of Business Economics and Business Studies Competition. He scored in the top 5% in the national competition. This placed him equal third in Australia. Over 10,000 students

competed in this year's event.

Mitchell travelled to Sydney to receive his monetary prize and certificate; his efforts were also acknowledged at the Merewether High School weekly assembly.

The referral payment under the Introducer Program agreement is now \$600, double the previous amount of \$300. It is as 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.



Mrs Kerry West
Head Teacher Social Science

**Year 8 Geography Elective**

Year 8 Elective Geography has been exploring the depths of the ocean this semester. They have been studying all that is interesting about marine environments. The class has looked at a number of different areas within the course so far including marine organisms, their habitats, adaptations, rocky shores and marine management.

We were visited earlier into the course by guest speaker Mr .Donaldson, who spoke to the class about his experiences as part of a research group travelling Australia. He spoke to the class about mapping the ocean floor and species identification.

This semester we have been lucky to have the expertise of Chris Deutschmann in the classroom. Chris is from Germany and is currently teaching with the languages staff at Merewether High. He has studied Marine Biology at university and has a wealth of knowledge and a love of the marine environment. Chris has been team teaching in the classroom and has been a great resource for the students. Chris' very interesting and fun mammal "blubber" experiment had students covered in lard and getting a feel for what it is like for ocean mammals to adapt to the sometimes freezing waters of the ocean



The students have also had a visit to the Sydney Sealife Aquarium and the Imax Theatre this semester. Here students were able to experience different marine environments and learn the importance of aquariums as part of research, education and conservation within the ocean environment.

Students are currently working on group tasks in class, researching marine conservation groups. Students have as active citizens been contacting their chosen groups and investigating the current projects that are being implemented by these organisations to help in marine conservation.

Mrs Tonks –Class Teacher



PDHPE

Preliminary PDHPE Provide First Aid Training

Early this term, students completing the Preliminary PDHPE course attended the St John Ambulance Provide First Aid training course at the Adamstown Training Centre.

The students were required to successfully complete an online course to be eligible to attend the practical assessment day. Throughout the day, students assessed and managed first aid scenarios in small groups with the assessor providing valuable guidance to enhance their knowledge and skills in order to successfully manage a range of first aid situations. Congratulations to the following students who attained their Provide First Aid qualification:

George Bright, Daniel Carless, Joshua Chapman, Timothy Chen, Harrison Crook, Quinn Fowler, Sabine Osmotherly, Paidi Ronan-Yates, Joshua Sim, Casey Smith, Rachael Ward, Ethan Wilkinson, Angela Williams and Harrison Wright.



'Mind Your Back' Spinal Awareness Presentation

Last term, students in Year 10 attended a 'Mind Your Back' Spinal Awareness presentation which was held in the school hall. The session was presented by Domonic Freestone and Andrew Hall who both volunteer their time to educate young people about spinal safety. Both Domonic and Andrew shared their life experiences and spoke about the challenges they face on a day-to-day basis, including the complexities of completing simple daily tasks such as getting ready for work or travelling to and from commitments. They also spoke about the impact their injury has had on their personal relationships as well as their career aspirations. Domonic and Andrew highlighted the risky behaviours that commonly contribute to spinal injuries as well as offering sound advice on ways to lower your chance of sustaining a spinal injury. The candid and sometimes confronting narrative that Domonic and Andrew presented enhanced the audience's understanding of the life changing consequences of sustaining a spinal injury and this experience will have a profound and positive effect toward assisting our students to make health promoting decisions regarding their personal safety in the future. Many thanks to Melanie Lloyd from 'Paraquad' for organizing the presentation.



Reminders

Year 7 Swim, Save, Survive: Week 10 – 10th, 11th, 12th December

School gym open Monday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons 3.30 – 5.30. Permission note required.

Students are reminded not to bring valuables to school.

Students are reminded to continue to bring their uniform for all lessons.

Staying 'Sun Safe' at School

The onset of warmer weather is a timely reminder for us all about staying 'sun safe'. Whilst sun safety is important all year round, the summer months inevitably mean that we will be outside more often and we should therefore be adopting sun safe practices as part of our daily routine; which also includes the time we are at school.

Simple ways you can stay 'sun safe' whilst at school include:

- ⇒ applying **sunscreen** of SPF 30+ (or higher) to all areas of exposed skin before you leave for school and re-applying your sunscreen as necessary such as before and after sport;
- ⇒ wearing **a hat** during sport and PE lessons or whilst you are in the playground;
- ⇒ utilising the many **shaded areas** around the school during recess and lunch breaks.

By regularly adopting these simple behaviours when you are at school, you can greatly reduce your likelihood of developing skin cancer later in life.



Term 4 Lunchtime Competition Update

Congratulations to our Term 4 Winners!!!

Portuguese Thunder of Year 8 won our Junior Comp in a thrilling final against the Pink Fluffy Unicorns of Year 7. The match was a 3-3 draw at full time after the Unicorns lead for the majority of the game. The Thunder were awarded the victory on our 'first team to score' policy.

Our senior game saw a rematch of our Term 1 final with 'The Brick' of Year 9 starting with a two try handicap over 'Whatyatakinabeet?!' of Year 11. The Brick proved the better team on the day forcing their opponents making many errors in a high paced and entertaining affair. The Brick avenged their Term 1 loss with a convincing 7-4 victory.





Sport Report



►SPORTSPEOPLE OF THE YEAR. KIM WILLIAMS AND HAMISH LORANG WERE GIVEN THE HONOUR OF BEING AWARDED OUR SCHOOLS SPORTSMAN AND SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR. BOTH HAD TREMENDOUS YEARS WITH KIM AND HAMISH BOTH BEING CHOSEN TO REPRESENT NSW IN THEIR CHOSEN SPORTS. WELL DONE TO BOTH!

THE SPORTS YEAR IS NOW COMING TO AND END AND WE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL STUDENTS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED MHS THIS YEAR, NO MATTER WHAT THE SPORT. WE HAD SOME GREAT SUCCESSES MIXED WITH SOME

DISSAPOINTMENTS BUT THAT IS THE BEAUTY OF SPORT AND THAT IS WHY WE ALL LOVE IT SO MUCH. SEE YOU IN 2015!!!!

Sports Presentation



We recently held our Annual Sports Presentation Assembly and as usual it was a fantastic celebration of our students and their performance in Sport. At the event we recognized students from any areas, including Age Champions, Hunter Region Reps, winning teams and individuals in Regional and State competitions as well as a number of special awards. The Harrison/ Harper Medal was won by Lauren Moore, The Jack Scott Junior Sports person by Angela Williams and a number of senior students were awarded MHS Sporting Blues for their continued commitment and excellence to their chosen sport and the sporting program as a whole. In total well over 200 awards were given out to students who have performed in the area of sport.

Well done to all Award winners.



Follow us on Twitter



The Sports program at the school is a dynamic entity where there is always something going on or something great being achieved. We are now on [TWITTER](#) and encourage all students and parents involved in the program to follow us. A Twitter account is free and is easy to access on any Smartphone or tablet. You will receive regular updates on performances, upcoming events, sports results and any other information related to the Sport Program at MHS. Our tag is - [mhs_sport](#) **SIGN UP AND FOLLOW US NOW.**





Other Sports updates



OLD BOYS RUGBY

The Annual Old Boys Rugby match was recently played and despite poor weather the match was a great success. Nearly 20 ex students turned up and were able to maintain the unbeaten record of the Old Boys in this annual match. The final score was 24-5. This match has now become a tradition spanning nearly ten years and we would encourage any ex students to become involved next year.

Indoor Soccer Wrap

U/14 Win State Competition

The U/14s Merewether HS boys futsal team has tasted success again this year in winning the "Champion of Champions" Northern NSW State Futsal School tournament held at Broadmeadow Basketball stadium. The team beat Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina in the final 3-2 in a close and pulsating match with the winning goal being scored by left wing Jack Novak with 2 minutes remaining. Other goals were scored by Narveen Richardson and Issac Smart. On the way to the Final, the team beat St Josephs Maitland, Whitebridge and Kurri Kurri in the Semi-final. Well done to the whole team and their performances.

WHY THE 'MOO'



Why the 'Moo'. Our school unofficial mascot was developed in the late 90's by members of our First XV Rugby team. No one really knows why it was chosen but it took hold and now is part of many facets of everyday school life. The 'M W' with fingers of both hands was also invented at that stage and it is amazing that everyone nows uses it to identify themselves with our school. Two great innovations that are now part of our school culture. Well done the Rugby team

Tours set to go!!



After two years planning all is now in readiness for our Sports Tours to depart our shores. Soccer leaves on Dec 6 and Rugby/Netball on Dec 31. A huge number of things are planned for the 24 days the students will be away on both tours, a full report will be made in next years first bulletin. Needless to say we currently have 57 very excited students starting to pack suitcases for their very own adventure to Dubai, England and France.

KNOCKOUT TEAMS

- A great result for our U/14 baker Shield Cricket team. After winning a gala day earlier in the year the team recently took on Newcastle High in a quarter final match. Batting first the team looked in all sorts of trouble after being bowled out for only 69 runs. However the bowling certainly stood up and despite some dropped catches the team were still able to restrict Newcastle to 59. The team now progresses through to the Finals to be played on the last Tuesday of the year in Maitland.
- Also in cricket the Open Boys team has progressed through to the latter rounds of the competition and will play Great Lakes College for the chance to move into the finals.
- And still on Cricket our Girls Cricket team will play Kotara in the Girls competition. We have a young but relatively experienced team that is sure to perform well. We wish them the best of luck and perhaps we will have three teams in the finals by the end of the year.

WEEKLY SPORT

- A reminder to students and parents that the Bus Levy for the weekly sports program is due by the end of Week 5 Term 4. This levy of \$50 should be paid to the front office.
- Students who attend Beach Sports must have a signed aquatics permission note if they intend to swim in the baths at the end of sport. No Note, no swim!

Students going to Rock Climbing must have an indemnity form signed by parents, these are available to complete on the Pulse Climbing



Y9 Urban Challenge

On Wednesday of week three, Year 9 broke into 12 groups and descended upon Broadmeadow train station to begin a three day odyssey that was the Urban Challenge. Students began competing against one another for the bragging rights of the 2014 Urban Challenge champions. Some group leaders were challenged from the outset with group instructions not being downloaded the night before and after some quick thinking, were eventually able to begin the challenges aboard the train enroute.

We arrived in Sydney and with information packs distributed and teams collecting their Urban Challenge guides began their trek across parts of Sydney directed by their navigators. Students spread as far afield as Collaroy, Watsons Bay and Bondi to earn points and complete challenge activities. Students that acted as team leaders had to work hard on day two as their groups were tired as some groups had walked up to 15 kilometres. All students were grateful at the end of the day to be relaxing in their accommodation for the evening. The evening meal challenges ensured that some groups ate exceptionally well. Some students had the task of being responsible for catering and those students with skill in the hospitality industry came to the fore, while others gained a healthier understanding and renewed respect for their parents' meal preparation.

Day three saw the entire year group come together for a bowling challenge with the top score achieved by Lachlan Dunbar-Roberts, the final challenge being for 174 students to make their way back to Central Station and home to what I'm sure was a well-earned rest.

You will notice that this brief account of our travels is lacking of the finer details that your child will be able to provide you and in your discussion I hope you remind them not to disclose too much information to Year 8 as they may find that some of the challenges could be similar next year.

Congratulations to team 4, and Mr Harrison for finishing in first place!



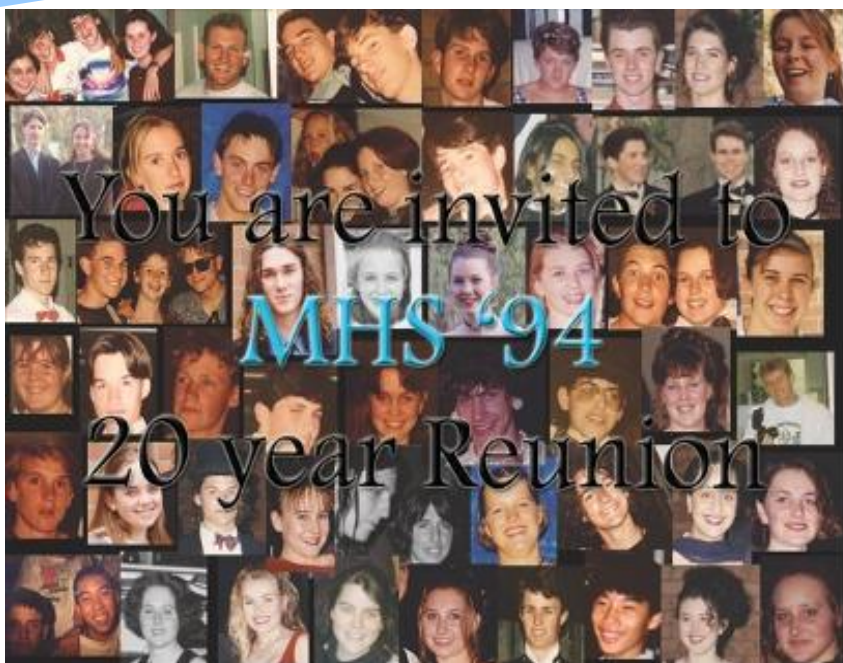
November

Merewether High School Bulletin



2014





MHS Class of 1994 staff and partners



Date december 21 2014 5-10pm
Where merewether surfhouse
Cost \$50pp (includes food) plus cash bar
RSVP mhsclass1994reunion@gmail.com
by august 31 (include your payment details)
Payment BSB 732729 Acc 642140 Piccolo Willoughby
Dress smart casual

contact us: mhsclass1994reunion@gmail.com or facebook.com/merewetherhigh1994reunion



The Uniform Shop

0401 725 885

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:

Ph: 0401 725 885

merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au

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



EVENT DIARY

	NOVEMBER
Mon 17/11	Peer Support Training Day Careers - ABC Studio Sydney Y 10 & 11 HSC Business Studies NBN - Cooks Hill
Tues 18/11	Y11 (Year 12 2015) PLG - 9:00am - 10:30am - LC P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Thur 20/11	Y11 Assembly 11:15am - MPC
Fri 21/11	Y12 Prefects' Leadership Training
Mon 24/11	Y12 English Orals - All Day Support Unit Disco - MPC - 10:00am
Tues 25/11	Y12 English Orals - All Day
Wed 26/11	CAPA excursion - Wicked - Capitol Theatre Y12 Orals - All Day
Thur 27/11	HSSA Boys - Cricket
Fri 28/11	Prefects' Investiture - 11:00am - MPC
	DECEMBER
Wed 3/12	Y7 Orientation Day (2015)
Fri 5/12	HSSA Blues Presentation
Wed 10/12	Y7 Swim, Save & Survive - day 1/3 Yrs 8,9,10 Textiles - Wicked - Capitol Theatre
Thur 11/12	Y7 Swim, Save & Survive - day 2/3
Fri 12/12	Y9 Maths - Luna Park Y7 Swim, Save & Survive - day 3/3
Mon 15/12	Y10 Assembly - MPC - 9:00am Y9 Assembly - MPC - 11:00am
Tues 16/12	Y8 Assembly - MPC - 9:00am Y7 Assembly - MPC - 11:00am
Wed 17/12	Presentation Assembly - MPC - 11:00am Morning Tea following the Assembly - 12:30pm - LC HSC Results released
Thur 18/12	School Development Day - No Students Y12 2014 - BBQ
Fri 19/12	School Development Day - No Students

Hamilton Anzac Dawn Service - 100th ANZAC Day Anniversary Invitation—Gregson Park

Merewether-Hamilton RSL Sub Branch would like to invite students, parents and staff to attend the 100th Anniversary of Anzac Day at the Hamilton Dawn Service at Gregson Park on 25th April, 2015. Anzac Dawn Services have been held in Gregson Park, Hamilton since 1922.

Everyone is welcome to participate in the march from Beaumont St to Gregson Park.. Those wishing to march, will need to form up on the corner of Tudor and Beaumont St at 5.00am. Marshalls will be in attendance to assist.

If you just wish to attend the service please make your way to Gregson Park prior to 5.15am.

The service begins at 5.30am and is completed just on sunrise.

A sausage sizzle along with tea and coffee will be served, for a small cost, at Hamilton PS which is just across the road from Gregson Park at the completion of the service.

If you have any questions please call David Jack on 0447902352.

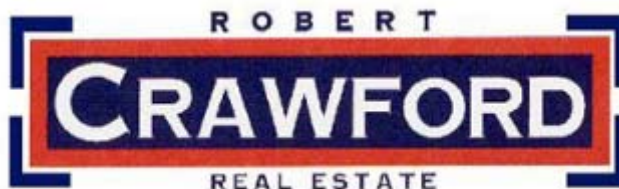


Merewether High School Sports Tour 2014-15

Planning is well under way for the 2014-15 Sports Tours to be conducted in December. A boys' soccer tour and a mixed rugby and netball tour will travel to the UK to play and be billeted by host schools in England and Scotland. The tours also provide sight-seeing opportunities and experiences in Dubai, London and Paris. Sports Tours are ingrained into the culture of Merewether High School and are extremely popular. They offer our students the opportunity to experience different cultures, play sport on international soil, and gain independence while traveling the world with their friends in a safe and supervised environment. MHS Sports Tours really are an 'experience of a lifetime'.



Sports Tour management is pleased to announce our continued association with **Robert Crawford Real Estate**. Robert has generously contributed funds again in 2014 and is the **Major Sponsor** of our upcoming **Sports Tours**.



Ph. 02 4957 6166 – New Lambton

Ph. 02 4955 7888 – Elernmore Vale

www.robertcrawfordrealestate.com.au



We also welcome Hunter Imaging as a sponsor in 2014 and acknowledge their generous donation.

Thank You to our sponsors

All money donated to a 'MHS Sports Tour Team' assists with defraying the cost of playing gear and other mandatory uniform items for individual tour members and ultimately contribute to the longevity and overall success of the Sports Tour program. Your sponsorship is very much appreciated.



Merewether High School International Sports Tour 2014-15

would like to acknowledge the following local business groups for their generous support of Sports Tour fundraising initiatives

102.9 KOFM	Grill'd – The Junction	Pacific Dunes
106.9 NXFM	Healing Wave Chiropractic	Paul's Asian Affair
Anchorage Port Stephens	House	Pegs - Cafe
Aphrodite's On The Lake	Howards Storage World	Perfection Point - Skin & Body
Aqua Lilly Hair Design	Hoyts Charlestown	Pharmacy for Less Kotara
The Athlete's Foot	Hunter Business Golf Group	Poppies Garden Centre
Babyshop	Hunter Gourmet Pizza	Priceline Pharmacy
Bakers Delight	ITW Group - Cyclone	Pulse Climbing
Belmont Golf Club	Jarret's Quality Meats	Restaurant Mason
Belmont Hairdoo	JB Hi-Fi	Robert Crawford Real Estate
Bi-LO Cardiff	Jenda Collection	Rosie's School of Rock
Board Crazy	Joslin St Butcher	Salamander Village Florist
Bunnings Warehouse	Junction Fair Pharmacy	Scott-Dibben Amcal Kotara
Cellarbrations - Adamstown	The Bottle-O Kahibah	Scrap Needs
Christiane's Hair Design	Kathmandu	Seaview Malaysian Restaurant
Colour de Rose	KFC	Sesames - On the Lake
Cupcake Espresso	Koko Hairdressing	Strachans Day Night Pharmacy
Dan Murphy's	Kylie's Hair Specialists	Suki Hairdressing
Darby Street Pharmacy	Lambton Fridge	Super Strike Salamander
Deneng Pty Ltd	Lambton Fruit Market	Tackle Power
Donut King	Lombard- The Paper People	The Forum University
Elite Mobile Locksmiths	Lucky 7 Supermarket	The Letter Q
Extraless Prices Variety Store	Macs Home Timber & Hardware	The Wests Group
Gateshead Tavern Bottle Shop	Megamania	Tri-Benedict Solutions
Gemelli Estate	Merewether Golf Club	Warners at The Bay
Global Packaging	Merewether Hair Studio	Wax in the City
Good Guys Kotara	Moo Culture	The Bottle-O Whitebridge
GR Brassiere	Nesbitt Hair and Body	Whitebridge Butchery
Graze at Valentine	Newcastle Family Dental	Woolworths
Greencross Vets	Office Works - Newcastle West	Worimi Framing Services
Grinding Halt Café	Open Dorz	XY Body Treatments