

May
2015

Merewether High School Bulletin



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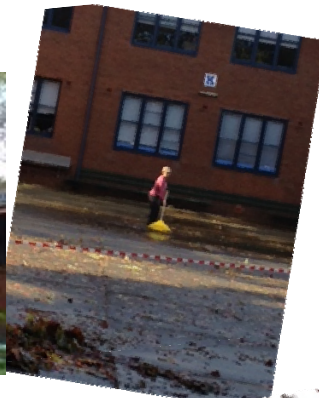
P&C Meeting
Tuesday, 19th May
7:30pm - ILC



Principal's Report

Storm Progress

As you are well aware, mother nature welcomed us back to Term 2 with fury. I would like to express my thanks to the school community for the support throughout the week of significant disruptions, whilst we tried to make our school safe and operational for students. Throughout this period, communication was of course a challenge and whilst some were able to access our website for updates there was no easy solution. We have investigated a school App (too late for this particular event) and hopefully we will be able to release this to the school community before the end of Term 2, stay tuned. The week saw a lot of work from staff, it was a significant team effort with work boots, rakes, gloves and lots of wrestling with fallen tree branches to help get us back to teaching and learning as quickly as we did. We continue to have temporary fencing restricting access to parts of our school while we wait for the crane to come in and move our largest and most dangerous branches. I am hopeful that this will be cleared over the coming weekend and things should be back to normal next week.



Dates to Remember

Fri 15th - Fri 22nd
Y11 Mid-Course Exams

Mon 25th - Fri 29th
Y7-9 Mid-course exams



Welcome to New Staff

This term we welcome 3 new staff to the school. Ms Lisa Burnett takes on the role of Head Teacher Social Science, she has a wealth of expertise having previously been the Head Teacher in a selective high school. Lisa is joined in the Social Science department by Mr Nathan Rice and Ms Nicki Clarke and we look forward to the contributions and quality teaching that they will share with the students in our school. I would like to express significant thanks to Mr Berry who relieved in the position of Head Teacher during Term 1 and also we acknowledge Mrs Donnelly who has moved to the position of Head Teacher HSIE at Irrawang High School and Mrs West and Mr Gill who retired at the end of Term 1.

Be Brave and Shave

Congratulations to our team of students led by our Prefects who raised over \$9500 to support this very worthy cause:

The World's Greatest Shave raises approximately half the money the Leukaemia Foundation needs to fund its important work – providing support to people with blood cancer, as well as millions in research.

On any given day 31 Australians will be given the devastating news that they have leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma or a related blood disorder. That is more than 11,500 people in 2015.

Although survival rates are improving, blood cancers like these are the second biggest cause of cancer death in Australia. The Leukaemia Foundation receives no ongoing government funding, so supporting this event makes the Vision to Cure and Mission to Care possible. The money raised goes towards research, which is needed to find better treatments and cures for leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma and related blood disorders.

Year 12 Seminars

Throughout this term and Term 3 we are running tutorial/revision seminars in Mathematics and English for all students in Year 12. The seminars are to support students in revision of the units of work they have covered throughout their HSC program. The tutorials will be held in the Independent Learning Centre on Wednesday mornings. A timetable of tutorials has been provided to all Year 12 students and their parents.

Year 12 Academic Review Interviews

Our Year 12 students are currently involved in interviews held by the Principal and Deputy Principals throughout weeks 4, 5, 6 and 7. The purpose of these interviews is to review students' academic progress to date and to help plan for academic success as we move towards the HSC.

Congratulations Letters

Congratulations to all students who received a letter at the end of Term 1 commending them for outstanding work throughout Term 1. This recognition occurs as part of our school reward scheme in Terms 1 and 3 each year. As we move through this Term Teachers will be making nominations for school ROSA awards which will be presented at our Year Assemblies in the last week of Term 2.

This Term

Term 2 is shaping up to be a very busy term with Mid Course Examinations for Years 7 – 11, we have already held our Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews and Yr 11 Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled for the 18th June. Year 11 students have now received their mid course report for their HSC accelerated course. Parents are invited to make contact with their child's teacher if they would like to discuss their HSC progress prior to the scheduled interviews on 18th June. Reports will be issued to all years other than Year 10 this term. Year 10 reports will be issued at the beginning of Week 3, Term 3 as Year 10 exams are not held until the second last week of this term and all exams then need to be marked prior to reports being completed.

School Development Day

School staff will this week be completing an afternoon school development session from 3.30 – 6.30 with a key focus on Technology. This session is one of 2 specific professional learning sessions that will occur after school throughout Term 2 and 3 and replaces the School Development Day planned for the 16th December. We have secured the services of 2 guest speakers for our session in week 4 and in addition, staff will engage in practical workshops to continue to enhance their ability to utilise innovative technologies as a tool for teaching and learning.



Congratulations to:

- ♦ Tom Grimes who won the Australian schools Sailing Title and has now earned a place in the Australian sailing team to contest the World Championships.
- ♦ Harry Johnson-Holmes has been selected as the Captain of the NSW CHS first XV Rugby Team
- ♦ Kiahni Abell has been selected in the Australian Floorball development squad and will trial for the Australian team later in the year.
- ♦ Josh Chapman will dive as a member of the NSW All Schools Team at the Australian Diving Championships on the 18th May.
- ♦ Joey Lyons, Matt Humby, Mitch Robinson Marley Flint, Georgia Bendall, Bailey Proud, Brodie Smith and Nick Sonntag have all made the NSW swim Team to contest the relay at the Australian Schools swimming Championships on the 18th May.

We like to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students. If your child has succeeded at either state or national level please email the details to the school email address: merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

N Harvey
Principal (relieving)

From the DP

After a wet and windy start, Term 2 is now in full swing at MHS.

The latest Year 7 Parent Learning Group (PLG) provided parents with information regarding the NAPLAN testing that is taking place this week. Parents who were unable to attend this PLG can find details of the presentation on the school's website under the *School Years* section. Parents of Year 9 students are invited to attend their next PLG to be held on Tuesday 19th May in the Staff Common Room commencing at 9.00am.

Students in Years 10 and 11 recently attended study skills sessions presented by Elevate Education. Each session focused on specific strategies for students to use in order to enhance their learning, improve the productiveness of their study time and optimise their preparation for examinations. A parent information evening has been organised for Thursday 4th June from 5.30-6.30pm to assist parents in supporting their child to implement these strategies. The presentation is free of charge and will be held in the Learning Centre.

All parents are encouraged to attend.

The MHS community will recognise several significant events this term; National Sorry Day on the 26th May, Reconciliation Week from the 27th May through to the 3rd June and our NAIDOC Assembly on the 25th June. Students will be involved in a range of experiences that appreciate and celebrate the valuable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made and continue to make to our Nation. I encourage parents and families who would like to contribute to or be involved in any of these events to please contact me at school.

Ms R Morrison
Relieving Deputy
Principal
Years 7/9/11



it's time to
change it up!

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Schools
and Early Learning

NARRA
GUNNA
WALI

'MOOS'paper

School Dance

Freya Dastoor, Year 12



School dances: another opportunity to dress up, have some fun and make a bit of money for the school, right? That's certainly what they are at MHS - and despite some technical difficulties at the beginning of the night; the MHS 'BC' dance easily lived up to those expectations.

Costumes were bright and colourful, with interpretations of the theme ranging from Cleopatra and ancient Greek philosophers, to members of the Garden of Eden (including the apple). My favourite still remains Ruby and Caitlin from year 12, who came in the pair of "bee" and "sea".

The SRC did a great job of running the barbeque and (of course) playing 'security guard' over all our belongings, once more we

offer them, and the teachers who took part to make it all possible, a big thank you for their organisation and preparation of this event...without you guys we just wouldn't be able to partake in these dances at all.

The first school dance for some, among the last for others, it was great fun for all - and here's to the next one: we can't wait to see what they'll think of next.



Pi Day

Gabriel Clifton, Year 11

Pi is a number that never ends, and Pi Day, is the celebration of this number. Recently, our school celebrated the eagerly awaited event we all look forward to, Pi Day. There was a nicely rounded range of attractions offered, from pie-throwing, a bake-sale, a hula-hoop competition, tyre races, 3 legged races and the illustrious Pi-Recital competition, where someone was to be deemed the 'Pi King'.

However, this Pi day was special. For the only time in this century, the date (14/03/15) rounded up to the first 5 digits of that special number. This calendar event could only be celebrated in one way of course. As the days circled closer to the date, tens of people were all asking the same question. Who would be Pi-King, winner of the Pi -Recital?

Most people didn't answer, because they didn't know.

And for that matter, we still don't know who the Pi-King would have been, because this year, the title went to a queen. Queen Teza Sankoorikal to be more specific, with an astounding record of 504 decimal places. Closely following this, trailing by only 300 decimal places came Patrick Wells, who was then crowned the Pi-Prince.





Year 8 Luna Park Excursion

Zoe Davis, Year 8

On Monday the 9th of March, Year 8, excited and full of anticipation embarked on an art excursion to Luna Park, Sydney. Yes, you read it right... Luna Park! We couldn't believe it either. On arrival, we were instructed to stay sun safe, remember to take plenty of photos and sketch three things at the amusement park. Other than that, have fun!

With a whole four hours and the park virtually empty, the day seemed to go way too fast. In pairs or small groups, we raced around the park trying to get on as many rides as possible, and I'm sure our screeches could've been heard all the way across Circular Quay.

Around 1 p.m., everyone sat in the shade to enjoy lunch, from hot, soggy home-brought sandwiches to burgers and chips. There's something about the food at Luna Park, it almost tastes like it's worth the ridiculous prices. However, I get the feeling that some people were regretting eating a whole double-scoop ice cream just before having a spin on the Rotor or going upside down on the Ranger.

All too soon, the teachers were prowling the park rounding everyone up for final roll call, and everyone was scrambling to get on one last ride; (some were more fortunate than others). There was next to no complaint, however, as everyone piled onto the comfortable, air conditioned buses. That is, until one of them broke down 10 minutes away from Newcastle.

As one of the few lucky enough to experience the wait for our rescue-bus, I can say that never had school been a more beautiful sight... at 7:15 p.m., an hour after expected.

Despite this, it was a fantastic day and on behalf of year 8 I would like to thank our several volunteer supervisors and hope that they enjoyed their day of unlimited rides as much as we did!



Newly Formed Drama Ensemble

Jacob Gamble, Year 10

The newly formed Merewether High School drama ensemble has sparked excitement in many students who take an interest in acting and the performing arts.

The group was put together by drama teacher, Miss Sellers, who also expresses high hopes for the ensemble.

"It's a great opportunity for drama students at Merewether," says Miss Sellers, "I'm looking forward to what we can come up with later on in the year."

The group's first activity this year was an audition for StarStruck, which involved 15 students who expressed interest. Students dressed up in office-like clothing and each performed a different repetitive movement in sync to the song 'Under Pressure'. The audition combined movement and characterisation to create a business themed performance. It was a success, the organisers of StarStruck replied stating that the audition was "a-maze-zing" (which is also the theme of the production).

"This is the first time in a while that Merewether has been involved in StarStruck for drama, so this is definitely exciting news," says Miss Sellers.

The drama ensemble now look to compete in the Theatresports challenge, a national competition involving a group of students improvising a scene. Later in the year the group will begin work on a school production of the 1920s satirical play; *The Insect Comedy*.



Year 7 Camp

Shania Prasad, Year 8

On Wednesday 4th of March, 180 Year 7's embarked on a 3 day trip to Morriset Camp with their Year Advisors (Ms Collins and Ms Allen), as well as a few other teachers. During their time there, they made amazing memories, developed new friendships and the entire experience was classed as a generally great bonding experience for everyone.

Day activities were physically taxing, but the adrenaline of being in a new environment (without any parents!) allowed people to keep their excitement and energy levels through the roof. Each class was split into smaller groups, and then were mixed to create the groups for the Day Activities. Day Activities included The Giant Swing, Raft Building, Canoeing, building catapults and chariots, Challenge Ropes, Archery, MudWorld, which was considered as one of the highlights of the trip, and many others agreed.

Night Activities kept the fun going, with the Challenge Night coming first and the Commando Night second. Challenge Night consisted of a series of dares in which 1 person from every group had to complete, such as climbing under a table, holding a plank for as long as you can and flipping a water bottle to see if they landed the right way up. Most attempts were classed as 'epic fails' by many students. This lasted for about an hour, before 'Story Time' and bed.

The next night was Commando Night, in which teachers played strict and daunting army officials. Captives were taken and led away into the forest while their valiant friends tried 'desperately' to save them; only one captive came out alive.

The 3rd day had a slightly more sombre feel, as almost everyone didn't want to leave, but everyone had walked away with a different experience. On a whole, the camp was a trip for everyone to remember and look back on fondly.





Donor Mobile Comes to Merewether

Olivia Stanley, Year 12

On the 12th of March the Australian Red Cross blood-mobile made it's annual stop at MHS to allow the senior students to donate blood to those in need. The Merewether School Bulletin caught up with the hard working people that made this happen.

Donna, session leader on the day, has been working for the not-for-profit organisation for 13½ years now and was happy to take me into the blood bus and answer some questions. Together we hoped to dispel some of the popular myths and misconceptions associated with the process.

1. Does it hurt?

Donna describes the sensation as a "quick sting", which usually subsides in a few seconds. 500mL is taken in most cases, which sounds like a lot but your body quickly replenishes this amount naturally. Donna clarifies also that the donor can't feel the blood drain out and it feels quite normal.

2. Who can donate?

If you are generally healthy, aged 16-70 and weigh over 50kg you are most likely able to donate. In preparation, the Red Cross ask that you have plenty of liquid the day before donation and 3 glasses of water/ juice in the 3 hours before donating.

3. Why should I donate?

Donna puts this simply: to save lives. Every donation can save up to three people, with the majority of the blood (34%) going to cancer or blood disease patients.

Two year 12 students sitting in the bus after their donations, Ruby Wilson and Maddy Walker, were excited to share their experience on Thursday.

"Mum always instilled in me the importance of giving blood. It's always something I've wanted to do, but never got around to. Having the blood-mobile come to the school motivated me to finally follow through with it." explained Maddy.

This particular blood-mobile services the Hunter and Newcastle areas, going as far inland as Scone and operates 5 days a week. Yet donation options aren't limited to waiting for the blood bus, most people can donate anytime at the Newcastle donor centre located on Watt St (call 13 14 95 or visit donateblood.com.au). The Australian Red Cross Blood Service thanks Merewether High for their donations, which will mean over 100 lives can be saved.

"We've enjoyed being here, all the students have been awesome. Anyone thinking about it - give it a go!"



The Vietnam Culinary Tour

Cara Rixon, Year 11

27 students and 6 parents ventured to Vietnam in the recent April school holidays, accompanied by 2 teachers, their significant others and one stuffed Eduardo the Emu. For two weeks Mr. Byrnes and Mrs. McCudden were stuck with us, travelling from Hanoi in the north down the coast to Ho Chi Minh City in the south.

Our exciting journey began on Saturday the 4th of April. An early start for everyone, we were at the front gates of Merewether High School by 5:30am. Unfortunately, it was bucketing down with rain. Parents and siblings stood under their umbrellas

and fought off the cold as they gave teary goodbyes to the half asleep travellers. We made a quick exit and everyone settled in to catch up on some sleep during the drive to Sydney Airport.

When we arrived, we dragged our luggage down to check in. After a restless wait, Vietnam Airlines opened their desks and we were in. Until we weren't. Because for a group of 37, they thought just one lovely lady called Macarena was enough. The flight was spent in relative comfort, with ample leg room for most and a limited array of in-flight entertainment options.

We landed in Ho Chi Minh City in the evening and sped off towards the other end of the airport for our first domestic flight to Hanoi, the bustling capital. Two days were spent in Hanoi where we sampled some delectable street food, took a touristy cyclo tour through the city (37 bright red rickshaws in a line) and visited the disturbing yet fascinating Wet Markets where they sold delicacies such as fried dog's head.

Then we transferred to Ninh Binh for 2 days where we visited the Primate Rescue Centre and the Turtle Conservation Centre, which housed distressingly cute monkeys and turtles.

One night was spent in Ha Long, where we cruised along the gorgeous bay, before our coach drove us to Hue. There we were privileged enough to be the first high school to ever visit Quoc Hoc Hue High School, where we gave a rousing performance of Advance Australia Fair.

Our last week was spent in the south, with 2 days in Hoi An, where we spent an evening ordering tailor made clothes and the next day trying to escape the torrential rain. Then we spent one night in Ho Chi Minh and marveled at how 'Western' it seemed (hooray for Starbucks!) before continuing on to Vung Tau to start Day 1 of 'Hands on Humanity'. The day was spent with the children from Trung Tam Bao Orphanage – the morning at a play centre and then to KFC with the younger kids, and up the Jesus Mountain with the older children in the afternoon. It was pretty cool. Day 2 of Hands on Humanity took us to a school for disadvantaged children, where we engaged in activities such as ball games and colouring in, before having lunch with them and playing 'Freeze'. That night we really came together as a group when we ventured into Karaoke 88 and had a night of raucous singing and dancing.



Then it was back to Ho Chi Minh for the last 3 days. They were filled with early morning Starbucks runs, marveling at the talent of the dancers in 'The Mist' dance show and braving it through the Ben Thanh Markets and its overpowering smells. We also visited Long Tan, the site of the battle between the Vietnamese and the ANZACs during the Vietnamese War.

As the 19th of April drew closer, it was clear that no one wanted to go home – despite almost everyone getting sick, missing Western food, and the vegetarians deciding they'd had enough spring rolls and tofu. There are no right words to sum up the experience of our trip – it was hectic in the best way, and such a gratifying experience that I feel

incredibly lucky to have been a part of. The biggest, warmest thanks goes to Mrs. McCudden for organising our culinary experience, Mr. Byrnes for bringing Robin, and to Caroline and Eliza from Australian Group Travel for all their hard work. This trip was definitely a once in a lifetime experience.

School Closed Due to Devastating Storms

Rizina Yadav, Year 10

Just as school students across the Newcastle and Hunter region were getting ready to head back to school, a once in a decade storm hit the region; closing schools, damaging roads and causing severe flash flooding.

With a number of students commuting significant distances to school, the storm proved a challenge for many. Train lines were closed due to track damage and flash flooding enveloped many roads. School buses did not show up and the region continued to be battered by wild weather.

For many, the storms brought back memories of the Pasha Bulker storm in 2007, where a bulk carrier, namely MV Pasha Bulker ran aground on Nobby's Beach. Thankfully, the consequences and devastation of this storm were not as horrific.

An image of a house being swept away in Dungog floodwaters was all too common on news bulletins, highlighting the devastation. Dungog was hit with 312 millimeters of rain falling in just 24 hours. In just one minute, the flood took hold of the area, resulting in extremely rapid currents which took hold of everything in their way.

What must be appreciated, however, was the bravery and unrelenting efforts of emergency services. They headed out day after day, night after night, often in dangerous conditions, to ensure everyone was safe and content. It was also heartwarming to see the spirit of the Australian people, who in spite of their own losses, comforted and assisted neighbors.

Although the weather has now receded, Maitland has been transformed into a water wonderland. As commuters travel from Maitland to Newcastle, flash floods line the journey.

Thank you Mrs Harvey, Mr Southward, Mrs Morrisson and staff for keeping the school safe and accessible for all students.

Now that the weather has calmed and everyone is safe, we look forward to continuing term two with as little disturbances as possible.



Live Below the Line

Teza Sankoorikal, Year 8

Another year of Live Below the Line for Merewether High students! Live Below the Line is an annual fundraising campaign for Oaktree, one of Australia's largest youth-run organisations. This year thousands of Australians will eat on \$2 a day for 5 days to raise funds and help extreme poverty in Cambodia. Poverty is a serious problem in Cambodia but luckily LBTL has stepped up to the job and partnered with local communities in Cambodia to solve it. Last year we had quite a few participants from MHS in the program and all together we raised over \$4,500!

Tehleah Greenwood, MHS student who had participated in the campaign last year said, "*The best thing about Live Below the Line is the whole experience. I knew that I was contributing to a massive cause, and helping those under extreme poverty by really just putting myself in their shoes*".

The tough but meaningful challenge can also be accomplished with some company, you can make teams or you can do it with your family. Rizina Yadav (MHS Yr. 10 student) and her whole family participated in this wonderful programme last year, they cooked and ate as a family on \$2 for each person per day for 5 days. Like her you can also get involved in more ways than one and support this great cause by participating or even donating from the 4th – 8th of May. So good luck to this year's participants and let's strive to change the face of poverty.

Food bought by
Rizina and her family
for 5 days



National Youth Week

Sammy Seth, Year 10

"It starts with us", was the catch phrase for this year's National Youth Week, which was celebrated from the 10th – 19th of April. The chief purpose was to inspire thousands of young people to participate in their local communities by engaging in youth led activities to make a difference. It also provides young people with a wonderful opportunity to express their ideas and views, act on issues that affect their lives, and create and enjoy activities and events.

I was selected to be a member of the NSW Youth Forum, held at NSW Parliament House on the 8th of April. The theme for the forum this year was "Connecting Culture and community. It facilitated to bring together service providers and policy makers to listen to youth ideas and ideologies. The goal of the forum was to congregate diverse individuals from around the state so that they could come up with solutions to issues that matter most to the young people of Australia. NSW's first ever advocate for Children and Young People, and the CEO of Multicultural NSW, were present to listen and take notes on the changes we wanted.

The Newcastle Youth Council also ran a variety of activities engaging local young people to participate in community led events that all looked at addressing specific issues in the area. Besides uniting young people, and discussing relevant concerns, Youth Week aims to increase civic participation among young people, and it successfully does this year after year. Being exposed to just a glimpse of the vast potential and capabilities, showed me that young people are already leading the way to change for a brighter future.



YMCA Youth Parliament Training Camp

Christy Mullen, Year 12

The YMCA NSW Youth Parliament is a program that enriches and empowers young people to develop the skills to advocate for their community. The program aims to reflect (a better version) of the real parliament. Over 200 students from across the state are split into the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. Committees are formed in which they write a bill or a report. These were further developed during the training camp and will be debated during the residential camp.

During the school holidays from the 9th to the 12th of April, 4 students from Merewether High School represented the young people in their communities at the YMCA NSW Youth Parliament Training Camp. The training camp was located at picturesque Vision Valley near Sydney and involved Parliamentary Education sessions, leadership sessions, WRECK sessions and practice de-bates.

Myself, Christy Mullen (Year 12), Member for Port Stephens, is in the committee Investigating Infrastructure and Transport in the LA. I'm looking at regulating ride-sharing services, like Uber.

Kain O'Dea (Year 12), Member for Charlestown, is in the committee for Health in the LA. He's looking at ways to overcome loneliness in the elderly.

Sammy Seth (Year 10), Member for Newcastle, is in the committee Investigating Environment and Heritage in the LA is looking at the phasing out of coal.

Rizina Yadav (Year 10), Member for Maitland, in in the committee of Citizens and Community in the LA. They are trying to strengthen youth engagement and involvement in public policy.

Kain O'Dea says, "Youth Parliament was so exciting and unique, its leadership sessions enabled all of us to develop our skills and confidence in how we communicate with others when assuming leadership roles." Personally, the leadership skill sessions enable everyone to understand different leadership styles needed in different situations and that we are all in our own ways, leaders.

"Practice debates were an excellent opportunity to immerse yourself in parliamentary style public speaking. Getting up to speak on issues that are truly important to you in front of hundreds of people allows you to build your own confidence in expressing your own thoughts and ideas on a large scale" according to Kain in regards to debates on banning bottled water, regulating school suspension, invading QLD. The final debate was should we ban the supply of cigarettes to those born after 2000 which Rizina "thought was a really fun and engaging debate, with lots of people presenting very valid and interesting points of view. It was also great to see how passionate and loud everyone was getting."

Kain believed that the "WRECK sessions were a fun break to the academic feel of the camp" as we participated in dodgeball, self portrait drawing, singing contest, trivia night and other games. "They gave us the opportunity to form friendships with people from all over NSW and different electorates"

Sammy highlights that "The parliamentary education sessions were an eye opener not only teaching us about parliamentary etiquette, speech writing, and passing bills but also on life as a youth MP. Overall it was an especially rewarding and fulfilling few days and I can't wait for sitting week in parliament!"



English

All Year 12 students have had their English Mid Course papers returned. It is critical that students look at the feedback provided, both on their individual papers and the general feedback available on the Moodle and email, and reflect on what they need to do to consolidate their skills and knowledge in the Area of Study.

The 2015 HSC English revision and study program has commenced. This Revision Program provides intensive tuition with a focus on reviewing the HSC English Area of Study and the Standard and Advanced modules. Each session will provide students with realistic exam preparation skills in the lead up to the Trial and HSC Examinations. All students have been issued with information outlining the structure and content of these sessions. **We strongly encourage all students to attend these sessions to further develop their knowledge and skills in their course.**

Students in all 7 – 10 classes have commenced the study of their second module. Students should have had their Term 1 assessment task returned to them and should spend time reviewing the task feedback they received. This feedback should be used to identify individual learning goals for Term 2.

Just a reminder that all students should be checking their DEC email accounts regularly. The English staff use these email accounts, along with the *Moodle*, to send important messages regarding class work, competitions and to issue digital copies of assessment task notifications to students.

Ms Esme Corney
HT English

Competitions

The following students submitted a piece in the **What Matters? Competition**: Mac Gilligan, Zaynab Alam, Hannah Harrison, Alex Yan, Jason Zhang, Kaitlyn McMahon, Ben McPherson, Harry Seperas, Charlie Hawke, Benjamin Petchpipat, Ruby Hackett, Molly Boyd, Harrison Nash, Lachlan Jones, David Maxwell, Louis Stibbard and Josephine Gallop. The students discussed issues of importance and there was some really interesting discussion about a range of issues including: the impersonal world, littering, less fortunate lives, body image, sun safety, saving our children, sport, White Australia Policy, sustainability, lying, and Human Rights. Good luck to all our entrants.

A special mention must go to Yuri Porter in Year 9 and Priya Vakil in Year 10 who entered the **Write4fun** competition. Their pieces have passed the first round of judging and have been selected for publishing in the anthology "The Write Track 2015". The winner of the competition will be announced on May 20th. We wish Yuri and Priya the best of luck!

The ICAS competitions are coming up next month. Year 7 will sit the **ICAS Spelling** on Tuesday 16th June. Year 7 and 8 will sit the **ICAS Writing** on Monday the 15th June. Students in Years 9 – 12 were emailed an application form last term, and again this term, in the event that they would like to participate in the Writing competition. If your child would like to participate but has not filled out the form, please do so immediately and pay \$18.70 to the office. Numbers need to be finalised by Monday 18th May. **ICAS English** will be held next term on Tuesday 28th July for students in Years 7 – 10. Year 11 and 12 students need to fill out the form emailed to them, and return the form to the office with \$8.80 as soon as possible.

Other competitions open at the moment include: **Naidoc Week 2015 Creative Writing Competition**. This competition is open to students in Years 7-9. Students are required to write a feature article on how constitutional reform will benefit the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Competition closes on Friday 27th June. **The Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards** is an annual competition and is open to all students. The optional theme is "open the door" but entrants can write about any theme. I would encourage Year 9 students to submit their Term 1 poetry assessment if it fits the criteria on the website. Go to www.dorothea.com.au for further detail. Entries close on 30th June.

Please remember to let Ms Martinez know if you have entered an online competition so we can share the news with the school community.

J. Martinez

Social Science

I would like to welcome parents and students back to Term 2. First term has been a busy time for the Social Science Faculty and marks a time of change and renewal in the faculty. The faculty has farewelled three experienced and well regarded teachers; Kerry West, Wayne Gill and Cathy Donnelly. Over a number of years these staff helped build a vibrant faculty that embodies all the key elements of the Social Sciences and we wish them well in their future endeavours. As the new Head Teacher I am fortunate to take over the reins of this strong faculty and even more fortunate to see the faculty renewed by two new staff members who bring depth and variety of experience to our faculty. I would like to welcome Mrs Clark and Mr Rice and we all look forward to providing students with quality learning experiences with a wide range of extra - curricular activities to develop the whole student. The faculty and its students have already enjoyed successes and learning experiences across a range of areas. Our Mock Trial team won their first two rounds in the competition and we look forward to further successes with this dedicated team under the expert guidance of Mrs Tonks.

This week was Law Week and our senior Legal Studies students were able to attend a seminar with four Supreme Court Judges speaking about the law and social media along with the complexities of sentencing. After some technical difficulties we were able to join in the seminar being streamed live from the Banco Supreme Court in Sydney and this seminar provided a great deal of depth to these complex issues.

Year 10 enjoyed a fieldtrip at the end of last term focussing on coastal management in Newcastle. Thanks to Mr Berry for organising this trip and to students who managed the inclement weather on the day.





Year 7 had a fantastic day at Blackbutt getting hands on experience at completing primary research out in the field. The Social Science staff agonised over the wonderful entries for the Photographic Competition from the day. There were so many great photos that we have included a Teacher's Choice award.

First Prize \$30 Westfield Voucher : Emy Liao

Second Prize \$20 Westfield Voucher : Emily Donaldson-Shultz

Third Prize: \$20 Westfield Voucher: Luke Kypri

People's Choice goes to Harriet Brindley who will receive a box of chocolate.

Congratulations to these talented students. I must finally say a big THANK YOU to the Social Science faculty for welcoming myself and the new staff and for their efforts so far this year. The team consisting of Rob Berry, Rachel Tonks, Harry Kolatchew, Michelle Williams, Nathan Rice and Nicole Clark have all worked very hard in supporting the teaching of Social Science subjects at Merewether High School.

Lisa Burnett

Head Teacher Social Science

YEAR 8 COMMERCE

In Week 9 the Elective Commerce class ventured out with the aim of observing the practices and strategies used by local businesses to effectively market and sell their products.

Year 8 Commerce students travelled to Westfield Kotara shopping centre where they visited a number of different businesses to collect data on consumer purchasing patterns and marketing strategies. This data was analysed on return to school, to elicit a better understanding of how businesses work successfully to survive in the current economic climate.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the excursion and were successful in completing the necessary field work to further their knowledge on the demands that businesses face every day.

Mrs Tonks

Year 8 Commerce Teacher





Mock Trial 2015

The Mock Trial team for 2015 has made a fantastic start achieving wins in both of their first two trials. The team worked extremely hard to prepare for both a criminal and civil case, taking on the roles of court personnel to achieve wins against St Francis Xavier and Gloucester High School. Both trials proved challenging with tough competition, however, the team managed to show their ability to understand the complexities of the law and their skills in arguing successfully their cases.

The next trial will be held against Hunter Valley Grammar with the team taking on the role of the defence, needing to prove the case against them for the crime of Dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm.

A very big thank you goes out to Michael Evers the school's Mock Trial solicitor (coach) who gives his time to come and prepare and give advice to students on the legal aspects of these cases.

Good luck to the following students who are participating in the team for 2015:

Abby Butler - Amy Focic - Brody Gilmore - Phoebe Hopkins - Hannah Jones - Olivia de Jong - Imogen Lewis - Amelia Rebellato - Rebekah Smart and Charlotte Walters.



Rachael Tonks
Social Sciences



Hospitality

On Friday the 1st May Year 11 Accelerated Hospitality embarked on a challenging assessment event for the Serve Food and Beverage competency. With a small class of just 11 we took up the challenge of planning, designing, cooking, plating and serving a 5 course, 5 star, Degustation menu for 21 tough critics. We had been planning the event since late last term and the task had proven strenuous for many, including the lovely Mrs. Rosser. However, we proceeded with a lust for victory, particularly because all money raised from the event was going to be donated to the class's chosen charity, **The Hunter Melanoma Foundation**.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Rosser our class worked as a team to create this marvelous event. On the Wednesday before, we began preparing the food and every member of the class could taste the tension in the air including Mrs. Rosser who turned from a calm teacher into Matt Preston, as she ordered us around the kitchen. With the following menu, there was much to achieve.

Tomato bruschetta with balsamic dressing
Individual bacon, leek and cheese quiche
Garden herb risotto with crunchy parmesan wafers
Moroccan marinated lamb skewers with creamy mint yoghurt
Sweet passion fruit and raspberry coulis cheesecake

After a very long, late afternoon, our prep proved a large success and the function was looking promising.

Friday began early and there was much to be done. We had to finish cooking and plating up the food, as well as transform DN1 into a 5 star restaurant, as inclement weather meant we couldn't use the Balcony for service. Thanks to a spectacular team effort we managed to successfully achieve an amazing event.

All who came to the Degustation lunch said it was like nothing they had ever experienced before and the food was like a dream. To quote Mia Stamonkovski, "This was some of the best food I have ever eaten, in my life."

We all packed up and then went home with a happy feeling in our hearts knowing that we had created this amazing food event, and more importantly we managed to raise **\$440.70** for the **Hunter Melanoma Foundation** to continue their vital work.

Our class as a whole would all like to thank Mrs. Rosser for her valiant efforts and expertise as well as guidance: "We could never have pulled it off without her", said Kimberly Dingle.

We are now looking forward to continuing our fundraising for this worthwhile cause by holding takeaway coffee shops later this term.

By Zac Norgard





Support Unit

Sailing on Sydney Harbour on "Moksha"

On Monday 23rd March the Support Unit went on a sailing trip. We caught the train from Broadmeadow Station.

Once we got to Central we go another train to Edgecliff Station and walked to the park.

After lunch we went on "Moksha" the boat.

I got to steer the boat. It was sunny with no wind. I did have a good time. After our sailing day we caught the train home.

We caught the train at 7.28a.m.

I saw the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

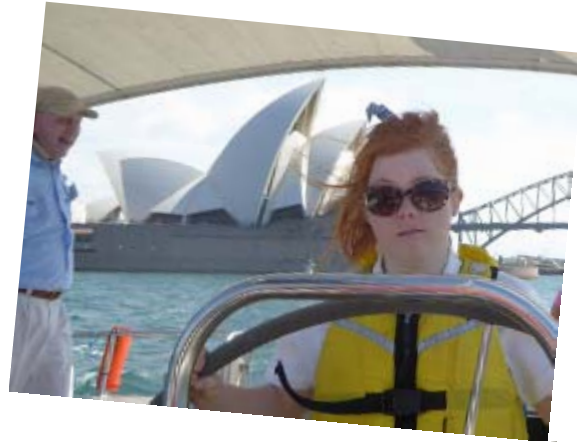
I steered the boat under the Sydney Harbour Bridge. At 1.00pm the cannon was fired at Fort Denison. It was smoky. I saw some battle ships.

There were sailing boats, ferries, emergency rescue navy boats which were black, a cruise ship near the Opera House, navy boats, a submarine and pirate boats.

We saw Sydney Harbour Bridge, Luna Park, navy ships and the Opera House. After we went sailing we went to the bus stop and caught the 327 bus to Kings Cross and we walked to the train station. We caught the train back to Central and caught the train back to Broadmeadow Station. We arrived at 6.15pm.

I saw Sam the seal on the stairs at the Opera House. He was sleeping. I was sailing on "Moksha" and I went under the Harbour Bridge to Darling Harbour. I saw 2 pirate boats, a navy ship and a submarine named "Vampire". On the boat I had to wear a lifejacket.

We saw the cannon at Fort Denison fired at 1.00pm.



TAS

Y7 Technology

This term for Technology my class (7.8) completed the food component with our teacher Mrs. D'Amico. We started with simple recipes like fruit skewers with chocolate dipping sauce and basic scones. Over the course of a term we all got better at cooking and by the end of the term we were able to make decorated cakes with handmade buttercream icing. The two assignments that we had were The Healthy Snack Project and Canteen Capers. In The Healthy Snack Project we had to create a brochure that encouraged teenagers to eat healthier with options for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. In Canteen Capers we had to create a healthy salad that the canteen could make for under \$3 that had one cooked ingredient.

We would like to thank Mrs Jones who came in and talked to the class about cake decorating and showed us some of the techniques she uses and brought in photos of wedding cakes that she had made. She helped us to get ideas for our cakes and was extremely generous when she donated cake decorating equipment to the school. By the end of the term all of the class had better skills and most of us want to choose Food Technology as one of our elective subjects next year.

Luca Borserio





Year 8 Food Technology

Year 8 Food Technology continues to impress Mrs Johnson and Mrs D'Amico especially with their creativity in the invention tests. The first challenge was the Asian Invention test where students had to create a dish using either rice or noodle. We had some fantastic results with dishes ranging from Mango Sushi to Udon noodle soup and vegetable dumplings. Our next challenge was the Mexican Mystery Box where students were given 1 minute to choose 3 ingredients to create a Mexican inspired dish in one period. We have also had our Indian Banquet and were fortunate to have Teza Sankoorikal in our class who brought in some traditional costumes and tried to teach us some basic dance moves to Bollywood music. We had our Family Favourite Banquet last Friday. Many thanks to all of the parents who supported this by creating some amazing dishes – we had everything from corn and zucchini fritters to hedgehog slice. A big beautiful lunch was had by all.



Vietnam

On Saturday 4th April 2015, 37 of us embarked on the trip of a lifetime to Vietnam the MHS Culinary Tour. Over the next 16 days, we were to have so many enriching experiences together, starting with a long, long, long, time sitting still. After 19 hours in transit, we wearily met our tour guide for the trip Tuan, and had our first of many never-ending course dinners in Hanoi.



The first two days were spent absorbing the Vietnamese street culture, going on a street food, wet market and cyclo tour, visiting the Temple of Literature, enjoying a Traditional Water Puppet Show, taking a traditional Vietnamese cooking Class and a hands-on tour through a Vietnamese Tech School. The next two days were spent in rural northern Vietnam, emersing ourselves in the scenery and village life, with a long bike ride, gondola trip and a visit to the Endangered Primates and Turtle Conservation Centre. After a very long bus trip we spent the night in Halong bay, followed by a day cruise on Halong Bay, marvelling at the hundreds of large limestone rocks that appeared in every direction. That evening, we flew to central Vietnam, to Hue.

Getting to attend Quoc Hoc Hue Academically Selective High School and talk to the English speaking students and learn about their lives and aspirations was an eye-opening and worth-while experience. They even performed Taylor Swift, Iggy Azalea and Train pop hits in English! Afterwards we explored the ruins of the Imperial Citadel and finished off the day with a shopping trip.



Leaving Hue for Hoi An, we were immediately taken by the beauty of the streets, most of the time only accessible by bike or on foot. In the afternoon we enjoyed learning how to make lanterns and paint traditionally in a program run by the Lifestart Foundation, a non-profit organisation tremendously helping the disadvantaged and disabled. The next day we were granted our first no wakeup call day, with the whole morning free to explore, and of course shop, in Hoi An, where we all got completely drenched in a downpour of rain before an evening cooking class where we learnt how to use Vietnamese cooking utensils and cook delicious Vietnamese dishes.

An early morning flight landed us in Ho Chi Mihn City, where we visited Cu Chi Tunnels and learnt about the tunnels used during the French and American wars. Finally, we had our Karaoke skills put to the test where Tuan took out the best performance with his magnificent rendition of Hello by Lionel Richie.





The following day, we finally got to meet some of the children from the Vung Tau Orphanage, playing with the younger ones in the morning and treating them to a KFC lunch. In the afternoon we walked up 1000 stairs at Jesus Mountain with the older kids, then playing with them at the beach, and finally getting them a KFC dinner before a brief visit to the orphanage to see all the kids, some of us even lucky enough to get a nurse of the babies. The next day we spent doing activities with the kids from Long Hai school for disadvantage children. The language barrier did not matter, we managed to bond over sports and activities such as basketball, face painting and paper craft. We all had a blast, especially dancing to Gangnam Style!



The following day we visited the Australian Memorial site and other significant sites at Long Tan, learning all about the Vietnamese War from both an Australian and Vietnamese perspective. Everyone dressed up for an evening out at The Mist show at the opera house, depicting the Vietnamese lifestyle through a stunning contemporary dance.

At the Ben Tre Province we experienced first-hand the life on the Mekong Delta with a Junk Boat Tour, visiting rice paper, coconut and brick making places learning the process. For our final evening, we had a farewell dinner aboard another boat. On the final day, we had an amazing race-style challenge in a Ho Chi Mihn Marketplace, followed by a Vietnamese speaking contest, which was at a pretty basic level, best knowing the phrase “Tôi yêu bạn” meaning “I love you” The afternoon was spent at the markets shopping or exploring.

As our trip drew to a close, and said our final goodbye to Tuan with teary eyes, we reminisced on the memories we had made together and felt blessed to be able to share this unique experience as a group. A colossal amount of gratitude extends to everyone who made this unreal experience possible. Thankyou from all of us to Mrs McCudden and Mr Byrnes, our two amazing teachers on the trip, Australian Group Travel for making this trip so unique, and Tuan, who will forever be remembered as the best tour guide – and Karaoke singer – in the world.





LOTE

UBE SPEECH COMPETITION

On Wednesday 6th of May the annual Ube Speech Competition was held at Merewether High School. The competition is part of the Sister City relationship between Newcastle and Ube City Councils. This year the councils will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the relationship.

Each year four students, from schools in the Newcastle City Council area, are chosen to represent Newcastle and their schools in Ube for ten days. This is made possible by the generosity of the Ube Friendship Society. Merewether High School and Newcastle High School will host students from Ube in July.

Last week's competition between students from Merewether, Newcastle and Kotara High Schools was of an extremely high standard. Students representing Merewether were James Amodeo, Landon Brown, Abbey Isaac and Bernadette Callaghan. After a long deliberation James Amodeo and Bernadette Callaghan from Merewether were announced as winners along with Maija Spencer-Karinen and Lucy Neilson-Spitzer from Newcastle. Congratulations to all students who will make fine ambassadors for Newcastle and their schools.



2015 Contestants in the Ube Speech Competition



Bernadette Callaghan & James Amodeo



Humanities

The Humanities department would like to recognise the outstanding efforts of three students who recently represented the school as part of the 60th Annual Newcastle Combined Schools ANZAC Service. Held at Civic theatre each year the event is planned and presented by a team of senior students representing the Public, Independent and Catholic schools of Newcastle. Despite having to be postponed due to our atrocious weather conditions the full service was presented to a packed hall of over 1,400 primary students and invited guests.



Josiebel Cardona (Year 11) and Curtis Aitkin (Year 11) both did an outstanding job as members of the student committee. Their duties including researching and developing the script for the hour long performance broken down into a 30 minute thematic section, this year focusing on the role of nurses, and a 30 minute formal service. They each then presented their sections on the stage along with Harrison Crook (Year 12) who led the crowd in the singing of the National Anthem and Georgia Bendall (Year 12) who played violin.

The Combined Schools ANZAC Service represents an extraordinary commitment of time and energy by the students involved who, in return, get firsthand experience in developing a complex final presentation and their own public speaking skills. Both the Lord Mayor, Nuatali Nelmes and the Member for Newcastle, Sharon Claydon were amongst the dignitaries who applauded our students for the professionalism they displayed on the day. It was my privilege to have worked with these students and a fine representation of the qualities of our school.

Steven Gibb

Head Teacher Humanities





Red 25

"Red25 is a unique giving program that unites organisations around Australia to save lives through blood donations... Red25 members are on a mission to save lives; to achieve 25% of all blood donations needed in this country."

Merewether High School is one organisation that has been involved with the Australia Red Cross Blood Service for many years and is embracing the new program. A group of 5 students attended the Youth Ambassador Training Day at the new Red Cross centre at Lambton before it was opened for use by donors. These students are supporting the blood service at our school and in the community.

The Donormobile attended Merewether High School on Thursday 12th March with all time slots filled and many reserves keen to donate to this great cause.

Denise Hughes

SRC Donormobile Co-ordinator

1 donation can save 3 lives.



Canteen News



Order your new Entertainment™ Books and Entertainment™ Digital Memberships from us today, and 20% of your Membership goes towards our fundraising for our fundraising!

You can order on line, by following this link - <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/3466u6>

Digital editions can be downloaded on line, and hard copies of the book can be collected or purchased at the school canteen.

Please forward this information to family and friends who may be interested in helping us to meet our fundraising goals.

For any questions, [contact](mailto:nisenkav@ozemail.com.au) Denise Lyons, P & C Secretary nisenkav@ozemail.com.au.

Painting: The Canteen Self-serve Area has been professionally painted in the holidays and looks much neater and fresher. Thank you to the member of our school community who encouraged Bob Skelly Painting to contact us with the best quote!

Canteen kitchen revamp: Once the Independent Learning Centre is paid off, it is anticipated that the next major project for the P&C will be a refurbishment of the canteen kitchen. A book has been placed in the canteen for volunteers to tell us what improvements they would like to see in the new kitchen. If any parents have expertise in commercial kitchen design, building or regulations, please email the Canteen Convenor on merewetherhighpandccanteen@gmail.com if you are willing to assist with the planning process.

Order Ahead – Save Time: Just a reminder that students can order lunch before school and at recess at the “order window”. This allows students to order exactly what they want for lunch and avoid the queues and disappointment of missing out on their favourite lunch item!

Next P&C Meeting: The MHS P&C meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (excluding school holidays) at 7:30pm in the Independent Learning Centre – enter via the main gate on Chatham St, turn right to ILC, situated on the street side of the library. **Tuesday 19th May** will be the next general meeting. **All parents and carers are welcome to attend.**

Next Canteen Committee Meeting: Monday 1st June at 4pm in BC1. Any parents/carers interested in improving canteen operations are welcome to attend.



School traffic safety

Keeping our children safe



Traffic rules and regulations around schools are there for a very important reason... the safety of our children. Did you know?

Loss of demerit points apply when certain offences are committed in an operating school zone. For example, a minimum penalty of a \$415 fine and the loss of 2 demerit points applies for stopping or parking a vehicle on or near:

- A pedestrian crossing
- A children's crossing
- A marked foot crossing

Double parking

Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points

Parking in a bus zone

Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points

Parking on the footpath

Minimum fine is \$173 and 2 demerit points

Obstructing traffic

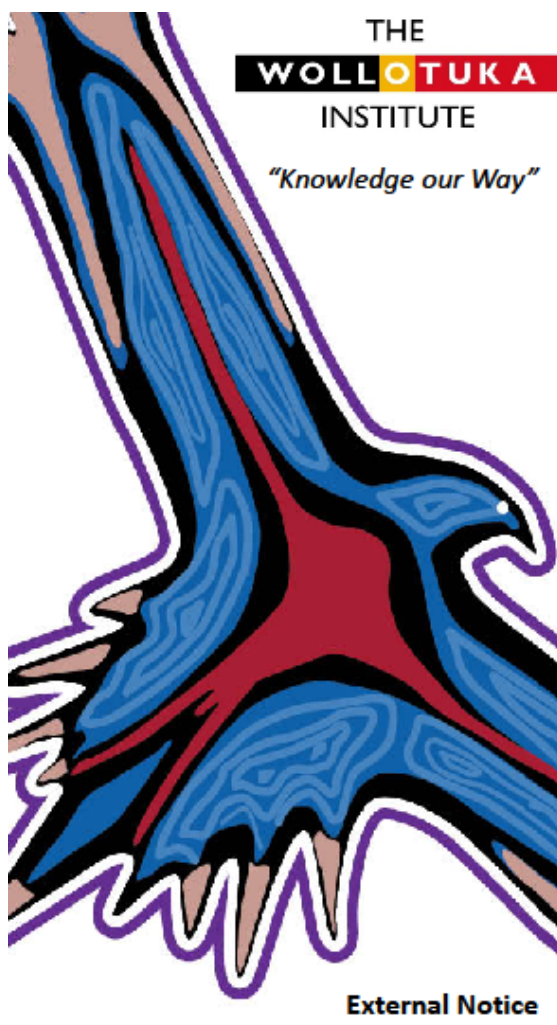
Minimum fine is \$173



Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points.

School opening and closing times are busy times for pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic outside the school. Drivers have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all children.

Always drop-off and pick-up your children from your school's designated area, following your school's road safety procedures with care and courtesy.



External Notice

Reconciliation Scholarship Ball 2015

The Wollotuka Institute at the University of Newcastle is hosting their annual Reconciliation Scholarship Ball which aims to foster and build relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and businesses with a passion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education.

Our aim is to raise further funds for our Scholarship fund which provides opportunities for financial support for students undertaking full-time study, in particular those who are not eligible for Commonwealth assistance.

Guests will enjoy champagne and canapés on arrival, a two course premium menu dinner and be entertained by local duo the Simpson Brothers. There will also be a live auction on the night and balloon raffles with all proceeds going directly to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship fund.

WHEN: Saturday 30th May 2015
WHERE: The Brennan Room – Shortland Building
The University of Newcastle
University Drive, CALLAGHAN
TIME: 6pm for 6.30pm start
DRESS: Formal

TICKETS: \$70pp [CLICK HERE](#)

Lee-Anne Ah-See
Administrative Assistant
The Wollotuka Institute
Lee-Anne Ah-See @newcastle.edu.au
Ph: (02) 4349 4500



af
Alliance Française de Newcastle
presents

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

22-23-24 May 2015

THE BÉLIER FAMILY (M) Fri 22 May 7.30pm ~ Opening Night Market from 6.00pm
ASTERIX - THE MANSION OF THE GODS (PG) Sat 23 May 2.30pm
THE CONNECTION (MA15+) Sat 23 May 7.30pm ~ Some French foods stalls available before movie
MOMMY (MA15+) Sun 24 May 10.30am
QUANTUM LOVE (M) Sun 24 May 2.30pm

Individual tickets \$15, Concession and AF Members \$12, Child \$9 (Saturday afternoon only)
Weekend pass (5 films) \$60, Concession and AF Members \$50
Tickets available from Tower Cinemas Newcastle, 183-185 King Street Newcastle, onsite or online.
Box office opens date: Monday 4 May. Advanced booking recommended.
Stall from Abbey's with books and DVD's before and after each movie.

www.newcastlefilmfestival.weebly.com www.eventcinemas.com.au/cinema/newcastle

TOWER CINEMAS NEWCASTLE *Le Petit Prince* **CANALSAT** AUSTRALIE **U.S. F&M**



MOVIE AUDITION FOR SURFERS

Barrett Casting is looking for 15 – 16 year old boys to play the lead roles in a feature film adaptation of Tim Winton's best selling novel BREATH

No acting experience necessary but you need to have strong surfing skills

Interested applicants should send the following to
tests@barrettcasting.com.au

- name, contact details, location, date of birth & height
- a photo of yourself – snapshot ok
- a short clip no longer than 2 mins (i-phone recording fine) telling us a little bit about yourself eg. the biggest wave you've surfed, the best thing that's ever happened to you, what you like to do on weekends etc.
- optional – a short clip of you surfing

Note – large files will need to be sent via a dropbox or private downloadable link

Barrett Casting have cast such films as The Water Diviner, Drift,
The Great Gatsby, The Sapphires & Australia



Media Relations

Tel +61 2 9324 2000

Sydney, 2 April 2015

Media Release

MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, CLAIRE SANDHOFF TO PARTICIPATE IN UBS YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Sydney, 2 April 2015 – Claire Sandhoff is one of 50 Year 11 public school students from across the country that have been recognised for their aspiring leadership potential by their School and the Secondary Principals Association to attend the week long UBS Young Women's Leadership Academy in Sydney.

This year marks the 11th anniversary of the highly regarded Academy run by UBS, one of Australia's leading financial services firms. The week long program offers emerging female leaders the opportunity to build their confidence, leadership skills and business knowledge as well as raising awareness of rising social issues. It is also a great chance to meet like-minded students and begin building a strong and beneficial professional network.

Students will be introduced to a diverse group of contemporary female leaders including Dr Amanda Bell, Principal of Woman's College, Sydney University; Clare Kelly, Foundation for Young Australians; Anne Anderson, UBS Global Asset Management's Head of Fixed income for APAC as well as being UBS's most senior female leader in Australia; and Catharine Lumby, Professor of Media at Macquarie University.

Matthew Grounds, UBS Chief Executive Officer Australasia said; "This Academy is in its 11th year, giving more than 500 prospective leaders new experiences whilst providing a wider understanding of possible career opportunities.

"With more than 50% of Australian university graduates being female we want to support the transition from university to a successful, sustainable career.

"While there is still clearly much work to do to address the slow pace of change in the gender composition of senior management and boards, UBS is positioning the Academy as an early stage step to encourage long term change." added Mr Grounds.

Successful students are selected from public high schools across ACT, NSW and Victoria by the relevant Secondary Principals Association. The fully subsidised residential program will be held at The Women's College within the University of Sydney. The Academy will incorporate a day at UBS where a range of experts will guide them through a program that includes goal setting, career development and responsible use of social media. Students will also be treated to a tour of the Art Gallery of NSW.

The Academy runs from Monday 13 April till Friday 17 April.

ENDS

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	May
Mon 18/5	Y11 Mid Course exams
Tues 19/5	Y11 Mid Course exams Y9 PLG - 9:00am - LC Y7 & 8 Aboriginal students Cultural Program - LC P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Wed 20/5	HSC Chemistry Task - LC Y11 Mid Course exams
Thurs 21/5	Yrs 10, 11 & 12 Careers Expo 2015 Y11 Mid Course exams
Fri 22/5	Starstruck Choir - Newcastle Entertainment Centre Y11 Mid Course exams conclude
Mon 25/5	Yrs 7 - 9 Semester 1 exams commence
Tues 26/5	Y10 PLG - 9:00am - LC Yrs 7 - 9 Semester 1 exams
Wed 27/5	HSC Biology Assessment Task - MPU Yrs 7 - 9 Semester 1 exams
Thurs 28/5	Yrs 7 - 9 Semester 1 exams
Fri 29/5	Y11 EES Field trip to Nobbys Muswellbrook Eisteddfod Y12 Drama - Riverside Theatre Sydney Y12 Academic Review concludes Yrs 7 - 9 Semester 1 exams conclude
	June
Mon 1/6	City Zone Athletics Carnival Y12 HSC English Task Y10 Blackout period commences
Tues 2/6	Y12 HSC Economics Day - Sydney
Wed 3/6	ICAS Science - LC
Fri 5/6	Y10 & 11 Biology Wetlands Excursion Y8 Market Day - lunchtime in quad Starstruck Choir - Newcastle Entertainment Centre
Mon 8/6	Queen's Birthday Weekend Holiday - No Students
Tues 9/6	Red Cross Donormobile Starstruck this week
Fri 12/6	Y11 Reports issued Y11 & 10Acc Biology - Wetlands Mandatory Field study Starstruck 2015 Performance
Mon 15/6	Y10 Exams commence ICAS Writing Exam Y12 HSC English Ext 2 - Draft Major work due
Tues 16/6	Y7 PLG - 9:00am - LC ICAS Spelling Exam Yrs 7, 11 & 12 Vaccinations - LC Y10 Exams P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC

May
2015

Merewether High School Bulletin



Wed 17/6	Y12 HSC English Ext 1 Tutorials - all day Y10 Exams
Thurs 18/6	Y11 Parent Teacher Interviews Y12 Physics & Chemistry ExperimentFest Lizottes Performance by senior students - 2:00pm Y10 Exams conclude
Fri 19/6	Y7 Verbal Combat - Brainstorming Production
Mon 22/6	Y8 Medieval Day - LC Support Unit Disco - MPC
Tues 23/6	Green Day Y11 & 12 Wollatuka Insight Day - UNI
Wed 24/6	HSC Physics Task - LC Yrs 9, 10, 11 & 12 Art Excursion Sydney
Thurs 25/6	NAIDOC Assembly Yrs 7, 9 & 11 ROSA Assembly - 11:00am Yrs 8, 10 & 12 ROSA Assembly - 1:30pm Y12 Newcastle Uni
Fri 26/6	Yrs 7, 8 & 9 Reports issued
Term 3 - July	
Mon 13/7	School Development day - No Students
Tues 14/7	Students return Y11 Jindabyne Trip
Wed 15/7	Y11 Jindabyne Trip
Thurs 16/7	Y7 (2016) Tour & Information session - 4:00pm Brain Bee round 2 - Uni Western Sydney - Y10 students Y11 Jindabyne Trip
Fri 17/7	Y11 Jindabyne Trip
Mon 20/7	Y12 HSC English Task
Tues 21/7	Yrs 7 & 9 Parent Teacher Interviews P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Wed 22/7	Opportunity Class Placement Test - 8:00am - 1:00pm Y12 Music 2 - Meet the Music
Mon 27/7	Y12 Blackout period commences Y10 Reports issued
Tues 28/7	Y9 Surfing Scientist - LC ICAS English - Yrs 7 - 10
Wed 29/7	Y11 Ext English Presentations Y11 Chemistry - LC
Thurs 30/7	Yrs 8 & 10 Parent Teacher Interviews Australian Maths Competition
Fri 31/7	Yrs 7 & 8 Indigenous Infusion
August	
Mon 3/8	Y10 (2016) Course Information Evening - 4:30pm Y11 (2016) Course Information Evening - 6:00pm Y8 Snake Tails - LC
Tues 4/8	Y8 (2016) Course Information Evening - 4:30pm Y9 (2016) Course Information Evening - 6:00pm Y11 Advanced English task



Thurs 6/8	Yrs 7 & 8 Indigenous Infusion
Mon 10/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams commence
Tues 11/8	Y10 Science - Case of Conspiracy Y12 HSC Trial exams
Wed 12/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Thurs 13/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Fri 14/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Mon 17/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Tues 18/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Wed 19/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Thurs 20/8	Y12 HSC Trial exams
Fri 21/8	POSH Concert - Newcastle Conservatorium Y12 HSC Trial exams conclude
Mon 24/8	Y11 Preliminary exams commence
Tues 25/8	Y11 Preliminary exams
Wed 26/8	Y11 Preliminary exams
Thurs 27/8	Yrs 9 - 12 - Meet the Music Y11 Preliminary exams
Fri 28/8	Y9 Cheap Thrills - Brainstorming Productions Y11 Preliminary exams
Mon 31/8	Y11 Preliminary exams
September	
Tues 1/9	Y7 English Task Y11 Preliminary exams
Wed 2/9	Y7 English Task Y11 Preliminary exams
Thurs 3/9	NSW CHS Athletics - Homebush Y7 English Task Y11 Preliminary exams
Fri 4/9	NSW CHS Athletics - Homebush Y7 English Task Y11 Preliminary exams conclude
Mon 7/9	Y10 Wired - Brainstorming Productions Yrs 8 & 9 - English Assessment
Tues 8/9	Y7 PLG - 9:00am - LC
Thurs 10/9	Y12 (2016) Extension Course Information - 4:30pm
Tues 15/6	P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Wed 16/9	Sports Presentation Assembly - 9:00am Y12 reports issued Y12 Formal
Fri 18/9	Y12 Presentation Assembly - 9:30am - MPC Fri 25th - Sun 27th - Book fair - Sports Tour Fundraiser



	Term 4 - October
Tues 6/10	Y12 (2016) Learning Conference
Wed 7/10	Y7 (2017) Information session - 4:00pm
Thurs 8/10	Y7 (2016) Challenge Day
Mon 12/10	HSC exams commences
Tues 13/10	HSC exams
Wed 14/10	HSC exams
Thur 15/10	HSC exams
Fri 16/10	HSC exams
Mon 19/10	HSC exams
Tues 20/10	Y7 PLG - 9:00am - LC HSC exams
Wed 21/10	Y9 Camp HSC exams
Thur 22/10	Y9 Camp HSC exams
Fri 23/10	Y9 Camp HSC exams
Mon 26/10	HSC exams
Tues 27/10	Y8 PLG - 9:00am - LC HSC exams
Wed 28/10	Yrs 7 - 10 Blackout period commences HSC exams
Thurs 29/10	HSC exams
Fri 30/10	HSC exams
	November
Mon 2/11	HSC exams
Tues 3/11	Y9 PLG - 9:00am - LC HSC exams
Wed 4/11	Yrs 7 - 10 exams commence HSC exams conclude
Thurs 5/11	Yrs 9 - 12 Meet the Music Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Fri 6/11	Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Mon 9/11	Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Tues 10/11	Y10 PLG - 9:00am - LC Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Wed 11/11	Y12 Music 2 - Meet the Music Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Thurs 12/11	Red Cross Donormobile Yrs 7 - 10 exams
Fri 13/11	Y7 Vaccinations Yrs 7 - 10 exams conclude
Mon 16/11	Y7 - 10 Semester 2 exams overflow if needed



Tues 17/11	Y7 - 10 Semester 2 exams overflow if needed Y11 (12 - 2016) PLG - 9:00am - LC P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
Thurs 19/11	Y11 Assembly - 11:00am
Fri 20/11	Prefect's Investiture - 11:00am
Mon 23/11	Support Unit Disco - MPC
December	
Wed 2/12	Y7 (2016) Orientation Day
Fri 11/12	SSSA Blues Presentation
Mon 14/12	Y10 Assembly - 9:00am - MPC Y9 Assembly - 11:00am - MPC
Tues 15/12	Y8 Assembly - 9:00am - MPC Y7 Assembly - 11:00am - MPC
Wed 16/12	Presentation Assembly - 9:30am - MPC
Thurs 17/12	School Development Day - No Students Y12 BBQ - 11:00am
Fri 18/12	School Development Day - No Students



The Uniform Shop
0401 725 885
merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au

Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:

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