



## Diary Dates

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



## This Issue

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## Dates to Remember

### Friday 24/8

POSH Concert

### Monday 24/8 - Friday 4/9

Y11 Preliminary Exams

### Thursday 27/8

Y9 - 12 Meet the Music

## Principal's Report

### Australian Schoolboys' Rugby Union Honour



Congratulations to Year 12 student Harry Johnson-Holmes who has been selected in the Australian Schoolboys' Rugby Union side this year. Harry was named captain of the NSW Combined High Schools No1 side for the state all-schools championship during Term 2 and went on to compete during the last school holidays at the Australian Championships. It was at this carnival he was subsequently named in the Australian Schoolboys' side. Harry is the only public school student from across Australia to be afforded this honour in 2015.

Harry was named player of the New South Wales tournament and went on to impress at the National level. Harry said he was proud to gain the Combined High School captaincy and believed it helped him push on to higher honours. "I think it brings out the best in my footy sometimes, having that element of trying to lead from the front," he said.

"And off the field it's a big thing in my principles to be as good a bloke off the field as you are on it. It's good to keep the team morale high and I do enjoy the leadership roles."

Next year, Harry is hoping to move to Sydney to further his sport and studies, but at the moment he is focused on his HSC work, his club rugby and preparing for the carnival in September as an integral member of the Australian Schoolboys' team.



### Australian Born 2000 Water Polo Team Honours



Congratulations to Year 8 student, Matt Humby who has been selected in the Australian Boy's Born 2000 and will travel to Europe in August in order to take part in the IX Darko Čukić Memorial competition in Serbia, as well as training with similarly aged European teams while on tour. The tour will be a great experience and of benefit to all players. The competition in Serbia is unofficially recognised as the largest tournament for the age group each year. With the Darko Čukić Memorial competition a kind of an unofficial world championships for under 15 players. This is an outstanding feat for Matt as he was born in 2001 and is playing in age group one year older than other competitors. The Australian Boy's Born 2000 team will depart Australia on Monday August 3 and will undertake common training with Croatia, before competing in the IX Darko Čukić Memorial competition in the City of Kragujevac, Serbia.

**Teacher Parent Interviews/Subject Selections** - This term parents have had a number of opportunities to meet with teachers to discuss their child's learning, along with discussion around future directions for their learning. Parent Teacher interviews, along with Subject Selection sessions have been held for Years 7 – 10. Later in the term an information session will be held for those students in Year 11 considering undertaking an extension course in their final year of schooling.

**Thank you** - I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Harvey who relieved in the position of principal throughout Term 2 while I was on leave. It is great to back at work but it is also nice to know that the school was in very capable hands in that time. Mr Southward and Mrs Morrison also are to be thanked for the work they did throughout the term supporting Mrs Harvey in her role.

### Deputy Principal Years 7/ 9 / 11



**Davis Harara** of Year 10 recently represented NSW Combined High Schools as the Captain of the U'16 Boys Rugby Team. Davis made such an impression throughout this tournament that I received an email from one of the match referees who had been officiating Davis' game. He was so impressed by Davis's skills and conduct that he sent me this picture and referred to Davis as a wonderful young man and an awesome player. Following this tournament, Davis has also been selected in the NSW All Schools U'16 Rugby Team. Congratulations Davis.





**Klara Norris-O'Neill** of Year 7 represented the school in dressage at the Equestrian NSW Interschool State Championships 2015, held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre. Klara and her pony Little Toff of Astral competed in two dressage events Novice 2.3 and Novice freestyle. Klara came 11<sup>th</sup> in the state in the Novice 2.3 and she placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the state in the Novice Freestyle . This was Klara's first time riding for Merewether High School and we are very proud of her achievements. Congratulations Klara.



**Year 11** headed off to Jindabyne for the senior wellbeing camp and ski trip in week 1 of this Term. It was a rugged up bunch of students that presented at school on Tuesday morning for their safety briefing ready to hit the slopes for an action packed and no doubt exhausting 4 days. Many thanks to the team of teachers who made alternate arrangements for their own families for the week to accompany and supervise our students for the excursion. This snap shot of Mrs Abbo's self-titled Snow Angels suggests that even with the long bus trip ahead, the group was very much still smiling and looking forward to the fantastic snow covered slopes that were to await them.





From all reports the excursion was a hit and the Year 11 group are now back in class and well and truly primed for a positive yet very busy term ahead.

This week and next sees our Year 11 students completing their Trial HSC for their accelerated courses. Students are working hard through this term as they apply continued effort in the weeks to come, moving straight in to the Preliminary course exams in weeks 7 and 8.

**Curriculum Information Sessions** were held this term to support student's transition through the various stages of learning into 2016. The curriculum information sessions replace the daytime Parent Learning Group meetings for Term 3 with one exception. The Week 9 Year 7 PLG will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September from 9 – 10.30am in the learning centre. Curriculum selection forms are due back to school by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August, students should return their form to the box outside Mr Keltys' office.

**N Harvey – Deputy Principal 7 / 9 / 11**

### **Deputy Principal Years 8 / 10 / 12**

As the days lengthen in term 3 and the temperatures begin to climb we come to the time where all students Years 7-11 make considered decisions about their pattern of study for 2016 and beyond. John Hattie's research indicates a strong correlation between educational success and student self-direction and choice in curriculum. Here at Merewether High school we try and build capacity in our students to make informed decisions about their study pathway and emphasise the "big picture" of choice each student has as they transition from Years 7 to their HSC years.

I would like to thank families for their support in the process and their attendance and feedback on the subject selection evenings held in week 4 of this term. There was great enthusiasm at each of the presentations conducted in the hall and some very productive discussions with individual staff and faculty representatives as students and their parents were able to make subject specific enquiries. Congratulations to staff from all key learning areas for their professional guidance and considered advice. Our aim is for all students to choose a pattern of study which both challenges them and excites and interests them. The end product is having students "own" their choices and increasing their educational experience.

Our Year 12 students are in the middle of their Trial HSC and we as a school wish them all the best. In my meetings with them I have concentrated on reassuring them of the strong processes they have developed over the last few years in preparing for exams and the successes they have had. As a group they are keen to achieve and often place a huge amount of pressure on themselves. I commend them to enjoy the next few months of their schooling, relish the challenge of the HSC exams and be confident that all their hard work and the support of families and the school will help each of them to well deserved success!

Students in Year 11 and for our Year 10 students in their accelerated line, I encourage you to prepare thoroughly for your upcoming end of preliminary course examinations. These exams will occur in weeks 7 and 8 of this term and will examine the course as a whole. Structured revision of the syllabus dot points and then testing their level of understanding with past examination questions is the most reliable form of revision. Any student or family who are interested in additional support materials for revision and study processes, please contact myself, Mrs Rippon or Mrs Harvey for guidance. We will meet with all students who are embarking on a HSC course for 2016 on day 1 of term 4 to outline our program of ongoing support for the HSC year.

**Tony Southward 8 / 10 / 12**

## Moospaper

### French film festival

*Freya Dastoor, Year 12*

Living on an island, as we do, I think it's easy for a lot of Australians to think that we're isolated from the world. That's part of the reason it's so enjoyable to take part in events that work contrary to that notion - like the French Film Festival this May, held at the Towers Cinema on King Street. This year the annual excursion for the junior French classes to see 'Asterix and Obelix' was held on the Friday, an exclusive viewing for students, while the other films were open to the public over the weekend. I know that almost all the Year 12 class was present for the playing of 'La Famille Bélier' that evening.

With English subtitles, to make sure nothing was missed, the films were both a good laugh and a great opportunity to learn some more about French language and culture - another success for Newcastle's Alliance Française.

### Jindabyne

*Bernadette Callaghan, Year 11*

Jindabyne. For many members of the Year 11 cohort, just hearing the name of that town brings back fond memories of powdery white snow, the feeling of cool air rushing against skin as they skied down a run, or precious moments of bonding with new friends. Or it could remind them of the atrociously high number of times they stacked it in the snow. Either way, it would remind any given Year 11 student of the 4-day excursion we embarked on in the first week of this term. The early stages of the trip were tedious – a seven hour bus ride down to the Snowy Mountains, followed by chaotic ski hire and dinner at our motel. Despite having a relaxing trip down everyone was tired by the evening and welcomed sleep.

The following morning was an early 5:30am wake up and everyone managed to get onto the bus safely so we could set off for the 45 minute drive to the mountain base. Everyone then proceeded to get their skis from the bus compartment and clunk away (ski boots were unanimously agreed upon as being painful) onto the ski tube up to the slopes. Our mornings were ski lessons, where we could fall over and it didn't matter all that much, followed by free time, when falling over suddenly became a perilous and angst-ridden affair. Who knew it was so difficult to clip ski boots into skis while stranded in the middle of a run? On the first day, I estimated my fall tally to be around 15, and I suspect many students were in the same boat as I. The second day was much of the same routine, but with less falling. Students attempted a number of runs, and most attempts resulted in success and a blooming feeling of accomplishment. By the time the excursion ended, I think I can safely say that our year had bonded and become closer as a cohort, with many new friendships being forged in the adversity of the slopes. On behalf of all of Year 11, I would like to thank the staff who accompanied us on the excursion, especially Mr Byrnes and Ms Johnson, for putting up with us and ensuring we stayed safe.







### Marina Abramovic Art Excursion

*Cara Rixon, Year 11*

On the final Wednesday of Term 2, art students from Years 9 -12 (along with Mrs Greenland, Mrs Gilbertson and Miss Sellers) were privileged enough to embark on a journey to Pier 2/3 in Sydney's Walsh Bay to visit and participate in performance artist Marina Abramovic's latest project, *Marina Abramovic: In Residence*.

Upon arrival we were instructed to remove from our person any object that would distract us. All watches, phones and belongings were stored in lockers as we were handed a pair of headphones and informed there was no talking. In the room itself, there were six exercises to choose from. As we walked in, a staff member in black took our hands and guided us to a station. It was an odd feeling to step into complete silence, and even unnerving to trust a stranger to lead you around an unknown environment. The right side of the space was dedicated to slow walking, while on the left we could count rice and lentils. Further down there was an irregularly shaped stage that we stood on and closed our eyes, surrounded by colour swatches on the wall to sit and immerse in. There was also the option to gaze into another's eyes or lie down on a stretcher bed (aka naptime). As we were moving around at our will, it was hard to know when an appropriate time to move on to the next station was. We were only in the space for an hour (which was definitely not enough time to experience everything) before Mrs Greenland interrupted the peace by collecting us. Unfortunately, I only visited three stations because I felt like if I moved I would disturb the serenity. The most engaging was "the Gaze", and I was led there twice. To stare into someone's eyes, without blinking, in complete silence, is overwhelming. When we emerged, we were directed to a table to write down our feedback and then were surprised by the appearance of the artist herself, who took time to explain the meaning behind her work and answer all of our questions.

Marina described this performance as a "spa for the mind", and it was definitely a therapeutic, relaxing and emotional journey.

### YMCA Youth Parliament Residential Camp

*Christy Mullen, Year 12*

The next step in the four Merewether students Youth Parliament journey was The Residential Camp at Yarramundi in Western Sydney from July 5th to July 11th.

Christy Mullen (Y12), Kain O'Dea (Y12), Sammy Seth (Y10) and Rizina Yadav (Y10) were all in the Government in the Legislative Assembly for the four sitting days in Australia's oldest parliament. Sammy was selected as the Regional Minister for the Hunter and Central Coast and Christy's Committee (Infrastructure and Transport) reached the advocacy shield for their Uber cool bill on regulating ride sharing services at the closing ceremony.

Throughout the week, everyone was able to debate their own bills, seek the call for other committees bills and present their private member statements about their local electorate.

The unannounced debates on Matters of Public Importance, Petition Debates and Crisis Committee Challenges were the most challenging, emotional debates of the week. These prompted tears in students across the states, with some having to leave the chamber as members shared their personal stories about issues important to them such as lowering the voting age, domestic violence, mental health and education programs such as selective high schools and gifted and talented programs.

Politicians and industry heads chaired the debates, enabling for a discussion about the issues we addressed to be started. At a governor's reception in Government House, The Honourable David Hurley told us to take in every moment and appreciate the experience. The Honourable Dame Quentin Bryce said if we were to take one thing out of this experience, for it to be the friendships, as did Anna Bligh.

Applications are now open for Junior Parliament in the Spring Holidays for students in Years 7 - 9. To apply, contact your local Member of State Parliament. Applications for Youth Parliament for Years 10 - 12 will open later this year. "It changes everything" is the motto of the program and it truly does.



## Big Picture Program 2015

*Jack Fisher, Year 11*

During the school holidays from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July until Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July, Daniel Watling and Asa Sire of Year 10, Andreas Sklavos and myself both of Year 11, attended the Big Picture Program 2015 held at Warrane College on the University of New South Wales campus. The Big Picture Program is a boys' leadership program that aims to introduce Years 10, 11 and 12 students to university life and provide them with a sense of direction and the skills necessary to achieve their potential throughout their careers.

Over the course of the 4 days, around 40 students from across the east coast took part in several workshops focused around teambuilding that were designed to test our limits and capabilities in terms of communication, conflict resolution and cooperation. We were also given the opportunity to listen to several high profile keynote speakers including the likes of former Fiji rugby union player, quadriplegic and disabilities advocate Mark Tonga, former NRL player and Australian of the Year recipient Corey Payne and Barnaby Howarth a Type 1 diabetic, stroke survivor, former AFL footballer, author, and Mount Kilimanjaro conqueror, just to name a few. To top it all off, we were given the chance to explore Sydney and visit the different universities based in Sydney along with visits to various establishments such as eBay, NSW Supreme Court, Atlassian Offices and the Mater Hospital.

The program was an excellent experience providing the boys in attendance some key lessons in the areas of leadership and teamwork. All of the Merewether High School boys grew and developed as leaders over the course of the several days and would highly recommend this opportunity to any future students in Years 10, 11 and 12 looking to develop their personal leadership skills.

Applications for the 2016 BPP will open in April/May 2016 and will be advertised in the Careers Newsletter.



## Star Struck

*Jacob Gamble, Year 10*

Star Struck is a "performance extravaganza" staged by primary schools and high schools throughout the Hunter. Merewether High School was lucky enough to be represented by vocalists, instrumentalists, dancers and drama performers in this year's show. After weeks of rehearsals, performers prepared for four shows held on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June.

The enthusiastic Star Struck dance group of Merewether High performed in "Age of Reason", a contemporary dance that brought some flowery flair to the stage and "Solid Rock", an upbeat jazz dance. The drama ensemble featured in "Downtown", portraying a collection of upper class thespians, and "Under Pressure" as overly-stressed office workers. Merewether High vocalists consisted of Campbell Moore, Fabiah Siddique, Brooke Farr, Gabrielle Newland, Alexandria Vidler, Ezekiel Weedon and members of the Starstruck choir. Instrumentalists in the orchestra from Merewether High included violinists Georgina Brindley, Emily Mitchell and Sebastian Leacey; cello player Jamie Rea; percussionist Isobel Whitehead; and oboe player Adrienne Hanslow. Our vocalists and instrumentalists featured in a range of items throughout the show, exhibiting their immense talent and their strong passion for music.

Students agreed that Star Struck was a highly enjoyable experience, giving them the opportunity to showcase their skills whilst representing Merewether High School in the performing arts.

Kylie McPherson of Year 10 summed up her thoughts on her time at Star Struck; "it's such a great thing to be able to put on a show with so many other schools in the region. It's very exciting – something I can't wait to be a part of again next year!"

Congratulations to all students for presenting an "a-maze-ing" show. An enormous thank you also goes out to Ms Sellers, Ms Tenorio, Ms Jenkins and Ms Scollay who devoted so much time and effort to assisting the choir, dance and drama groups during rehearsals and the show.







### Japanese Exchange Students

*Shania Prasad, Year 8*

Recently six students from Japan travelled halfway around the world for a 7 day trip to Newcastle. Five of the students, Takoyoshi, Mayuka, Runa, Yuna, and Lucy came from Newcastle's "sister city" of Ube, as part of an exchange program founded by the 2 cities over 35 years ago. Ube is known in Japan as a city of Sculptures, Flowers and Greenery.

After arriving at the airport, the jetlagged students were distributed to their hosts: Louis Graves, Abbey Isacc, Zaira Hartley, Jessika Tisdell, Alicia Law and Bernadette Callaghan. They slept off their jetlag before arriving at Merewether High and introducing themselves countless times to Mrs Allen's Japanese classes. The students spent close to 2 days at Merewether High School; the small group went sightseeing at the Australian Reptile Park, and around inner Newcastle. They explored the best tourist attractions the Hunter Region has to offer. They were then roused the next morning, and were asked to speak at assembly. After pleasing the entire student body with their great English, they joined in with the Japanese classes for the next 2 days and interacted with groups all around the school.

On Saturday, the 4 students from Ube departed from Hamilton train station with many tears and promises to visit Australia again. The remaining student, 16 year old Ayana, who was not from Ube, will stay with Mrs Allen until next week, when she too will depart from Australia.



### French Exchange Students

*Sophia Sceanovic, Year 8*

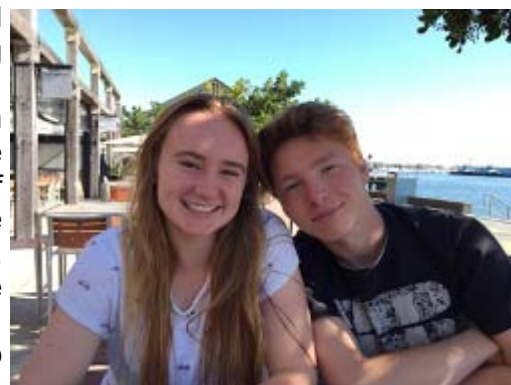
For three weeks, three students from different schools in France were hosted by three families of Merewether High students. Loic Breuil (17), Clement Fournier (15) and Emilie Muzard (16) were organised to come to Australia by Laure de la Condamine, who has actively arranged exchange trips to and from France for high school aged students.

French classes from all years were able to meet Loic, Clement and Emilie and ask them how their lives in France differ from our own. My class was lucky enough to be able to talk to Emilie and Loic in our English and disjointed French. From Emilie, we were surprised to find that in France, our music is played more

than French music without even being translated, our soft drinks are also the same, they have the same fast food "restaurants", and there is no Australian food in France (including Tim Tams!). We were not surprised to find that Emilie hated vegemite "It is... disgusting.", and we dissuaded her from trying the revolutionary Cadbury Vegemite Chocolate.

We learned that some schools in France have hours of 8am until 6pm — though they do enjoy long lunch breaks to leave school to find food. Emilie's private school has lunch options of a menu with entrees and main meals to go. Clement was the rugby player and often went with our rugby team to play games, and was the tallest of the three students despite being the youngest.

Hopefully Merewether will have more exchange student visits to look forward to in the future.







### Public Speaking Club

*Teza Sankoorikal, Year 8*

Good public speaking skills are useful in many aspects of life. Strong public speaking skills can boost up your self-confidence and open the doors to many opportunities.

Merewether High School has begun their very first Public Speaking club. Under the guidance of Mrs. Kate Wilson, every Monday a meeting is held at lunchtime and students from all years get involved. This club has provided a positive environment for students of any skill level in public speaking to learn new skills and share some of their own from past experiences with the others.

Concepts and skills like the 'Three M's' in Public Speaking, Matter, Manner and Method, and impromptu preparation are all discussed at the meetings. In the club, Year 10 students Rizina Yadav, Fia Sankoorikal and Sammy Sethumadhavan were appointed as mentors. They help out all the less experienced students and suggest techniques and strategies that they have found successful. All the skills that are accumulated from the club, are put to the test at various competitions. Just recently Arthy Mukunthan and I entered the Legacy Public Speaking competition at Newcastle High School which was an excellent opportunity to shake of the nerves and put our skills into practice. I look forward to attending this club every week and would encourage others that are looking to improve their public speaking skills to come along and see what the club can do for them.

### Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition

*Zoe Davis, Year 8*

The Rostrum Voice of Youth public speaking competition is an annual high school event for selected participants to present a speech for adjudication. The winner proceeds to zone finals. Students are given several different topics in both junior and senior divisions, to interpret and manipulate into entertaining and informative speeches.

I felt very lucky to be one of the two junior Merewether representative students chosen to compete. The competition was held at Newcastle High School, and the provision of delicious snacks which included cordial, sandwiches, cookies and slices were all appreciated by the nervous competitors.

The competition was friendly, but intense with the eight competitors in the junior division all delivering fantastic speeches. Topics ranged from global warming to palm oil to asylum seekers to volunteering. A huge congratulations to Merewether High representative Rosanna Gately of Year 9 for winning the competition with her topic on 'Rewind', and good luck for the next stage!

## English

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the accomplishments of Sophie Davis in **Extension 2 English** last year. The English Extension 2 course requires students to work independently to plan and complete an extended composition, or Major Work. The Major Work can be presented in print, sound, visual or digital media or a combination of these. Sophie's poetry was selected as an example of the best Extension 2 works from the 2014 HSC and was published in the *2014 Young Writers Showcase*. Works included in this selection have been awarded the highest marks in the HSC. Leanne Corney and myself had the pleasure of attending the launch of this book with Sophie and her family at the State Library of NSW.

As the final HSC Examinations draw closer, our **Year 12 students** should be preparing by writing a number of practice exam style responses. Students can access a range of past papers on the Board of Studies website. A number of practice papers and questions have also been uploaded to the Moodle for students to access. When completing these papers, students should ensure that they set a time limit so that they are working under exam style conditions. In addition to writing practice responses, it is important that as students receive the Trial HSC Examination papers back, they look at the specific and general feedback provided to identify the areas they should focus on improving in their preparation of the exams.





Our current **Year 11 students** need to begin thinking about their options for studying HSC English in 2016. At the end of this term, students in Year 11 will be offered the option of studying Standard OR Advanced English for the HSC. Teachers will be talking with students about course options and will make recommendations to individual students concerning which course they should consider studying for the HSC. As a result of introducing Standard classes in HSC, we will need to look at the current Year 11 class structures and adjust the 2016 HSC classes based on the number of students studying the Advanced and Standard English. Changes to classes and teachers will be minimised as much as possible.

### Esme Corney HT English

The English faculty would like to congratulate all students who entered the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards. I had the privilege of reading and submitting some outstanding poems, and while we work with gifted and talented students, I am constantly amazed by their creativity and insight. Winners will be announced on the 4<sup>th</sup> September. Good luck to all entrants: Charlotte Walters, Sally Shin, Gabriel Clifton, Harry Su, Phoebe Gray, Ruby Dempsey, Reaya Pham, Senara Maposua, Alex Yan, Samantha Welsh, Callum Millington. We would also like to wish Jacqueline Smith and Sabine Osmotherly (both in Year 11) luck on their entries in The Young Poets Awards run by the Faculty of Arts & Design at the University of Canberra.

ICAS Spelling, Writing and English competitions are over for another year. Thanks to all students who rose to the challenge and did their best to showcase their knowledge of all things English. Results for Spelling and Writing should arrive later this term.

### Current competitions open

- ♦ **2015 Asia Pacific Writing Competition – International New York Times.** This competition is open to all students in Year 7 to 12 and this year is the first year that we have been invited to participate. The topic is “Global Education” and students are required to write journalistic articles about current affairs and global issues. For further details go to: [eduhk@nytimes.com](mailto:eduhk@nytimes.com). Submissions close: 30 Sep 2015.
  - ♦ The annual **MS Readathon** is currently underway. Students can register at [www.msreadathon.org.au](http://www.msreadathon.org.au) and read as much as they can during the month of August to help people living with multiple sclerosis.
- Students are reminded to email or see Ms Martinez when they have entered an external competition.

We end this month's Bulletin on a celebratory note. Congratulations to Priya Vakil (Year 10) who won the Intermediate Section of the Broken Ski Award. Priya has kindly allowed us to publish her piece, so it is my pleasure to share her entry with our school community. Thank you, Priya.

### Janet Martinez - Competitions Coordinator

#### Sanctuary

*The moon, a gleaming pearl above,  
Encased by a delicate veil of white,  
Illuminates the slumbering meadow below,  
Awoken by shimmering slivers of light.*

*The sweet scented breeze draws across the trees;  
An invitation to a diaphanous dance.  
And tingling dewdrops glisten on emerald hills;  
For the meadow, awake, is a now rapturous expanse.*

*And the dainty daisies turn their heads,  
And in a euphoric state they stare  
At floating jewels in an infinite sky;  
A magnificent alignment, ever so rare.*

*When dawn greets the perpetual night,  
And beings have relished their ethereal kiss,  
The meadow, a sanctuary of nocturnal beauty  
Sleeps once more in an eternal bliss.*

**Priya Vakil - Y10**





## Social Science

**Green Day 2015** - Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July saw Merewether High celebrate its third annual Green Day . This Social Science initiative is designed to educate students about the environment and promote sustainable development.

Students and staff were encouraged to dress in green or sustainable clothing providing a gold coin donation to support a local environmental organisation.

In the learning centre representatives from a variety of environmental groups utilised the Learning Centre as a sustainability expo, where they shared ideas and displayed a range of information from preserving native wildlife to showcasing intriguing solar inventions. The sustainable fashion parade provided cutting edge sustainable designs and I would like to thank our alumni guest judge Mrs West.

**Green Day Business stalls** - Year 9 Commerce students had been working hard, planning and then operating their own green businesses in the Bensley Hall. The variety of original and authentic ideas was extensive, ranging from Nutella toasties to Dutch pancakes, Photobooths and candy. Although a few technical problems were encountered, most businesses soldiered on still managing to make considerable profit.

From the moment the lunch bell rang, students filled the hall wearing green, buying pizza, chocolate and anything else they could afford. The fashion parade brought in an innovative ( and environmentally friendly ) array of apparel, wowing the judges to win some great prizes. The combined efforts of business owners and students enabled Merewether High School to make a donation to Hunter Wetlands Environmental Centre of \$850.

Overall the day was a great accomplishment and provided the year 9 Commerce students with valuable experience and knowledge of running a business. - **Phoebe Gray and Meg Holmes**

**Business Studies and Senior Geography** - In June The HSC Business Studies students along with the HSC Geography students travelled to Tamburlaine Winery. Our Senior Geography students completed fieldwork in relation viticulture and the human interaction with the biophysical environment while our Business Studies students were able to examine first- hand the operations of a winery and talk to the owners about the challenges of running this type of business.

Students appreciated the time and expertise provided by the owners of Tamburlaine. Both groups of students will be able to utilise the case studies in their upcoming Trial HSC to enhance their responses in the essay component of the examination.

**UBS Economics Study Day** - Year 12 Economics students travelled to Sydney to learn what the experts in the field of Economics had to say about the events in the Australian and Global economy.

Chief economist from UBS and favourite Ross Gittins from the Sydney Morning Herald provided up to date information and insights into economic issues that students can use in future assessment tasks.

**Legal Studies Supreme court visit** - Last week Year 11 and Year 10 Accelerated Legal Studies students travelled to Sydney to visit the Supreme Court of NSW. After a tour of the Banco ceremonial court students were able to visit a variety of courts in operation over the course of the day. Legal processes and court protocols were observed during a sentencing hearing and trial in the Historic Court houses enabling students to experience first-hand the operation of our justice system. It was a compelling and fascinating day that will support students in the studies of the criminal justice system in their HSC year.

**Mrs Burnett - Head Teacher Social Sciences**

**Mock Trial** - The Merewether Mock Trial Team has progressed into the elimination rounds of the state competition. Here is a quick recap of the journey so far. The practice trial against St Francis Xavier we were the defence in a murder case that due to "blatant obvolutions", resulted in a win for Merewether. Our first trial was against Gloucester High School, where we won by 2 points. We won again in the 2<sup>nd</sup> trial against Hunter Valley Grammar, another criminal trial where we were the defence in a driving incident. After a confusing finish, and despite rumours that Merewether had been disqualified (revenge by Abby Butler, Mrs Tonks & Mrs Clark) we continued on to win against Bishop Tyrell. Our hardest trial yet, a civil matter about Negligence, but we advanced with 38 points, leading the Hunter Region at this stage of the competition.

The team, consisting of Amelia Rebellato, Amy Focic, Abby Butler, Brody Gilmore, Charlottle Walters, Hannah Jones, Olivia DeJong, Phoebe Hopkins and Rebekah Smart will compete on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August against Gloucester High School in the first elimination round. Good luck to the team on Friday!

**Rebekah Smart - Y11**



## Hospitality

Congratulations to ex Hospitality student Rachel Leonard who was recently announced as a recipient of the 2014 Australian Vocational Student Prize, (AVSP).

The AVSP recognises students who have demonstrated outstanding skills while completing vocational training in senior secondary years in 2014. Schools are asked to nominate students who have chosen to do practical, vocational training while completing their senior secondary studies. Rachel is the latest of our students who have received this prestigious award following Zoe Drew in 2013, Emily Richardson in 2012 and Jess McGuinness in 2011.



Congratulations are also extended to our 2015 Careerlinks Work Placement Excellence Award recipients. These students are nominated by their Work Placement employers and supervisors after displaying outstanding skills, knowledge and customer service during their 35 hours in industry.

Eloise Callingham, Zac Norgard, Sam Relf, Madeleine Novak, Charyssa Lawrence, Kiara Blyth, Taylor Swan, Shannon Patrick, Ella Cannon, Brooke Nguyen.

Our Hospitality students have recently completed a number of competency assessments.

To complete practical assessment tasks for participate in safe food handling practices, all students donated batches of Shepherd's Pie and savoury mince to OzHarvest. Year 12 Food Technology students also donated a large amount of a variety of soups which were created for their assessment task for Food Product Development. Since starting our association with OzHarvest in 2012, MHS students have donated nearly 300kg of food to OzHarvest to distribute to their agencies and support members of our community who struggle with food security.



Students have now completed all practical functions, cafes and coffee shops for the Serve Food and Beverage, Prepare and Serve Non-alcoholic Beverages and Prepare and Serve Espresso Coffee units. Thanks to the dedication of our wonderful Hospitality students and the support of staff and students at the school we are thrilled to announce that \$852.70 will be donated to Jenny's Place and \$1016.80 will be presented to the Hunter Melanoma Foundation. Both of these presentations will take place at school assemblies later this term.



We are now completing all remaining competencies and preparing for our students to sit their Hospitality HSC exam next term. We wish all of our 'Hospies' every success.

**Julie D'Amico & Wendy Rosser**  
Hospitality Teachers





## TAS

### 2015 Years 9 and 10 Science and Engineering Challenge

30 students from Merewether High School met on a cold Wednesday morning late July at the Forum in Newcastle University to participate in the annual Science and Engineering Challenge.

Over 40 schools competed in the week long challenge that required teams to solve a variety of problems. Students were asked to create a Bionic Hand, a Hovercraft and pilot it, Electricity Management for a township, a Tower that could withstand an earthquake, a Catapult, a Bridge and other mind bending challenges.

Merewether displayed every quality that distinguishes a great school - willingness to tackle an unknown challenge, teamwork and an affinity for Science and Engineering. Throughout the day, we were placed either second or first in the score updates, to finally finish a very close third at the final count.

Congratulations to every student who competed!

**Mr Johnston and Mr Platt**





### Good Food Show excursion

On Friday 7th August 30 enthusiastic Year 9, 10 and 11 Food Technology and Hospitality students headed off to Sydney to the Good Food Show. Students were able to sample a range of new food products not yet seen in the supermarkets. Some interesting new products included oil infused with fresh herbs in a spray bottle and yoghurt with half a serve of hidden vegetables (surprisingly delicious!). The focus of most new food products was definitely health and nutrition. There were also products that catered for Vegans and food allergies. Additionally, we saw Garry Megihan (Masterchef) whip up a few amazing dishes in the Good Food Theatre. We had a fantastic day and would like to compliment the students on their behaviour.

**Mrs McCudden and Mrs Rosser**







## CAPA

### **VISUAL ARTS – Our Brush With Fame!**

Little did we know that, by the end of this excursion, we were going to brush shoulders with art royalty!! On Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Visual Arts students travelled down to Sydney to participate in the Marina Abramovic exhibition at Pier 2/3 down in Sydney. Abramovic, an international performance artist, was conducting a series of audience-based performance works based on self awareness in an overstimulated technological world. Audience members had to slow down, count rice grains, gaze into people's faces, stare at blocks of colour, lie down and stay still and walk as slowly as possible to achieve a meditative state of mind. We also had to lock away our phones, watches and belongings and concentrate on our 'exercises'. Our hour and a half in the exhibition flew by with many students only completing half the exercises in the show. Everyone was overwhelmed by the mind expanding experience. But as we finished the exhibition and began to congregate at the exit point, who came over to our students and started a conversation with them but Marina Abramovic herself! She spoke to our students for 20 minutes about her art practice, asked them about their art, chatted about the importance of slowing down and how technology affects all our lives. We were a little starstruck as she is considered the Meryl Streep of the artworld and we were the only school to have this amazing experience. It was indeed a worthwhile trip down to Sydney.



August  
2015

## Merewether High School Bulletin



On Monday night, 24<sup>th</sup> August, Year 12's will be exhibiting their HSC artworks in their annual exhibition. The Learning Centre will be open from 6pm till 7.30pm for general admission and all are welcome to view these magnificent works of art. Here is a taste of what you might expect to see...







## Music

### Star Struck 2015 A-Maze-ing

Star Struck 2015 was again a spectacular event with a very high representation of Merewether High School Students involved in Dance, Drama and the Massed Choir. The Show Band included talented musicians - Georgina Brindley, Adrienne Hanslow, Sebastian Leacey, Emily Mitchell, Jamie Rea, Kimberley Russell and Isobel Whitehead. Hunter Singers performed Sounds of Silence with MHS students - Tom Gilbertson, Adrienne Hanslow, Steven Kentish, Campbell Moore, Arthy Mukunthan, Gabbi Newland, Maddie Newland, Lucinda Paterson, Will Sim, Alex Vidler and Zeke Weedon. Backing vocalists and Soloists - Brooke Farr, Campbell Moore, Gabby Newland, Fabiah Siddique, Alex Vidler and Ezekiel Weedon wowed the audience. MHS was also represented in the Hunter Signing Choir with Yr 8 student Callum Quinn. Congratulations to all students on their A-Maze-ing efforts in Star Struck 2015.





August  
2015

# Merewether High School Bulletin







## STATE MUSIC CAMP



In the last week of Term 2, 260 State School students from all over New South Wales attended State Senior Music Camp in Sydney. The students were involved in a number of musical ensembles throughout the week and were kept busy from 7am until 11pm! They were also lucky enough to work with some of the best musicians and music educators in the state performing quality music of the highest standard.



Our school representatives and their ensembles were:

**Ezekiel Weeden** (Yr 10) - Choir

**Max Spencer Karinen** (Yr 9) - Concert Band

**Adrienne Hanslow** (Yr 9) - Concert Band

**Sebastian Leacey** (Yr 9) - Orchestra

**Charissa Ferguson** and **Gillian Pettengell** were part of the forty strong staff members at State Senior Music Camp this year.

Camp concluded with an amazing concert that was noted by the organisers as 'one of the best concerts ever!'



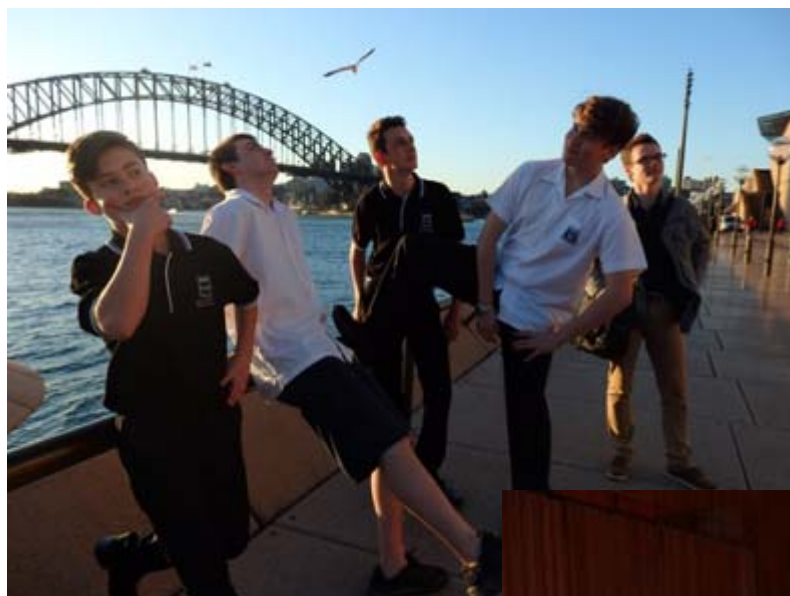


### Instrumental Festivals

We are very fortunate to have such great talent in our school! Three students have been successful in their audition for the State Senior Wind Band - Luke Clemenson, Adrienne Hanslow and Isobel Whitehead. This ensemble performed at the prestigious Instrumental Festival at the Sydney Opera House on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August.

We have two ensembles that have proceeded through the audition process and have been successful in obtaining a place in the Monday evening "Acacia" Concert for the State Instrumental Festival. Our Saxophone Quartet involving Luke Clemenson, Tom Damjanovic, Oscar Girgis-Cook and Hamish McCarthy performed a piece called "Sly Dog" from Miniature Jazz Suite #5 by Lennie Niehaus. The Hunter Trebles including MHS students Arthy Mukunthan, Lucinda Paterson, Adrienne Hanslow performed Shell Song by Australian Composer Paul Jarman and Lyrics by Bonnie Nilsson. Hunter Trebles were accompanied by Alison Tenorio. We are very proud of these students and congratulate them on this fantastic opportunity.

The MHS Concert Band has successfully auditioned to participate in the Primary Proms concert to be held at Sydney Town Hall on 14 September. Congratulations to the Concert Band and conductor Charissa Ferguson!



## Year 11 Soiree

On Monday evening 10<sup>th</sup> August our Year 11 Music students took to the stage and performed to an audience of parents, family and friends in the Learning Centre. The quality of performances was very pleasing and the experience of performing to a live audience instead of the confined walls of their bedrooms was beneficial. With 12 months to go until their HSC, their preparedness for the Soiree demonstrates that they are well on their way to a successful HSC.



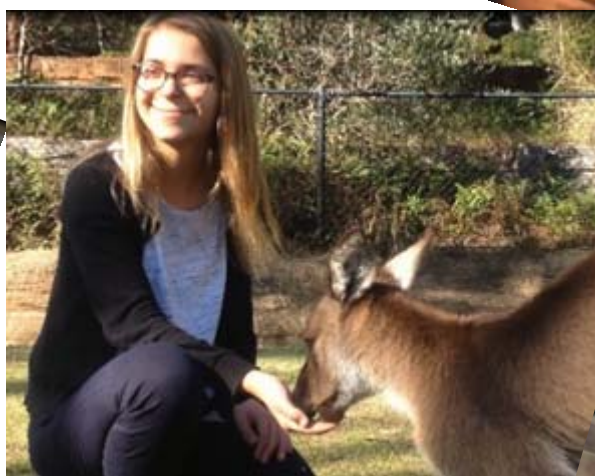
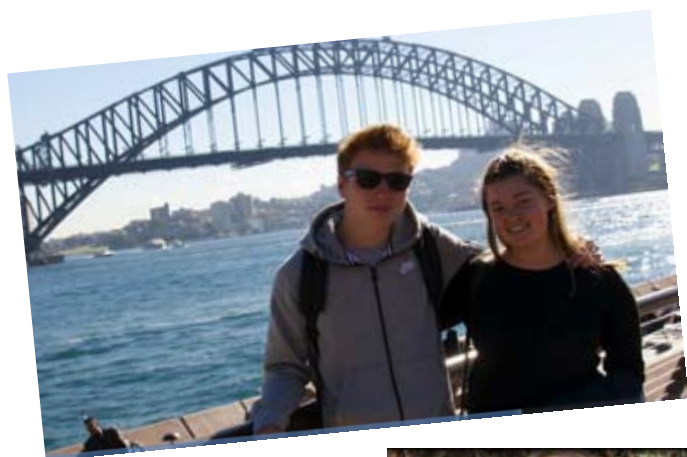




## LOTE

### French Exchange Students

Three French students have just returned to France after a four week stay in Newcastle which included three weeks of attending school at Merewether High School. Some firm friendships were established and the students were an asset to French classes, giving our students the opportunity to learn about current French language and culture. A big thank you to the families of Annelise Verbeek, Elly Diamandis-Nikolietatos and Jessica Arnold who hosted the students. Thanks also to Merewether High School staff and students who made the students feel so welcome.







### JAPANESE OBENTO BOX COMPETITION

Year 8 and 10 Japanese classes experienced making Japanese Obento lunch boxes. They delved into their creative spirits to see if they could live up to the challenge of matching Japanese standards and creativity with interesting and fun results. Using just a few ingredients we were treated to these:



**AND THE WINNERS ARE: Brooke Donoghoe AND Jordan Luxford**



## Support Unit

### BOCCIA

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July saw three schools come to compete against Merewether High School Support Class in the annual Boccia Knockout.

First game saw Newcastle High School beat Merewether.

In the second game Glendale Technology High School was beaten by a stronger Merewether team.

Last game for the day was against Cardiff High School. Merewether proved too strong for the weakened Cardiff team.

Bruce, the referee from the Cerebal Palsy Alliance, announced the winners of the day.

Newcastle High School will go on to compete at Homebush in the State Knockout competition.

Merewether were pleased with their second place in the strong competition where all players tried their hardest to do their best.



	MHS	NEW	GCEN	CARDIFF	
MHS					
NEWCASTLE	5		6	6	15 2-A
GLENDALE	1	3	7	10	22 1GT
CARDIFF	1	0	0	11	15 3-A
					1 4







### Australia Day 30<sup>th</sup> July 1915

In 1915 Australians wanted to help Australian soldiers who were fighting in the Dardanelles and the families of the wounded. It was decided that all across Australia events be held on the first "Australia Day" – 30<sup>th</sup> July 1915. There were marches, parades, cake stalls and games days. Badges, buttons and handkerchiefs were sold. Money was raised. The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of that day was celebrated by Thornton Public School with a re-enactment. Our class waved Australian flags as the students and staff marched past in clothing typical of the time. An Aboriginal man playing the didgeridoo led the march. They were joined by the SES, serving members of the RAAF based at Williamstown, returned servicemen, the Lighthorse group and their horses. There were displays of a tent and wash basin similar to what was used in 1915, horses, old uniforms and weapons. A stall sold ANZAC biscuits for 2 shilling(20c). The day made us all think about the hardships others had suffered to make life better us now.

**Lest We Forget.**

**Support Unit**



## Careers

### **Student Success - Cadetship Success for Emily Baita**

Emily Baita of Year 12 has successfully been awarded an accounting cadetship at BDO in Sydney which will commence in 2016. After submitting her application Emily was selected from the field of 300 applicants to attend a very competitive interview process in Sydney as one of 60 students in the group interview session. She was then offered an individual interview with a manager and partner of the firm followed by a personal assessment test. At the completion of the testing Emily was offered one of 4 cadetships. Emily is applying to study commerce in Sydney next year. Congratulations Emily for “having a go” and ultimately being rewarded with this wonderful opportunity.

### **Jayden Park wins a 2015 ADFA Educational Award**

Jayden Park of Year 12 has for the past 12 months been involved in the rigorous process of applying to ADFA. During this process he was identified by the Defence Force recruiting as an outstanding applicant and on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Capt. Luke Marshall attended our school assembly to present Jayden with an ADFA Educational Award. This award is presented each year to a student identified with excellent leadership potential and demonstrated academic success. The prize consisted of an IPAD and a plaque recognising Jayden's achievement now is on display in the front foyer. Jayden has received a letter of offer to commence ADFA in 2016 as an Aerospace Engineer specialising in electronics, ATAR dependent. Congratulations Jayden on this outstanding achievement.

Students interested in learning more about the award should visit; <http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/howToApply/educationAward.aspx>







### **MHS Open Girls Hockey Team Hunter Champions 2015**

The Merewether Open Girls Hockey Team has had the most successful start to the CHS Open Girls knockout competition to date. They recently won the Hunter Region final comfortably against Hunter Sports High School after outstanding performances in the earlier round defeating Lambton High School 4-0 and a very tough game against Taree winning 2-1.



The team must be congratulated as a cohort for their passing and wonderful team spirit. Tayjah Abell, Rachel Ward, Khiani Abell and Rebecca Ward were members of the Hunter CHS Open Girls Hockey Team that were successful in winning the NSW State Championships earlier in 2015. As a result three of the girls, Rachel, Rebecca and Khiani were selected to play in the NSW Open Girls Hockey Team at the national competition. The MHS team will now progress to the higher rounds where they will travel to Sydney to play in late August.





Four weeks ago our school sent a team of students to the prestigious Brain Bee championships. Brain Bee sounds like a kid's game, but I can assure you it was hardcore academic action. The competition is based around understanding the brain, nervous system and mental disorders.

Held at the medical university of Western Sydney, the state finals team was comprised of Caitlin Young, Michael Orjekh, Lachlan Lewis, Aiden Weinman, William Parsons, Adarsh Iyer and myself.

After smashing the qualifying rounds (and coming 5<sup>th</sup> in the state as a cohort) we were still scantily prepared for the state finals. Ashley Milton, our previous representative, ran us through a rigorous neuroscience boot camp leading up to the competition. We tore through the 93 page hulk of a text-book, making summaries and highlighting words. It was intense.

The night before, we sharpened our pencils, polished our pens and set our alarms to stupid o'clock in the morning. At 5am we rolled up to school. Mrs. Horan graciously drove our regiment down to Sydney, spending the trip cramming in our final few chapters beneath rudimentary iPhone lights and testing each other's knowledge. We arrived at the campus amongst a sea of student bodies, backpacks and blazers. But we had nothing to fear, we were clothed with pride, respect and responsibility.

In the foyer before the first wave of testing we expertly eyed our competition while feasting on carefully crafted canapés. But the real feast was in the lecture theatre, a buffet of brain bee questions. We channeled Ashley's training and our inner neuroscience energy, completing the primary test.

Whilst our papers were being marked we marched into the University's state of the art learning labs. Here we completed investigations, which had us stimulating our ulna nerve with 0.5 mv of pure energy. This roused our hands to create a slight flicking action. But that wasn't enough for us inquisitive Merewether folk. We pummeled our nerves with 20 mv, arms violently spasming and slapping across the table. That's approximately 2.4% the output of a Colgate brand electric toothbrush. It was intense.

Directly proceeding our medically approved experiment we returned to the theatre for lectures. These were brilliantly enthralling. Covering topics from bionic eyes to the importance of research in our society. But we were ready, thirsty for the additional team challenge.

Our elite team of four, Aiden, Michael Caitlin and I, were perfectly prepared. Facing off against 11 other A-grade schools. But the enemy teams had prepared well - their beast of a team captain, some of them having brains in places we didn't even have places. But we had Merewether spirit. After a lightning round of questions about long-term memory potentiation our team had a brain-freeze and fell to second place. From there on in a downward spiral ensued. Finishing on fourth place we were still proud of our efforts.

After lunch the grand championship commenced. Ten of the best and brightest individuals were selected based on earlier results. Not one of them were us. After 32 minutes of rapid questioning Sydney Secondary High School was crowned the state Brain Bee champion.

The day was a real buzz; we had a bundle of fun and got lots of free stuff. I encourage all year nine's to put in their best effort for the brain-bee test next year.

We send a huge thank you to Mrs. Abbo, for the organization of the competition and team, without her we wouldn't have ever made it down to Sydney. We would also like to thank Mrs. Horan for driving us there (and stopping at Macca's on the way). Finally a massive thank you to Ashley Milton for all the hours she put into tutoring us and preparing us. We really appreciate it.

**Sam McIntyre - Y10**

### **Careers Exploration Activities this term**

Industrial Design and Architecture day at University or Newcastle

43 students from years 9 and 10 travelled to the University of Newcastle to take part in the Industrial Design and Architecture Day Hands-on Activity. This was a fabulous day where students gained clearer insight into these two creative career pathways. Students undertook a variety of design activities throughout the day and had a great time doing so. The university generously provided a Subway lunch for the students, which was greatly appreciated by all that attended.

Three additional students also took the opportunity to attend a day at Suters Architectural firm In late July where they shadowed an architect for the day. Patrick Wells of year 12 along with Zac Collin and Rachel Ditton both of year 11, reported that the day was one of the best days that they have attended and well worth the effort.

**Levina Abbo - Careers Adviser**



## Welfare

### Year 10 Celebration of Dance

After four years of dance, Year 10 were able to celebrate by demonstrating their dance prowess to the music of Dan and Roy, a musical duo from Newcastle. Dances ranged from Folk (La Raspa, Troika), Bush (Heal Toe Polka, Barn Dance, Strip the Willow), Social (Waltz), Latin (Mambo, Cha Cha) to fun dances like Nutbush, Macarena and the Chicken Dance.

Many of these dances were progressive which gave everybody an opportunity to meet, socialise and dance with a range of partners (the old fashion version of speed dating).

Students also took the opportunity to dress up for the occasion with outfits ranging from ballerinas, to triplets, to country, to the dapper vest and/or tie. Best dressed were Cameron Shaw-Carmody and Emliy Meacham.

Thanks to Mrs Ridgeway and Mrs Morrison for organising.





# Brainstorm Productions

Each year students are entertained by the talented crew who present the variety of productions that challenge and dispel myths around issues such as peer pressure, bullying, cybersafety, communication, risk taking and other issues that affect young people both today and into the future.

Already Year 7 and 8 have viewed *The Hurting Game* and *Verbal Combat* and this term it is Year 9 and 10 that have this opportunity.

On 28<sup>th</sup> August Year 9 will be entertained and educated with the presentation of 'Cheap Thrills', a one man show which highlights the difficulties adolescents encounter in the face of peer pressure to indulge in unsafe behaviour. It dispels the myth that drugs, alcohol and fast cars are cheap thrills. Students will see that substance abuse is expensive - your money, your health, your relationships and ultimately...

**cheap  
thrills**

**the  
hurting  
game**

Year 10 will view the production 'The Hurting Game' on 7<sup>th</sup> September, a show about peer pressure and being "true to yourself". This is an entertaining way to promote discussion about friendship, peer pressure, bullying, body image, our cyber footprint and the way we interact at school and on digital media. This show will assist students to recognise and resist peer pressure and help create a more positive school environment.

## P&C/ Canteen

**Canteen Volunteers Needed:** As our Year 12 students move towards the HSC, we are conscious that some of our volunteers find their services are required elsewhere. If this is the case, please let your Canteen Manager know so that we can cover your shifts on the canteen roster. **Tuesdays** are already proving difficult to cover, so if any parents/grandparents/friends out there have some time to spare on Tuesdays, please contact Tuesday's Canteen Manager (Sharon) on 4961 3736 or [merewetherhighpandccanteen@gmail.com](mailto:merewetherhighpandccanteen@gmail.com).

**Canteen Menu Assessment:** Work continues to find healthier alternatives to serve in the canteen. Anyone interested in contributing to this process should contact the Canteen Convenor at [merewetherhighpandccanteen@gmail.com](mailto:merewetherhighpandccanteen@gmail.com). Canteen Volunteers might like to put their suggestions in the "Healthy Food Suggestions" book in the canteen.

**Student Soups:** The Canteen Committee would like to thank the Year 12 Food Technology students for the great soups they presented for tasting. Any recipes sent through to the canteen will be trialled while this cold weather lasts. Thank you also to Mrs McCudden for organising this!

**Birthday Treats:** Merewether students can present their student card in the week around their birthday and receive a free treat from the canteen. Items on offer include a sausage roll, small milk, muffin, chips or frozen juice cup. In order to get what they want, students are asked to order their item at the order window before school or at recess. Their item will be ready for collection at recess or lunch, without having to join the canteen queue. Birthday items will no longer be processed at each checkout.

**Next Canteen Committee Meeting:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 4pm in BC1. Any parents/carers with an interest in improving the food served to the school community are welcome to attend.

**Next P&C Meeting:** The MHS P&C meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> August** will be the next general meeting. **All parents and carers are welcome to attend.**

Thank you,  
Janet Murray  
P&C Vice President (Canteen Convenor)



# *Posh Concert*

*Friday 21 August 2015 at 7pm*



*Harold Lobb Concert Hall*

*Newcastle University Conservatorium of Music*

*(Cnr Laman and Auckland St, Newcastle)*

*Showcasing Year 12 Music students and all  
Merewether High School Music Ensembles*

*Tickets available at:*

*Merewether High School Cashier's Office or  
Newcastle University Conservatorium Concert Hall Box Office from*

*6:30pm*

*Adults \$18*

*Student / Concession \$10*

*Family Ticket \$50*



### Donating Blood

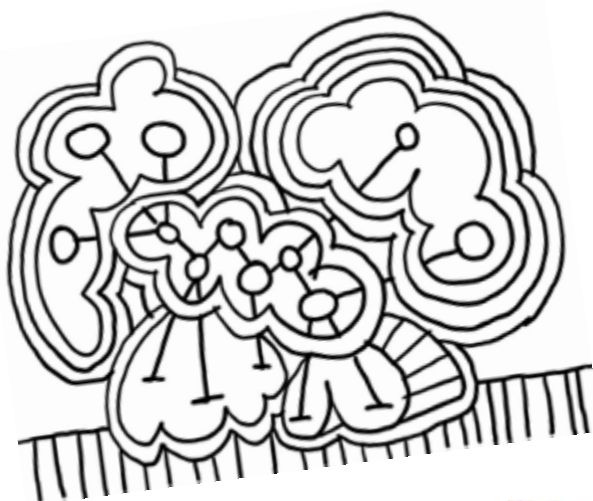
A new phase started on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July with senior students over 16 donating at the new Red Cross Donor Centre at Lambton. Students were collected from school by the Red Cross Courtesy Bus and taken to the Centre to donate. Ten students were involved in the program in two sessions with only two returning donors while the others were all new donors. We hope to make this a regular activity once a term.

Remember **1** donation may save **3** lives.

### WANTED



The Support class is visiting Ronald McDonald House on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August for a tour of the facility. The class would like to take donations needed for the sick children having treatment and their siblings who stay at the house so we are asking for donations of colouring in books, textas and coloured pencils. These may be dropped off at the Support Unit or front office. Thank you to everyone in advance for your support of this worthwhile cause.







It's back!

We need your Help!

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Merewether HS is registered for the *earn & learn program*. Until the 8<sup>th</sup> September one sticker may be collected for every \$10 spent at Woolworths. Place the stickers on a sticker sheet and send into school to be placed in the collection box at the office.

At the end of the program the school has the opportunity to choose from thousands of educational resources from Modern Teaching Aids.

## Start collecting for your school now

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program gives Schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn new educational resources.

### Make a difference for your local school

- Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent.\*
- Stick the Woolworths Stickers onto the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet inside.
- Once it's complete, pop it into a Collection Box at your school or local store. You can download more Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets from our website [woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn)

\*excluding alcohol, liquor and tobacco.

Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiums and science labs.

It's easy to earn valuable resources to help your local school, so start collecting your Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers today.

Go to [woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn) for more information, terms and conditions and answers to frequently asked questions.



the fresh food people  
Woolworths 



## SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2015



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

### Maximum Penalty

**\$425**

+ 2 Demerit Points



Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

### Penalty

**\$177**

+ 2 Demerit Points



Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

### Penalty

**\$319**

+ 2 Demerit Points



### DOUBLE PARKING

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

### Penalty

**\$319**

+ 2 Demerit Points

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: **\$319 + 2 Demerit Points**, or STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing: **\$425 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: **\$177 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: **\$531**

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice. Current to 30 June 2016.  
These penalties apply to offences in school zones during posted school hours.



August  
2015

# Merewether High School Bulletin



	August
<b>Mon 17/8</b>	Year 12 HSC Trial exams
<b>Tues 18/8</b>	Year 12 HSC Trial exams P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
<b>Wed 19/8</b>	Year 12 HSC Trial exams
<b>Thurs 20/8</b>	Year 12 HSC Trial exams
<b>Fri 21/8</b>	POSH Concert - Newcastle Conservatorium Year 12 HSC Trial exams conclude
<b>Mon 24/8</b>	Year 11 Preliminary exams commence Year 8 Science Presentation - Astronomy
<b>Tues 25/8</b>	Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Wed 26/8</b>	Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Thurs 27/8</b>	Years 9 - 12 - Meet the Music Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Fri 28/8</b>	Year 9 Cheap Thrills - Brainstorming Productions Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Mon 31/8</b>	Year 7 English Task Year 11 Preliminary exams
	September
<b>Tues 1/9</b>	Year 7 English Task Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Wed 2/9</b>	Year 7 English Task Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Thurs 3/9</b>	NSW CHS Athletics - Homebush Year 7 English Task Year 11 Preliminary exams
<b>Fri 4/9</b>	NSW CHS Athletics - Homebush Year 7 English Task Year 11 Preliminary exams conclude
<b>Mon 7/9</b>	Year 10 Wired - Brainstorming Productions Years 8 & 9 - English Assessment
<b>Tues 8/9</b>	Year 7 PLG - 9:00am - LC
<b>Wed 9/9</b>	'M FACTOR' Concert Night - MPC
<b>Thurs 10/9</b>	Year 12 (2016) Extension Course Information - 4:30pm
<b>Tues 15/6</b>	P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
<b>Wed 16/9</b>	Sports Presentation Assembly - 9:00am Year 12 reports issued Year 12 Formal
<b>Fri 18/9</b>	Year 12 Presentation Assembly - 9:30am - MPC Fri 25th - Sun 27th - Book Fair - Sports Tour Fundraiser
	Term 4 - October
<b>Tues 6/10</b>	Year 12 (2016) Learning Conference
<b>Wed 7/10</b>	Year 7 (2017) Information session - 4:00pm
<b>Thurs 8/10</b>	Year 7 (2016) Challenge Day



<b>Mon 12/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams commence
<b>Tues 13/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Wed 14/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Thur 15/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Fri 16/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Mon 19/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Tues 20/10</b>	Year 7 PLG - 9:00am - LC <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Wed 21/10</b>	Year 9 Camp <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Thur 22/10</b>	Year 9 Camp <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Fri 23/10</b>	Year 9 Camp <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Mon 26/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Tues 27/10</b>	Year 8 PLG - 9:00am - LC <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Wed 28/10</b>	Years 7 - 10 Blackout period commences <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Thurs 29/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Fri 30/10</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>November</b>	
<b>Mon 2/11</b>	<b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Tues 3/11</b>	Year 9 PLG - 9:00am - LC <b>HSC</b> exams
<b>Wed 4/11</b>	Years 7 - 10 exams commence <b>HSC</b> exams conclude
<b>Thurs 5/11</b>	Years 9 - 12 Meet the Music Years 7 - 10 exams
<b>Fri 6/11</b>	Years 7 - 10 exams
<b>Mon 9/11</b>	Years 7 - 10 exams
<b>Tues 10/11</b>	Year 10 PLG - 9:00am - LC Years 7 - 10 exams
<b>Wed 11/11</b>	Y12 Music 2 - Meet the Music Yrs 7 - 10 exams
<b>Thurs 12/11</b>	Red Cross Donormobile Years 7 - 10 exams
<b>Fri 13/11</b>	Year 7 Vaccinations Years 7 - 10 exams conclude
<b>Mon 16/11</b>	Years 7 - 10 Semester 2 exams overflow if needed
<b>Tues 17/11</b>	Years 7 - 10 Semester 2 exams overflow if needed Year 11 (12 - 2016) PLG - 9:00am - LC P&C Meeting - 7:30pm - ILC
<b>Thurs 19/11</b>	Year 11 Assembly - 11:00am
<b>Fri 20/11</b>	Prefect's Investiture - 11:00am
<b>Mon 23/11</b>	Support Unit Disco - MPC





	December
<b>Wed 2/12</b>	Year 7 (2016) Orientation Day
<b>Fri 11/12</b>	SSSA Blues Presentation
<b>Mon 14/12</b>	Year 10 Assembly - 9:00am - MPC Year 9 Assembly - 11:00am - MPC
<b>Tues 15/12</b>	Year 8 Assembly - 9:00am - MPC Year 7 Assembly - 11:00am - MPC
<b>Wed 16/12</b>	Presentation Assembly - 9:30am - MPC
<b>Thurs 17/12</b>	School Development Day - No Students Year 12 BBQ - 11:00am



**The Uniform Shop**  
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