



Diary Dates

P&C Meeting
Tuesday 20/9
7:00pm - ILC



This Issue

- P1 Principal
- P3 Deputy Principal
- P4 Mathematics
- P7 Social Science
- P12 English
- P13 Music
- P15 Posh Concert
- P18 Humanities
- P19 Visual Arts
- P21 Support
- P23 Sport
- P33 Sports Tour
Sponsors

Dates to Remember

- 21/9 Year 12 Reports**
- 21/9 Sports
Presentation assembly**
- 21/9 Year 12 Formal**
- 23/9 Year 12
Presentation assembly**
- 23/9 Last day of Term**
- 10/10 Return to school**

Rizina Yadav is one of five students from across the state who has been selected to receive a Marie Bashir Peace Award from the National Council of Women of NSW. Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO will present the Awards on 26th September, 2016 at Parliament House, Sydney. To be eligible for this award all candidates must have made a significant contribution to harmony or social justice, and must have displayed leadership in fostering harmonious relationships and peace. There were many applications received, with all entries of an extremely high calibre. This is indeed a high honour and I congratulate Rizina on her outstanding achievement. This is a well-deserved award.

As Year 12 move towards their last week of classes and their final exams, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for the contribution they have made to Merewether High School throughout the past six years and wish them luck for their upcoming exams. Year 12 has continued to prepare diligently and to access the many supports in place to help them in their final weeks. The next five weeks leading to the HSC exams and the work each individual does can be the difference in their final results. Students are currently working together to support each other to achieve their personal best. I am impressed with the level of commitment and determination the majority of students are demonstrating at this time of their learning program. Groups who work together and support each other do better than those who work individually. The better each student does in the HSC examinations the better the cohort will do as their school assessments can be positively moderated. All Year 12 are very aware they still have 50% of their final HSC mark to achieve. Congratulations on your achievements to date and I look forward to sharing in your celebrations and successes at the completion of the HSC early November and when your results are released in December.

Monday 10th October will be the first day of the Higher School Certificate year, for our Year 11 students. To commence this very important final year, all students will participate in a Learning Conference for the day. Students will be involved in sessions on Board of Studies requirements, scaling, moderation, past students will talk about their preparation and a session on time management and study skills will complete the day. The day is to support our students as they commence their final year at high school. Year 11 will also sit their accelerated HSC course final exam. Good luck to Year 11 in the first of their final examinations.

Anyone who attended the annual POSH Concert will agree it was an outstanding night showcasing not only the talents of our Year 12 Music students, but the musicianship of our ensemble students, the sophistication of their performances and the development of the extensive performing arts programs within the school. Congratulations to all students, the CAPA staff and our comperes on the night, school captains, Toby and Abby.



Congratulations to our Year 10 debating team, Roseanne Gately, Tom Su, Lucy Witherdin and Callum Donnelly, who won the regional final against Gosford High School week. They are now headed to the state quarter final on the last day of this term. We wish them luck in this competition as they move forward.

Also congratulations to the Boys' Tennis team who travelled to Nelson Bay to compete in the State Knockout finals. The boys came eighth in the state overall and were regional champions for the third consecutive year. Congratulations to Sam Pearson, Lachlan Russell, Tom Buckner, Zac Norgard, Ben Oakley and Ryan Stoodley for an outstanding effort.

Congratulations to Mitch Robinson and Mathew Humby who recently represented Australia with the Born 2001 Water Polo team in Europe throughout July and August. The boys also won a gold medal with NSW All Schools Water Polo team in Canberra in June at School Sport Australia Tournament and a bronze medal in early July in New Zealand at the Pan Pacific Water Polo Tournament with the NSW under 15s team. Mitch and Matt, while very dedicated to their chosen sport continue to maintain their school work and we are very proud of their many achievements.





Congratulations to Lucy Witherdin, Fia Sankoorikal and Rizina Yadav who recently travelled to Canberra for the final national round of the Mock United Nations Assembly (MUNA). After two days of debating resolutions in Old Parliament House the girls came second overall out of twenty-five teams from around Australia.

Congratulations to Milly Stephenson who won gold at the recent NSWCHS Athletics Carnival in the 100 and 200 metre races.

The first two weeks of Term 4 will see us complete the Tell Them from Me surveys. Information letters have been emailed to all parents and links for the parent survey will be emailed to all parents at the beginning of next term.

DP Report

As our term draws to a close I would like to wish all Year 12 students and our accelerated Year 11 students all the best in their upcoming HSC examinations. I know they have been working very hard with their individual teachers and I hope their efforts are justly rewarded. It seems a positive feature of our curriculum model here at Merewether High that students experience the HSC in Year 11 as they are guided through a structured preparation for their accelerated subject. Students recall that this experience strengthens their understanding of successful habits and practices which they can then apply to the remainder of their HSC subjects the following year. Armed with this experience from 2015, we wish our 2016 candidates every success.

With the graduation of Year 12 2016 we welcome the advent of a new group of school leaders as the nomination and election of our prefect body is finalised. Over 60 of our current Year 11 students nominated for a prefect position which is a tremendous indication of their commitment to making a leadership impact in our school community. Whilst only 20 prefects will be elected later this term, I have encouraged this group and all Year 11 students to strive to make a positive impact, whether they are a prefect or not. Building such leadership density and having all students strive to make a contribution is a key goal for us all.

As the weather warms most students are wearing correct uniform on all days at school and this continues to be a school focus. Our uniform is smart and comfortable and promotes a sense of identity within the school and wider community. We ask for continued family support in having students wear plain black leather shoes (no white sole or trimming) and the designated Merewether High School uniform to school. Our expectation is that students also wear sports uniform on Wednesday only and if they have PDHPE practical or PASS then they change into their sports uniform at the beginning of the lesson and back into school uniform at the end of the lesson. Our uniform pool has many items of uniform which families can access if they require a short or long term loan of any part of the uniform. As parents we appreciate your support and ask that you communicate to us via a note if your child is unable to be in uniform and the duration of the situation.

Term 3 has been a term of choice with most students making decisions regarding their curriculum and pattern of study for 2017. During our information sessions and parent evenings we recommended that our students choose subjects they find both interesting and challenging and then engage in that course to achieve their best outcome. Mr Kelty will be consulting with individual students regarding their course choices prior to finalisation of timetables for 2017. It is also an exciting time for our Year 11 students who have completed their Preliminary courses in term 3 and are about to begin their final run to the HSC as these courses commence day 1 term 4. Our cycle begins again...

The Maths Inspiration Show

At 12:30 on Friday 19th August, 31 students got onto a coach, bound for St Philip's Christian College. The show itself started at just after 1:15, with Matt Parker opening. We were greeted by Matt's brilliant witty sense of humour. Matt started his segment off by solving and analysing the maths of Rubik's Cubes. Moving on from this, Matt showed us how we can represent a 3D cube as a 2D net, before showing us the incomprehensible 2D projection of the 3D net of a 4D cube.

He then moved onto the Möbius strip, proceeding to extrapolate the Möbius strip into the fourth dimension. Though we cannot see this, we can see the 3D shadow of this, and it takes the form of the Klein Bottle. He then produced a knitted beanie in the shape of a Klein bottle, with each stripe representing a digit of pi in its thickness - the nerdiest hat possible. That concluded his major segment..

After that, the next presenter Ben Sparks came onstage. He spent his segment looking at probability, and he started and ended his segment with the sentiment that 'Music has no purpose - it is only because it is nice. Maths is the same. It doesn't necessarily have to be functional in everyday life - sometimes it is just done because it is nice'. We kicked off by looking at the lyrics of the song 'Shades of My Hearts' by Sting, and looked at how they could be applied to poker and the different possible hands. Leading on from this gambling talk, he placed \$50 on the fact that two people from the first three rows would share a birthday. As it turns out, not only was there a pair sharing a birthday, but their birthday was today! Finally, we played with adjusting a variable in a formula used to predict rabbit populations, and saw how different values lead to wildly different outcomes - some results descending into chaos.

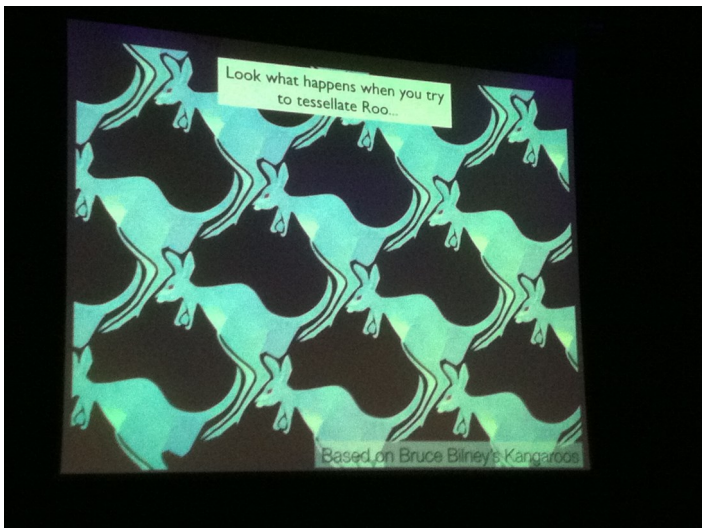
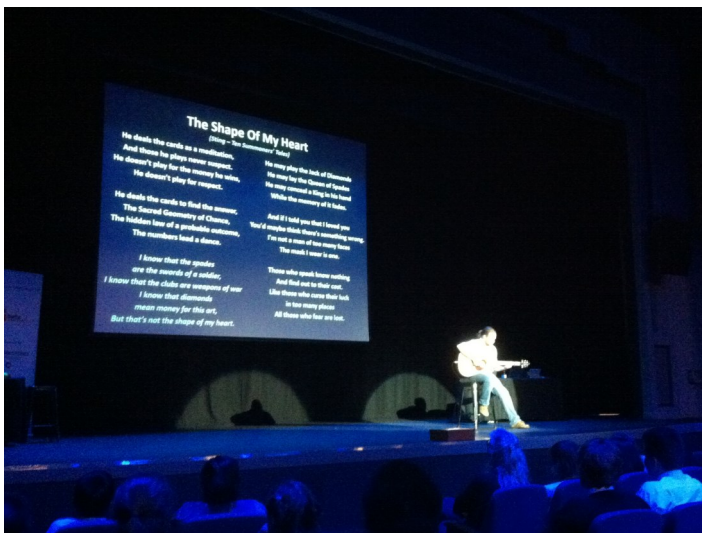
After this, the final presenter Colin Wright came onstage. He got us thinking by finding solutions to a few patterns, and showed by one example, that the solutions are not always what we expect, and that the rules can take the form of different formulas. He told us to always question whether a pattern is right, as there might be other, better solutions.

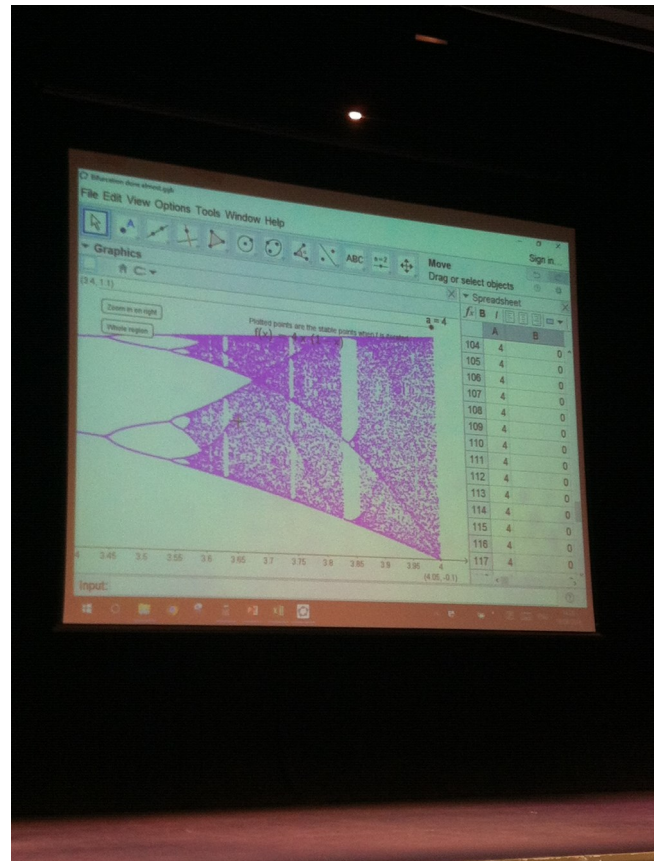
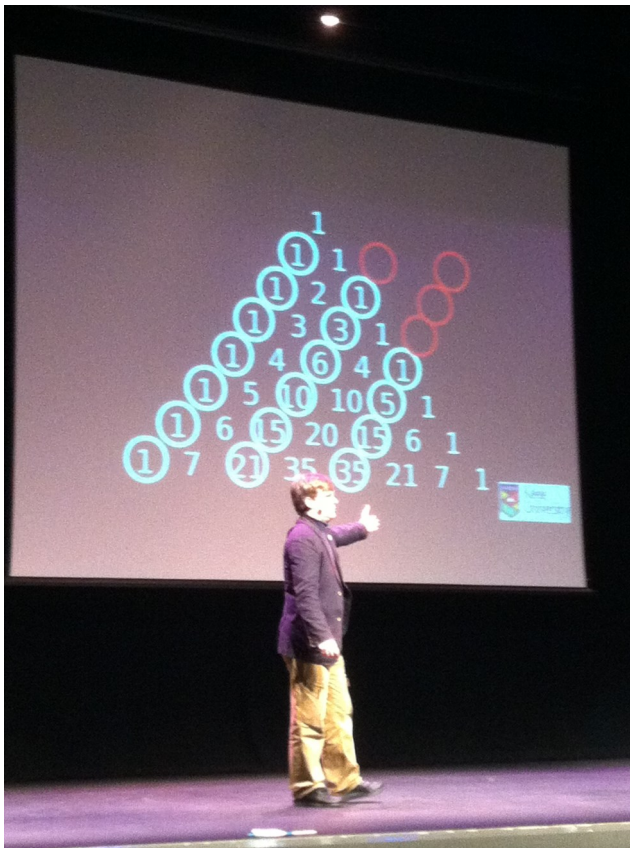
He showed how the type of throw needed with a certain amount of juggling balls can be replicated with a different amount, and by doing this, new combinations could be created and tested for feasibility. We were able to use patterns to predict the existence of a juggling trick without having known about such a thing previously - all thanks to maths!

After a final Q&A section for the three 'stand-up mathematicians', Matt and the others offered to sign our calculators after the show. Of course, a number of us took up that opportunity.

After our rapid signing, we hurried back on the bus, bound for MHS at 4pm - right on schedule, all beaming after that great way to end the week.





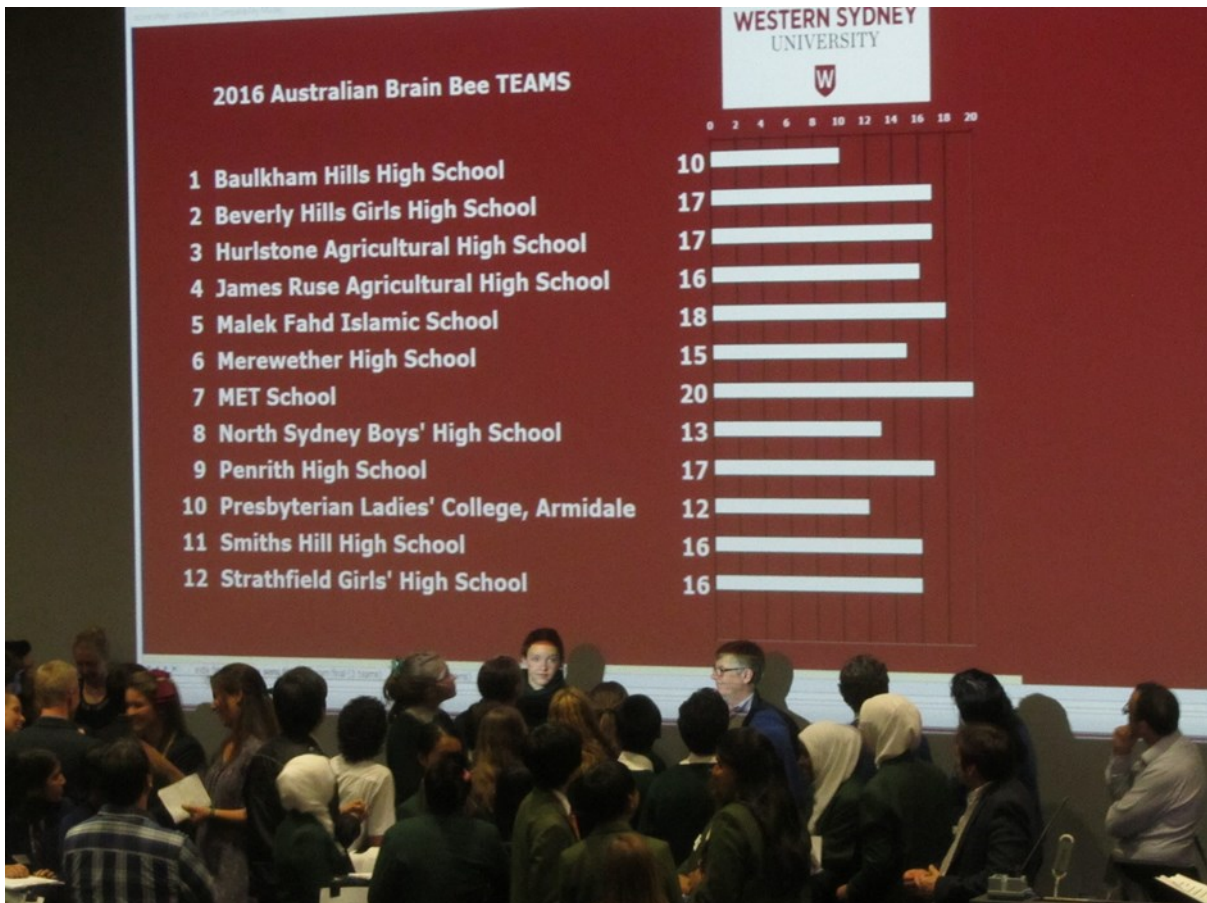


Australian Brain Bee Challenge 2016 NSW State Finals

On Monday 22nd August, Georgia Cook, Adrienne Hanslow, Ari Mintoff and Emma Nickel of Year 10 travelled with Mrs Morrow to the NSW State Finals of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge.

Round 1 was held during Brain Awareness Week in March. Year 10 Accelerated Biology students completed an online quiz under exam conditions to determine their knowledge and understanding of the structure and function of the brain. Georgia, Adrienne, Ari and Emma were amongst the top 10% in the state and were four of 109 students who were invited to compete in the state finals. As MHS had four students qualify, they were also eligible to compete in the team competition.

On the day, the students competed in an Individual and Team Quiz, and also took part in an interactive workshop on nerve impulses. The students performed incredibly well, demonstrating their exceptional knowledge of some very complex concepts. They were very competitive and did not look out of place amongst some of the state's top private and selective schools. While they were not successful in progressing to the National Finals as individuals, they ranked 9th out of 12 in the team event and had a great day.





National Mock United Nations Assembly Canberra

On the weekend of the 20th August Rizina Yadav, Fia Sankoorikal and Lucy Witherdin travelled to Canberra to compete in the National MUNA competition having won the regional round in June at Muswellbrook. The competition is sponsored by the Canberra Sunrise Rotary Club and is held in the historic House of Representatives in Old Parliament House with the objective being to involve students in a hands-on experience of a UN-style conference. Over the weekend teams are required to represent a country and debate resolutions related to contemporary issues associated with the maintenance of peace and world order. This year's MUNA was particularly important as it marked the 20th anniversary of the event and included speakers such as the Vice Chancellor of ANU who spoke eloquently about the power of debate and diplomacy and the importance of the UN.

The MHS team represented France and they all spoke intelligently and passionately about issues such as territorial claims in the South China Sea, nuclear disarmament and the protection of global climate for present and future generations. I was extremely impressed with these student's skills in negotiating during bloc meetings and their ability to acknowledge other points of view while advancing strong arguments to create consensus. I wish to congratulate them on coming second in the competition out of twenty four very strong teams from across Australia. This is an outstanding result.

Social Science has a strong tradition of providing our students with a range of extra-curricular activities that enhance their gifts and talents and replicates real world events. We look forward to involving students again next year in 2017.



YEAR 8 WESTFIELD KOTARA FIELDWORK EXCURSION

The Year 8 Elective Commerce classes for Semester 2 along with Mr Rice and Mrs Tonks visited Westfield Kotara on Friday the 9th September as part of their assessment program to observe the strategies implemented by various businesses to successfully market their products and services.

The excursion required students to visit a variety of businesses to collect data, do some product comparisons as well as look at the methods implemented by businesses to make their stores gain a competitive advantage. Students were fantastic role models for Merewether High using their time wisely to complete all set tasks and when communicating to collect information from store owners. Congratulations to the students in both classes for their efforts on the day to complete the required work and for a great day out.



University of New South Wales Business Studies Competition

Each year our Business Studies and Economics students enter the prestigious and challenging Australian Economics and Business Studies Competition run by the University of New South Wales. In 2016 six students have been awarded prizes for achieving exceptional scores in this competition. Congratulations go to the following students:

- **Justine Bull** - \$75 prize
- **Eamonn Garvey** - \$75 prize
- **Paul Rodgers** - \$50 prize
- **Alicia Wainright** - \$50 prize
- **Aymon Wuolanne** - \$75 prize
- **Hailin Zhao** - \$50 prize

Students will be awarded their prizes at the Awards Evening held at the University in September.

LEGAL UPDATE - Mock Trial Team 2016

Congratulations to the Merewether High School Mock Trial team for 2016 who after six successful rounds have bowed out of the competition losing to Green Point Christian College. The team performed to a high standard on the day, however, were unable to prove their case beyond reasonable doubt to gain the win. Regardless of this result the team worked to an exceptional level on the day and are commended on their efforts.

The success of the team over 2016 shows the commitment that the team had in terms of their individual work ethic and their ability to work successfully as a team. Each role undertaken by team members was done with enthusiasm and the experience was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to the following students who were part of the 2016 team:

Mikaylee Biles, Landon Brown, Tarin Cromarty-Screen, Jacob Gamble, Owen Garry- Doyle, Louis Graves, Sammy Seth, Fia Sankoorikal, Tom Suters and Rizina Yadav.

A very big thank you goes out to Michael Evers the team's Mock Trial solicitor (coach) who gave us his time before every trial to come help prepare and give advice to the students on the legal aspects of these cases.

Also, thank you to Mrs Clark who also helped with the organisation and preparation for each trial and who supported the team over the duration of the mock trial competition.



English

Premiers Debating Challenge Regional Winners

Students from our Year 10 debating squad; Rosanna Gately, Harry Su, Lucy Witherdin and Callum Donnelly competed in the Hunter Central Coast Regional final and defeated Gosford High School last week. They will now move on to compete in the State quarter final on the last day of term against Glenwood High School. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish them luck in the next debate.

2016 HSC English

HSC students have completed their Trial Examinations and they should now be using the feedback provided to identify areas they should focus on developing in the lead up to the HSC Examinations. Students can access practice papers on the BOSTES website or we have a number of papers that students can use to revise. It is important that students write a range of practice essays under time constraints so that they are developing their skills in producing sustained essays.

Year 11

From the start of Term 4 students will be given the option of studying Standard or Advanced English for the HSC. As students receive their marks back from the Preliminary Examinations, teachers will make a recommendation on which HSC English course is best suited to each individual student. The introduction of HSC Standard English will result in some minor class changes and reallocation of teachers across both courses.

UN Youth Voice Public Speaking Competition

Report written by Arthy Mukunthan

On Tuesday 6th of September three students - Annabelle Miller from Year 7, Teza Sankoorikal from Year 9 and Arthy Mukunthan from Year 9 - participated in the UN Youth Voice Public Speaking Competition. This took place at Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College. There, we were required to present a prepared five minute speech on a current issue regarding Australia (chosen from around five different given topics) and afterwards a two minute impromptu speech on two questions asked by the judge with one minute of preparation time. The girls performed extremely well overall, but whether any of them have advanced into the next round is unknown until October. We met multiple other gifted students from different schools around the Hunter Region and were able to learn about current issues the Australian Government faces, not only from our own speeches but peers' as well. It was a good day, and we certainly would all recommend it for students in Years 7-10 in future years.

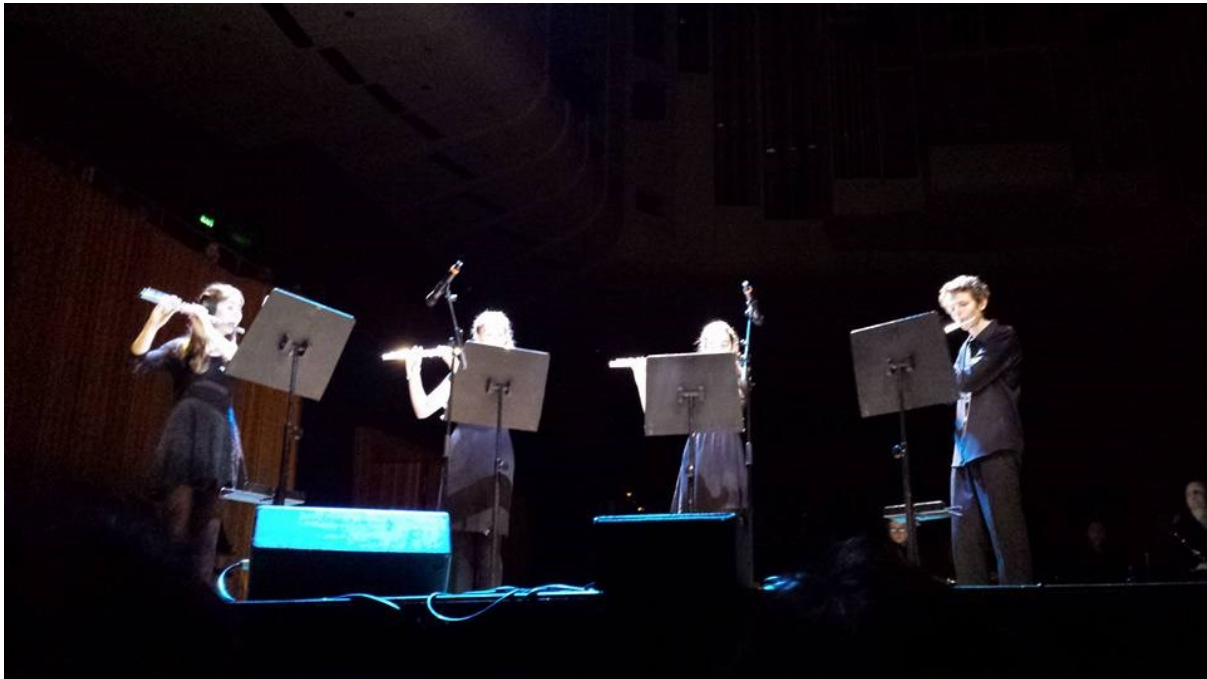


Arthy, Teza and Annabelle

FESTIVAL OF CHORAL MUSIC

Merewether High School was represented on two occasions at this year's Choral Music Festival Concert Series in the Sydney Opera House.

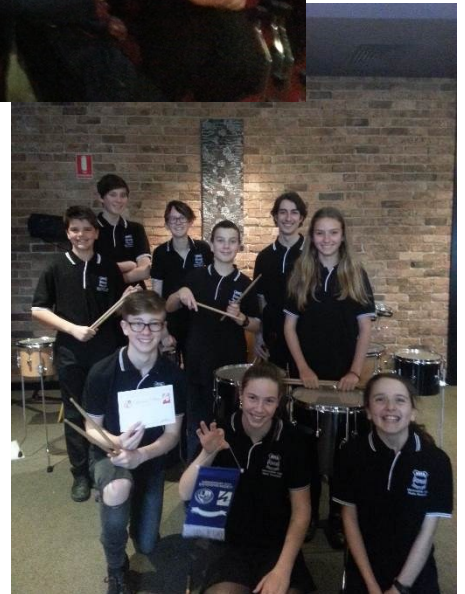
Congratulations to the Flute Quartet who performed an individual item in the Australis Concert on the 1st September 2016. It was lovely to see Carson McGoven (Yr 12), Riley Wells (Yr 11), Adrienne Hanslow (Yr 10) and Ava Young (Yr 8) perform so beautifully and represent Merewether High School at such an important event.



Merewether High School students also performed as part of Hunter Singers in the Argyle Concert and also should be congratulated for their outstanding performance.



HAWKESBURY EISTEDDFOD



Sixty Merewether High School ensemble members attended the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod on the 22nd August 2016. All groups performed very well and should be commended for their achievements.

Jazz Band – Highly Commended
Percussion Ensemble – 2nd Place
String Ensemble – 1st Place
Yr 11 Piano Trio – 1st Place
Concert Band – 2nd Place

September
2016



POSH 2016



September

Merewether High School Bulletin



2016



Congratulations Year 12 2016 Music Students

Music 2

Maurice Bechelli
Luke Clemenson
Adam Montefiore
Fabihah Siddique

Music 1

Oliver Ball
Harry Callen
Brooke Farr
Zachary Nickel
Nic Sonntag

We wish them all the best in their upcoming HSC



Humanities

This month I would like to shine a light onto the efforts of our year 7 and 10 students in Humanities who have been demonstrating some outstanding efforts towards improving their understanding of historical figures and themes. Year 7 this month presented their group work assessments focusing on the significance of Ancient Egyptian Pharaohs. The priority of the task was twofold, firstly to have the students engage in a sophisticated evaluation of the personality and secondly to present this knowledge in an engaging way. All groups were given the specific directive to ensure that their audience would be interested in what they were seeing rather than the good old speech and PowerPoint format we see so commonly.

In both respects the Humanities teachers were impressed by the quality of what our students produced. Evaluating a historical personality is not actually as easy as it sounds. Evaluation is traditionally a HSC level term that requires students to move well beyond simply narrating facts about their lives that they cut and paste from Wikipedia and actually select examples to support an argument. Students were asked to judge the personality in a variety of areas such as military, social and religious reform, trade, building projects etc. In addition they were asked to explore the issues of perspective such as with someone like Tutankhamen who is highly significant to historians today because of access to his artefacts and yet was not particularly important in his own times given his short reign. Overall the groups did really well here and I would encourage the parents reading this to support your young historians to always be focusing on cause and effect relationships and judgements in History rather than just narrating. A special mention also needs to be made for the range of presentation formats we saw. Some groups performed live, whilst others recorded their work and played it for their classmates. This can be an excellent option for students who aren't so keen standing in front of their peers. From both my own class and the reports I got from other teachers we had everything from Quiz Shows, plays, this is my life adaptations through to epic rap battles and everything in between. We hope that the students enjoyed producing their works as much as we enjoyed reviewing them and maintain both the creative and sophisticated approach demonstrated this year.



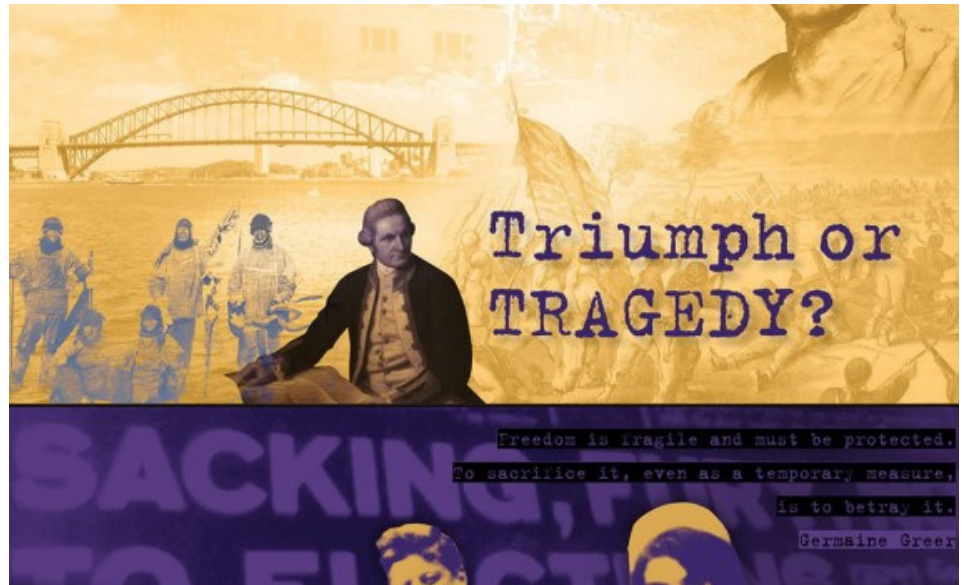
Year 10 have just submitted their National History Challenge essay tasks and I wanted to take the time to recognise the quality of what students produced overall and in addition the group that we are submitting to the external competition. All students across the grade as part of this task are offered the choice to produce either a 1000 word essay task or optionally a 2000 word task which goes into a separate pool for consideration in the competition. We give this option because we recognise that for some students writing a 1000 word evaluation essay can be a real challenge whilst for those who love to write the option for 2000 words is something they really enjoy. This year more than 100 of our 180 students chose the 2000 word option and responded on a huge range of topics. This year's theme was "Triumph or Tragedy" and required students to develop a question focusing on any time period and location so long as it addresses the theme.



The Humanities staff then had the unenviable task of selecting a small group of students from amongst that pile for submissions to the competition. This year we selected the following students and we wish them the best of luck as their entries move through the various levels of the competition. MHS has won the competition at the state level in Year 10 and the senior categories for 3 years in a row now and as much as we think it would be fair to give another school a go but we aren't going to make it easy for them! Our entries this year are the following students:

From year 10:

Jazmyn Wood
Jessica Mulhearn
Jessica Avard
Sharon Teh
Wilson McTaggart
Emma Nickel



From year 11:

Samyuktha Sethumadhaven
Samuel McIntyre
Aries Gallardo
Evangeline Laurence
Annaliese Turner
Dakota Tait

VISUAL ARTS REPORT

Seize any opportunity to travel to Maitland in the next 6 weeks and go to the Maitland Art Gallery to see Artexpress, the exhibition that showcases some of the state's exemplary artworks from last year's HSC. Mia Stamenkovski's artwork from last year's accelerated Year 12 class was selected for the exhibition and is currently showing up in the gallery. Her work, titled "The Long Goodbye", is a heartfelt response to the Alzheimer's Disease that has affected her family and loved ones. Congratulations Mia for your success and beautiful work.

Good luck also goes to this year's Year 12 visual artists who have just completed their Bodies of Work. After a focused and fruitful year, all students have produced some excellent work. Good luck!



Oscar Turmine-Minchinton



More congratulations go to Michael Baker and Oscar Turmine-Minchinton from Year 10 and Charlotte Patterson, Elizabeth (Lily) Patterson and Xanthe Scullion from Year 7 who have reached the semi finals of the Moran Student Photographic Prize. This prestigious photographic prize is for students nation wide and attracts some amazingly talented individuals from Year 7-12. We wish them luck for the finals and beyond.



Charlotte Patterson





Support Unit News

The annual IOTAS (Hunter) athletics carnival was run on Monday 5th September at Hunter Sports Centre Glendale on a perfect spring day. Alex Adams commenced the day with the challenging activity of judging the March Past won by Northlakes High School.

Captain and tunnel ball events quickly followed with some schools having two teams trying hard to win places. These two events bring everyone together in a competitive but fun way.

With fourteen schools there were many competitors in all track and field events.

The Year 9 volunteers who assisted on the day were invaluable help with staff complimenting them on their great efforts. Thank you!

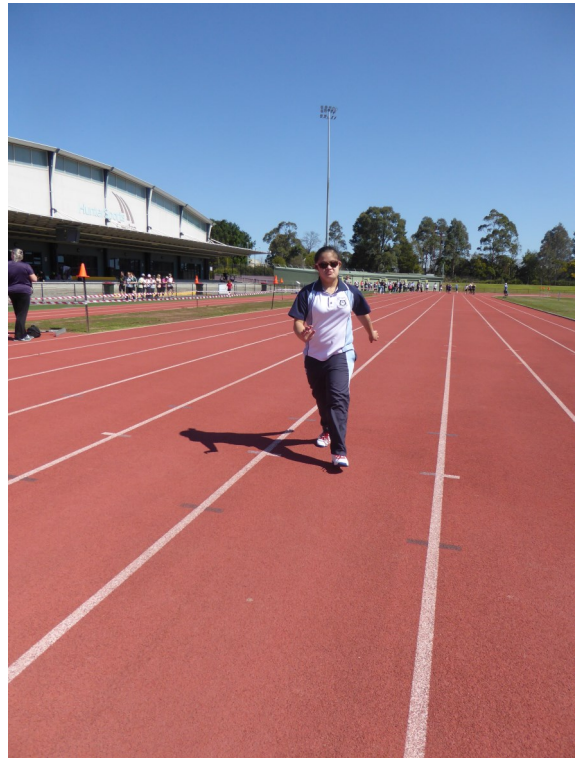


September

Merewether High School Bulletin



2016





SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT

YEAR 7 SOCCER GALA



Congratulations to all students who participated in the City Zone Soccer Gala day on Tuesday 30th August. Typical of MHS teams, the level of skill, sportsmanship, camaraderie and determination to succeed was evident throughout the day.

After mixed success in their round games, the girls team made it to the semi-finals where they were beaten by Lambton High by 2 goals. Lambton went on to win the girls division 5 goals to nil and our girls were placed 3rd overall. This was a very credible effort by the girls as many of their opposition teams had Year 8 girls to make up their numbers.



The MHS boys team were extremely successful. They went from strength to strength throughout the day and at the end of the round games Merewether and Newcastle were on exactly the same points with equal goals scored during the day. A lucky coin toss secured Merewether first place as they progressed into the semi-finals. They defeated Lambton High 1 – 0 in the semi-final and Newcastle High 1 – 0 in the final to be crowned Year 7 Football Gala City Zone Champions. The depth of talent demonstrated by our boys was extremely impressive and commented on by staff from other schools. Great work boys!





SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT

SPORTS PRESENTATION

The MHS 40th Sports Presentation will be held in the Bensley Hall on Wednesday 21st September 2016; commencing at 9.00am. All award recipients have received their invitation and parents and guests are invited to join with us as we celebrate another year of our student’s success in the sporting arena. If your son/daughter has received an invitation, please complete the ‘catering slip’ attached (if you haven’t already done so) and return it to Ms Brooks by Friday 16th September.

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We are pleased to accept your invitation to help celebrate the achievements of Merewether High School in Sport on Wednesday 21st September commencing at 9.00am

The number of guests that will be joining the ceremony is

Student’s name:

CITY ZONE HOCKEY GALA – WINS TO BOTH MHS GIRLS & BOYS TEAMS

Early September each year MHS sends two teams (a boys and a girls team) to compete in the city Zone Hockey Gala Day. While the girls team consisted of many experienced players the boys team were fresh players and the day began with how to hold the stick lessons and players came from a variety of sporting backgrounds including water polo, AFL, football and cricket. Both teams improved dramatically throughout the day and were undefeated at the conclusion of the competition. Excellent sportsmanship was again the flavour of the day with many of our students making up numbers for other schools teams, reflecting positively on the nature of the have a go day. Congratulation MHS on your spirit and enthusiasm and this is without a doubt one of my favourite days of the year. Special thanks to Lucy Witherdin for her leadership amongst the girls team as the coach.



SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT SPORT



SPORTS SELECTIONS – TERM 4

Year 7 – 10 Sport Selection forms are due NOW! Students selecting an off-site sport must return their sport choice form to the cashier when they pay the \$50 bus levy. Students selecting a 'school sport' must clearly write their name on the selection form, choose three sports (1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice) and ensure that they have a parent signature before they place the form in the sport selection box outside of the sports office. It is important that students return the selection sheet at their earliest convenience, as many sports are filling up fast; and some are already full!



Important Opal information from 1 August 2016

From 1 August, magnetic strip tickets (MSTs) will no longer be sold or accepted for travel within the Opal network. For easy access to public transport and lower fares, customers need to plan ahead and acquire the appropriate Opal card before 1 August 2016.

What other ticketing options will be available for customers from 1 August 2016?

Opal is the easiest and cheapest way to get around on public transport, but as a last resort, customers can buy an Adult or Child/Youth Opal single bus ticket on board bus services (excluding prepay services). These are single-use tickets only, valid for travel from the point of purchase.

Who is eligible to buy Child/Youth Opal Single Bus Ticket?

The eligibility criteria are the same as a Child/Youth Opal card:

- Children aged 4 – 15 years (inclusive)
- Full time NSW/ACT school students aged 16 years and older with a NSW Senior Secondary Student Concession card, issued by their school, as proof of entitlement.

NSW/ACT Senior Secondary Student Concession Card



School Student Photo ID's will no longer be accepted as from 1st August 2016.

Students 16 years and over must carry and show Senior Student Concession Card as shown.

See your School Administration for details.

Holders of this concession card are entitled to half-price fares and can apply for a Child/Youth Opal card.

Eligibility

You must be a school student aged 16 or over who is:

enrolled in a NSW or ACT secondary school or non-government secondary school, or registered with the Board of Studies as a full-time home-schooled or distance education (OTEN) secondary student.

International school students who meet the criteria also get the same entitlements.

What should I do if My School Opal Card is Lost or Stolen?

Report it [online](#) and order a replacement School Opal card and a fee may apply. By doing this, the old School Opal card will be cancelled and a new one will be mailed to the customer's preferred address within 5-7 days. While waiting for a replacement card, you should use a Child/Youth Opal card to travel if eligible.



COMFORTDELGRO CABCHARGE

ComfortDelGro Cabcharge Pty Ltd ABN 68116171432

Hunter Valley Buses

Phone 02 4935 7200 Fax 02 4966 8200

Address 6 Glenwood Drive Thornton NSW 2322

Post PO Box 3161, Thornton NSW 2322

Web www.cdcbus.com.au

Sydney Head Office

Phone 02 8889 7000 Fax 02 8889 7009

Address 29 Foundry Road, Seven Hills NSW 2147

Monday, 8 August 2016

Dear Principal,

RE: The use of Opal Cards on buses

I am writing to you as a school bus provider to and from your school with some concerns regarding the current use of Student Opal Cards.

One of the more significant changes created by the recent introduction of the Student Opal Card is the requirement for students to 'tap on' and 'tap off' when travelling to and from school on any school bus boarded in the course of their journey.

Opal data gathered by tap on and off is used to determine demand for bus services. If students don't tap on and off, lack of perceived patronage could lead to a review of the level of services provided to your school.

With this in mind, we seek your assistance in reminding your students that tapping on and off correctly is one of the conditions of using the Student Opal Card.

Some of possible methods of encouraging proper use of the Student Opal could include:

- Supervising teachers at boarding points could encourage students to have their Opal card ready prior to their bus arriving, eliminating delays in loading and allowing on time departure.
- Circulating relative information regarding the use of the Student Opal Card via School Newsletter may also highlight to parents, the importance of the proper use.
- A mention of this issue at School Assembly.

Any or all of the above will help provide a more efficient and streamlined service reflective of your school's needs.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and please contact us if you have any questions about any issues contained in this letter.

Regards,
Andrew Fogg

Regional Operations Manager

Hunter Valley Buses



Information for Students regarding School Travel

If provided with a School Opal card or school travel pass the student must comply with the [Student Codes of Conduct](#).

The School Opal card or school travel pass can only be used for approved travel on school days between the student's home and school or college between 6.30am and 7pm (6.30am and 9.30pm for TAFE students)

The Scheme does not cover travel to and from:

- before and after school care or child-minding premises
 - before and after school activities
 - school excursions
 - sports events
 - work experience
 - Vocational Education and Training (VET) at a location away from where the student is enrolled
- multi-campus high schools, weekend schools, pre-schools or mini-schools (except for full-time geographically isolated distance education students).

Ticketing and Concessions

Infrastructure and Services

Transport for NSW



Use public transport... plan your trip at transportnsw.info

Get on board with Opal at opal.com.au



NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2016

The final vaccination date for 2016 will occur on Tuesday 18th October.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS MISSED A VACCINE

If your child has missed any vaccinations they will be offered any missed doses at the next clinic at their school.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS NOT RECEIVED ALL HPV VACCINES BEFORE THE END OF 2016.

Any year 7 student with missed doses of HPV vaccine can be caught up in 2017.

Additionally – any year 8 student who commenced HPV vaccination while in year 7 and are yet to finish all 3 doses of HPV (and who has not received any from their local doctor) can still receive these at the next clinic at their school.

Don't forget a Record of Vaccination is given to each student for each vaccination. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Any questions, visit the NSW Ministry of Health website at:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx>



Mon 19/9	Year 12 (2017) Extension Course Info Session 4.30 pm
Tue 20/9	P&C Meeting 7:00pm - ILC
Wed 21/9	Sports presentation Assembly 9.00 am Year 12 Formal
Fri 23/9	Yr 12 Presentation Assembly 9.30am

OCTOBER	
10/10	Yr 12 (2017) Learning Conference
11/10	Yr 11 Roadwhy
11/10	Yr 7 (2018) Info Session – 4.00pm
12/10	Yr 7 (2017) Challenge Day-11.00am till 2.30pm
13/10	HSC Commences
18/10	P & C Meeting - ILC - 7.30pm
24/10	Yr 11 Reports issued
25/10	Yr 7 PLG
26/10	Yr 9 Urban Challenge
27/10	Yr 9 Urban Challenge
28/10	Yr 9 Urban Challenge
31/10	Yr 7-10 Blackout period commences
NOVEMBER	
1/11	Yr 8 PLG
7/11	HSC Learning Centre Yr 7 - 10 Exams Commence
8/11	HSC Learning Centre Yr 7 - 10 exams Yr 9 PLG
9/11	HSC Learning Centre 7 - 10 exams HSC concludes
10/11	Yr 7 - 10 Exams
11/11	Yr 7 - 10 Exams
14/11	Yr 7 - 10 Exams
15/11	P & C Meeting - ILC - 7.30pm Yr 7 - 10 Exams Yr 10 PLG
16/11	Yr 7 - 10 Exams
17/11	Yr 7 - 10 Exams overflow if needed
18/11	Prefects Investiture 11:00am
22/11	Yr 11 (12 2017) PLG
30/11	Yr 7 (2017) Orientation Day



	DECEMBER
12/12	Yr 10 Assembly - 9.00am Yr 9 Assembly - 11.00am
13/12	Yr 8 Assembly - 9.00am Yr 7 Assembly - 11.00am
15/12	Presentation Assembly - 10.30am
16/12	Yr 12 BBQ-11.00am



The Uniform Shop

0401 725 885

merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au

Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:

Monday 8.00am – 12.00pm

Thursday 1.00pm – 3.30pm

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

Ph: 0401 725 885

merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au .

Merewether High School Sports Tour 2016

We wish to thank the following businesses for their generous support of the Merewether High Sports Tour through the donation of prizes and vouchers which will assist us in achieving our fundraising goals. Please support our supporters.

Associate Tour Sponsors



Wanderers Rugby Club



Morpeth Family
Medical Centre

Tour Supporters

Good Guys Kotara
 Kerry Phillips Great Events
 Genesis Fitness Club
 Charlestown Golf Club
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 Prestige Meats
 Earthquicks - Nelson Bay
 The Beauty Room
 Lush Living
 Hunter SSA
 Hunter Valley Martial Arts
 Sense of Being Massage
 Ocean Beauty Therapy
 Frames Promotional Products
 Springloaded Trampoline Park
 Fit and Fresh
 The School of Yak
 The Spinning Top
 Hair Society
 Star Nails & Waxing
 Justs Cuts
 Bunnings Kotara
 Hungerford Hill Vineyard
 Adamstown Fresh Meats
 Univeristy Rugby Club
 Baggas Pharmacy
 Big Boys

Woolworths
 Junction Fair Newsagency
 IMAX Theatre
 Ruby Skies
 Sanbah Surf Shop
 Babyshop - Adamstown
 Lizzottes
 Junction Pharmacy
 Pulse Climbing
 Monkey
 Earthscent
 Drift Bikes
 5th Avenue Hairdressing
 Jadore Hair
 Macquarie Physiotherapy
 Verve
 JetBuzz
 Bluestar Elements
 Lake Macquarie Rugby
 Massage & Accupuncture
 Southern Summer Rugby
 Silo Restaurant
 The Essential Ingredient
 Amcal Chemist - Westfield
 Pharmacy 4 Less - Kotara
 ITalk Travel
 Q's Books