Welcome Back
Welcome to 2017. To our new and existing families I look forward to working with you throughout the year. Welcome to new staff, Miss Williams in Science and Mrs Reilly and Mrs Towers, Learning and Support.

HSC Results 2016
Seventeen students on the high achievers list, seven students with ATARs above 99 and Ryan Mitchison and Imogen Lewis joint dux of the 2016 cohort. Our overall results saw our 2016 cohort achieve 307 Band 6s and 503 Band 5s with value added data demonstrating positive movement for the majority of students. A full analysis of our 2016 HSC results will be available in the Annual Report which will be available on the school website on the 1st April 2017.

Swimming Carnival
What a great way to start the school year, demonstrating what makes Merewether High such a great school. The enthusiasm and participation was outstanding, with students taking the time out to demonstrate the pride they have in their school. A number of records were broken with many outstanding swims on the day. Congratulations to all students who attended the carnival.

School Contacts
Please contact the school when you have a concern and need a question answered. Year Advisers should be your first point of contact.

Year Advisers 2017
- Mrs Clark and Mr Warnock – Year 7
- Mrs Greenland and Mrs Scollay – Year 8
- Mrs Allen and Mrs Eden – Year 9
- Mr Berry and Mrs Ridgeway – Year 10
- Ms Taylor and Mr Hindmarsh – Year 11
- Mrs Cocking and Mrs Horan – Year 12

Head Teachers 2017
- English – Ms Corney
- Mathematics – Mr Singh
- Science – Mr Smith
- Humanities – Mr Gibb
February 2017

- CAPA – Ms Sutherland/Mrs Tenorio
- PDHPE – Mrs Morrison
- TAS – Mrs McCudden
- Technology/Languages – Mr Glover
- Admin – Mr Kelty
- Teaching and Learning - Mrs Ravula

If you would like to discuss course specific information, please contact the relevant Head Teacher in regard to your enquiry.

Deputy Principals 2017

- Mrs Harvey – Years 7, 9 and 11
- Mr Southward - Years 8, 10 and 12

The Deputies can also be contacted if you have a question in relation to your child.

If you would like to email your child’s Year Adviser, the relevant Head Teacher or Deputy Principal, please do so via the school email address:

merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Presentation Day 2016

Our Presentation Assembly held in the last week of school saw us celebrate the many achievements of our students. Some of those achievements are outlined in the excerpt from my speech below.

Today we received our HSC results. Ethan Brown received a mark of 50 in Extension 1 Mathematics I unit and Aymon Wuolanne 100 in Mathematics Extension 1 2 Unit. The results this year are outstanding with 307 Band 6s and 503 Band 5s. Seventeen students are on the high achievers list, receiving Band 6 results in at least ten units of study. Adelaide Bragias’ HSC major work in visual arts has been selected for Art Express, Zac Nichol and Brooke Farr have been nominated for their music performances to Encore and Thomas Whitehead whose Design and Technology major work has been selected for inclusion in the Shape exhibition.

We have continued to achieve success in what I consider to be our four main school focus areas – academic excellence, student leadership, sporting and cultural excellence. I am going to endeavour to give a brief synopsis of the highlights of the year. As there were so many, I’m sure to leave some out and I apologise for that in advance!

We experienced individual performances on a state, national and international level. Our Year 7 and 8 debating team are the state winners, Sharvil Kesarwani won a gold medal as part of the Australian Mathematical Olympiad competition and was invited to represent Merewether High School at the 2016 AMOC Selection School.

Abby Butler and Samyuktha Sethumadhavan represented us as members of the NSW Youth Parliament with Abby elected as Premier of the NSW Youth Parliament and Sammy leader of the Legislative Council. Rizia Yadav was named the State Winner of the Lions Youth of the Year competition, won the Australian Parliament competition my First Speech and was awarded one of only five Marie Bashir Peace Awards from the National Council of Women of NSW. Rizia and Fia Sankoorikal won the NSW Evatt Debating competition. Lucy Witherdin, Fia Sankoorikal and Rizia competed in the finals of the national round of the Mock United Nations Assembly (MUNA). The girls came second in Australia in this competition. Jacob Gamble, won a Premier’s Anzac Memorial Scholarship travelling to France and Belgium and our Year 10 debating team, placed second overall in the state.
In the sporting arena our under 15 years Boys’ Water Polo team are the current state champions. Six of our sporting teams were regional champions this year. Milly Stephenson won double gold in the 100 and 200 metres at both the NSWCHS and NSW All Schools carnivals. Milly went on to win gold in the 4 x 100 metres relay and bronze in the 100 metre sprint at the Australian Schools Championships. Sarah Pickering was also named in the NSW All Schools Athletics team.

Matthew Humby, Mitchell Robinson were named in the NSW All-Schools Water Polo team to contest the Australian Championships. Mitchell and Matthew also represented Australia with the Born 2000 and Born 2001 Water Polo teams. Kaiya King was named the NSW under 15 Champion in trampolining. Aidan Watling was selected in the under 15 NSW All Schools AFL team. Angela Williams won a NSWCHS Blue for netball as a result of her performances in the NSWCHS and NSW All schools teams. Angel Barber represented in the NSW All Schools Touch Football team. Nic Sonntag and Lachlan White won individual gold medals in swimming and sailing at the relevant NSWCHS Championships.

Nicholas Sonntag Swimming, Mitch Robinson and Matthew Humby Water Polo, Kaiya King Trampoline Sports, Angela Williams Netball, Tobias Atallah and Davis Harara Rugby Union, Aidan Watling Australian Football, Milly Stephenson Athletics, Angel Barber Touch Football and Lachlan White Sailing; received sporting awards at the Hunter Blues Sport Presentations held last week.

Again this year we saw the many opportunities our students have to enhance the all-round education we strive to make available for our students. The camps, excursions, guest speakers, performances and challenges for all students in the form of state wide competitions.

Our Performing and Creative Arts continues to grow and offer many opportunities for our students. Our instrumentalists and vocalists performed at the Sydney Town Hall and the Opera House, continued to win at Eisteddfods and Bandfest and represented our school at Star Struck and Schools’ Spectacular, with Campbell Moore, Adrienne Hanslow and Isabel Formby being our representatives at Schools’ Spectacular.

New School Values

After eighteen months of consultation our new school values were launched by our school captains, Sam McIntyre and Priya Vakil, and Jacob Gamble and Georgina Brindley at our Week 2 school assembly. The captains presented a poem written by Sam wrote, to the student body, to introduce the three values of integrity, diversity and excellence.
Integrity is doing what is right, even when it’s hard
   Even when no one is watching
   And you let down your guard.

Even when Sally tells her secret to sue and sue lets you know but makes you keep it to you.
And ghhue comes and banterst ‘till his face turns bright blue and you know you could just let the secret slip through
   - Hue wouldn’t think it was true, there’s no way that Sally knew, and sue would never have a clue -
   But,
   Wouldn’t it tragically misconstrue?
   The trust that sue put in you?
   And make Sally’s life right hard,
   Something you could never undo.

So you keep the secret to you

-Because that’s what an integrous person would do-

Diversity’s the art of thinking independently together
   Like birds of a feather,
   And it doesn’t just mean being the same but whether,
   Or not
   We can keep from simply becoming
   An academic melting pot.

Throwing everyone in together
   And whacking the heat up to 232
   So instead of a lasagne we get something that looks a lot more like a stew

But instead letting our special uniqueness shine through
   Because there’s a lot of you
   And supporting everyone’s uniqueness,
   Not just taking our pick
Making sure instead of a melting pot we become a mosaic

   Now Excellence comes at the end of the set,
   Yet, that doesn’t mean it’s one we can forget.
   Unlike the others it’s not a condition, but a mission,
   An ambition to improve your present position.
   It’s closer to a habit than simply a skill
   And does not work off raw talent, but the power of “will”-

   Will I quit trying now because I’ve failed before, or
   Will I dust myself off and try once more?
Welcome back to assembly one,
Your holidays up and the years just begun.
And as with every school year we realize
It’s time to purchase new gear, going up one size

When our clothes don’t grow but we can’t seem to stop
It’s time we hit up the uniform shop
When our pencil case zip doesn’t quite reach
We pull into office works with a screech

A new school year means some stuff that once fit
Has been grown out of, grown tighter - shrunk on our skin just a bit
So if this is true with:
Folders and binders, book holders and calendar reminders,
Braces, iPhone updates,
Erasers and assessment task dates,
When holidays end and you clean up your bedroom floor,
Last year’s hair cut that just didn’t make the cut any more,
The school bag which you could no longer use
When you go out to buy a better fitting pair of shoes;

It’s time we ask if the same goes for our three school values

That’s right, pride, respect and responsibility

Now year seven, you’ve not yet been acquainted with these three musketeers,
The trusty school heroes that stuck it out through the years.
But for the rest of the cohort we’ve formed quite a bond
And with a moment of silence we see our comrades pass on.

Unfortunately though, like a pet boa constrictor
While we’ve been hugging our values, they’ve be growing thicker and thicker
And like a snake shedding its skin
It is time for us to begin
To grow into school values that don’t just fit the Merewether that’s been
But the iconic trio that fits Merewether 2017

Integrity, Diversity and Excellence
Our new values crew
- Integrity, what we say-
- Diversity, who we are -
- And excellence, what we do-
You can’t finish an apple with a single strong bite
Even if you stretch your jaw open and crunch with all your might
But you have to repeat the action, something we call chewing...
Like excellence works, not because of a single push,
But because of what we’re repeatedly doing

An attitude of ‘I’m not my best me now’. But I’m gonna keep chasing that person down

So as you’re finding new clothes that suit the year older you
Fit out your wardrobe with integrity, diversity and excellence too.
Don’t forget the last 3 values that still define Merewether
But it’s time the student body put on some new clothes that fit a lot better.

Athletics Carnival

The Athletics Carnival will be held this year on Monday 27 February at the Glendale Athletics Complex. The venue is used extensively by schools over the next two and a half terms and we are allocated a date by the venue. I would like all students to ensure they attend this carnival and share in a day that allows us to work as a whole school and build the sense of spirit necessary for a school to be successful.

Attendance

A reminder that family holidays are not an accepted category for exemption from school attendance. Family holidays should be planned during the school vacation periods where possible. These holidays are recorded as leave against the students name and will show on their semester reports as explained days absent. The majority of our students have outstanding attendance which supports them in achieving their potential. If at anytime you are concerned as to your child’s attendance please contact their Year Adviser, the Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Mrs Ravula or the relevant Deputy Principal.

Fees

We are currently finalising invoices for all students for their 2017 fees. These will be posted home, in the near future. Thank you to those parents who have already paid their fees for 2017.

Congratulations

Zachary Nichol and Harrison Callen who were recently nominated for Encore for their 2016 HSC Viva Voces in Music.

Peter Bradshaw who completed his HSC with us in 2012 and has been awarded the University of New South Wales medal for Pure Mathematics as a result of his studies which culminated with the award of his degree in 2016.

Sammy Seth who was named Maitland’s Young Citizen of the Year and ex-student Phil Johnson Newcastle’s Young Citizen of the Year. Phil completed his HSC in 2013.

Joey Lyons who has been selected in the NSWCHS under 17s Water Polo team to tour America and Canada in July this year.

Justine Bull and Caitlin Young who represented us at the National Youth Science Forums in the January holidays.
What a wonderful start to our New School Year

Welcome to our Year 7 students and families who have all settled into Merewether with plenty on their calendars. I have had the pleasure of visiting some classrooms and our newest members of the school community are certainly settling in well. Students have already been involved in the school swimming carnival, music ensembles, various sport trials, the lunch time futsal competition, school assemblies and an array of new classroom learning experiences.

Travel training was a great success with students managing to make their way home safely to all parts of the Hunter via trains, buses and bikes whilst only needing the assistance of their senior school mates for 3 days.

Parent Portal New in 2017

Parents and Students will soon have access to the MHS Parent Portal. This online system, will operate in conjunction with the school Sentral management system. Students and parents will have access to daily notices and school communication, student attendance, wellbeing overview and published student academic reports. The system will align with a unique login and password per family providing access to data specific to your own child. Families will receive a welcome message and invite to register for the portal by the end of week 5. All families are asked to ensure that they have a current email registered with the school.
School Diaries:

All students have been issued with their school diary to assist them in managing their workload and commitments across the year. The diary has a range of information and learning tools which students can use as a ready reference to assist in their learning. In addition, the Term planners identifying key dates are a great way for students to stay informed of what’s going on at MHS. The school P and C association contributes some funds to assist in the school’s purchase of these diaries for all students.

Parent and Community communication:

Our school has many methods of communicating with parents and community. We currently have a school bulletin that is published monthly, and a link to this online newsletter is emailed home to parents. We use our school email system regularly to notify of events as appropriate and parents are encouraged to ensure that they keep their email contact updated at the school to ensure you are able to receive this form of communication. We also have a school website which has access to information about school programs and events for particular year groups, in addition to our skoolbag app. The App is used to remind students and parents through an alert as activities and events draw close on the school calendar. MHS does not accept absence notifications through the school App as this is not a secure communication system.

MHS Skoolbag

The App can be downloaded onto fixed and mobile devices. Once you have downloaded the App you can access the section “more …” in the bottom right hand corner and select the particular year groups you wish to receive notifications for. Parents are asked to update their notifications to be consistent with their child’s new school year for 2017. The MHS Bulletin will also be posted via the Skoolbag App in 2017.

Parent Learning Groups:

These sessions run every Tuesday from 9am to 10:30 in the school learning centre. The opportunity also exists for parents to arrive from 8:40 am and grab a cup of tea or coffee and have a chat with other parents of their children’s year group. The PLG aim to provide a balance of curriculum, wellbeing and extra curricula programs to keep parents abreast of the relevant year group initiatives across the school. They are a valuable part of our community connection and we look forward to seeing you there.
The PLG schedule for this Term is as follows:

Week 3 – Year 7  
Week 4 – Year 8  
Week 5 – Year 9  
Week 6 – Year 10  
Week 7 – Year 11  
Week 8 – Year 12  
Week 9 – Year 7

**Changes to the HSC**

Last week we invited parents of Year 7, 8 and 9 students to attend a parent information session about changes to the HSC. In short, the changes encompass a number of reform identified below which are designed to:

- increase minimum standards of reading, writing and numeracy  
- cater for a wider range of students  
- challenge all students to achieve their best.

A full copy of the presentation to parents is available on the school website and further details will be available through the Parent Learning Groups this term.

Deputy Principals  
Nadene Harvey & Tony Southward
Prefects Report

After the successes of last term, including the formal duties of running the end of year presentation assemblies, attending a leadership conference where we were inspired by the likes of Poppy Starr, Alex Malley and Scotty Tweedie, and the not-so-formal duties of dressing up in a toga to serve Merewether’s outgoing students with a sausage sizzle, the Prefect body is keen for another year of leadership craziness.

The year started with a bang with the swimming carnival. While there were no specific duties for the prefects, we filled our non-official roles of team supporters, each donning extravagant amounts of coloured zinc and battling to be the loudest chanters as swimmers raced it out in the pool.

The rest of Term 1 is shaping up to be exciting, with the main item on the Prefects’ agenda being ‘Be Brave and Shave’ on Thursday the 16th of March (Week 7). Following the legacy of the previous years, the prefect body and some other particularly courageous Year 12 students are readying to part with their luscious locks for a good cause; the Leukaemia Foundation. The mass hair removal will take place at assembly, so that the whole school community can soak up the looks of fear and the gleam of bald heads. Remember to bring a gold coin donation to support this worthy cause!

Another initiative of the prefect body is open prefect meetings, which will occur once every term, with the first being this Wednesday (the 15th of February). These meetings aim to allow any student in Year 12 who would like a say in the goings on in the school or prefect body to come and share ideas and get more involved in the events at MHS.

Further away is Moofest, Merewether High’s annual film festival for the budding Alfred Hitchcocks of the school community. This night of movies is pencilled in for Friday the 12th of May (Week 3, Term 2). The films must be three to five minutes in length and feature bells in some form. With some exciting prizes up for grabs, and new junior and senior divisions, it is set to be a night to remember.

With more events and fundraising just around the corner, the prefect body is enthusiastic for a super 2017!
CAPA Report

MUSIC ENSEMBLES

The ensembles program at MHS provides great opportunities for students to perform at a high standard and work with students across the whole school for a common aim. We will be participating in The Arts Unit Secondary Choral event in the Sydney Town Hall, the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod, Star Struck, our own POSH concert and ensemble performance nights, and school presentation assemblies. We will also audition to perform in the Sydney Opera House and have had success over the past few years.

Ensemble rehearsals start in week 2. Students should just turn up for the first rehearsal and mark their name off on the roll, or sign up if they haven’t already done so.

The following ensembles are offered in 2017:

- **Concert Band** – Monday 7.30am to 8.45am in the Learning Centre
- **Jazz Ensemble** – Monday lunchtime in KM1
- **Flute Quartet** – Wednesday lunchtime in KM1
- **Vocal Ensemble** – Thursday lunchtime in KM1
- **Clarinet Quartet** – Friday lunchtime in KM2
- **String Ensemble** – Friday lunchtime in KM1
- **Friday Jam Ensemble** – Friday lunchtime in the Learning Centre (Hall in Term 1)

FEES FOR ENSEMBLES

Concert Band $60 per semester
This covers tutoring costs and the purchase of music and equipment. The Director of the Concert Band in 2017 is Louise Gleeson.

All other Ensembles $30 per semester
This covers the purchase of music and equipment

If students are in more than TWO ensembles, a **maximum fee of $90 per semester** is to be paid

INSTRUMENT HIRE: The school has a number of instruments available. See Music Staff (or phone 4969 3855) for details. **The Hiring Fee is $100 per annum.**

Thank you for your assistance in paying fees. Invoices will be sent for those who have not already paid their Ensemble fees.

MUSIC LOCKERS are still available for hire through the front office. See Mrs Tenorio for availability of tall and regular lockers BEFORE paying the hire fee.

MEET THE MUSIC CONCERTS

Elective Music students have the opportunity to attend Meet the Music concerts in the Sydney Opera House. There are four concerts and all concerts are supported by classroom support materials so the students gain the best advantage of attending the concerts. The 2017 dates are 22 February, 15 March, 8 June, 27 August and 2 November. The concerts cost $54 each. Please see music staff for more information and permission notes.

REGIONAL ENSEMBLES

Merewether HS is the home of the two prestigious Department of Education ensembles Hunter Singers and Hunter Wind Ensemble. Rehearsals are held in the Learning Centre.
HUNTER SINGERS
The Regional Choir Hunter Singers is a prestigious ensemble which was founded by Kim Sutherland in 1989. The group rehearses on Tuesday afternoons, 4.30-6.30pm in the Merewether HS Learning Centre. Information is available on the Hunter Singers website: www.huntersingers.com. In July 2018, Hunter Singers will be touring to Canada to participate in the Kathaumixw Festival in Powell River.

HUNTER WIND ENSEMBLE
The Regional Wind Ensemble is open by audition to students who play a wind or brass instrument. Information is available by sending an email to hunterwindensemble@gmail.com. The Hunter Wind Ensemble is touring to Spain and Portugal in January 2018, so now is a great time to get on board!

STAR STRUCK
Merewether HS will have Dance, Drama and Vocal ensembles involved in Star Struck this year. Students should listen carefully to Period 1 announcements for information regarding auditions and rehearsals. Mrs Scollay will be supervising the Dance group, Ms McGrath will supervise the Drama group and Mrs Tenorio will supervise the Vocal Ensemble. In addition, application forms for Star Struck instrumental soloists and orchestral players are available outside the CAPA staffroom.

YEAR 8 VISUAL ARTS EXCURSION TO LUNA PARK
On Monday, 20th February, 180 Year 8 students will make their way down to Luna Park on an inspirational and fact finding excursion based on our unit of work called ‘Just For Fun’. In class we are researching the historic and artistic importance of this iconic part of Australia and whilst in Sydney, students will be collecting ideas for their major artworks by taking photos and drawing from life. This has always proven to be a popular excursion and a great opportunity to create artwork directly inspired by a personal experience. Excursion permission notes and payment is due by Monday 13th February to the front office.

HSC VISUAL ARTS 2016
Visual Arts HSC results last year were outstanding, with five students receiving a band 6 and two students receiving a band 5. Adelaide Bragias had her work selected for Art Express which is the exhibition for outstanding works, only 228 works are selected from over 9000 submitted Bodies of Work. Her work, “White Australia”, will be on display at The Armory, Sydney Olympic Park from 27th February to the 23rd April.

WELCOME MS MCGRATH
The CAPA faculty is delighted to welcome Ms Nicola McGrath, who joins us from Lambton HS to teach Drama and Visual Arts. Ms McGrath has coordinated excursions in Week 2 for Year 12 Drama excursions, with visits to Sydney for Seminars on set works and the performance of OnStage.

Kim Sutherland OAM
Head Teacher, Creative & Performing Arts
**Staff News**
After a well-deserved break the Social Sciences staff returned to work in late January to start a new school year. I would like to welcome Mrs Davidge who will be with us part time in 2017 and welcome back Mrs Sophie Green.

**Student News**
We welcome Year 7 students who have been issued with their assessment schedule for Geography and we look forward to developing their skills as budding geographers over the course of the year.

Students in Years 8 to 10 Commerce and Geography classes have been notified of their assessment schedules which have been posted on the school’s Moodle site for access at home or at school. The schedules include: course outcomes, report outcomes and assessment items.

All Year 11 and 12 students studying Social Sciences subjects have been issued with appropriate documentation in line with Board of Studies guidelines.

**Further Matters**
- The National Geographic Channel (Australian Geography Competition 2016) will be held during Week 4 of Term 2. The competition is compulsory for Years 9 and 10. Students in Years 7 and 8 who would like to take up the challenge of doing the Competition will be able to do so.
- Year 7 will attend the mandatory fieldwork at Awabakal Reserve on the 23rd (7M, 7N, 7E) and 30th March (7G, 7B, 7C).
- Year 10 will be attending a mandatory fieldtrip into Newcastle on the 2nd of March to study Coastal Management.
- The Mock Trial Competition is underway for 2016 under the guidance of Mrs. Tonks.
- The Mock United Nations Assembly (MUNA) Competition will take place in Muswellbrook on the 26th and 27th of May. Mrs Burnett will be organising this extra curricula activity.
- The Share market Game will get underway in early March 2016. Students in Year 9 Commerce will test their financial skills in this competition.

**Presentation Day 2016 Social Science Sponsors**
The Social Science faculty would like to acknowledge our sponsors for their continued support in 2016. A number of sponsors were able to attend the end of year Presentation Day to present students with their awards. I would like to especially thank Professor Mark Bray for his attendance on the day.

**Business Studies Update**
The new group of Preliminary HSC students have started the course with a great deal of enthusiasm. Throughout the Preliminary and HSC courses, business studies students regularly receive small research tasks and are challenged to make recommendations to solve business issues based on their new knowledge. This arrangement of delivering work and gaining confidence in actively using the knowledge of business concepts is designed to give students an authentic experience of the type of post tertiary graduate position work they will be required to undertake in large corporate settings.

HSC Business Studies student’s, have begun the Finance topic and are currently considering a range of equity and debt finance options to suit the requirements of hypothetical and real word businesses.

**Legal Studies Update** Our new group of Preliminary Legal Studies students have begun immersing themselves in a wide array of concepts to familiarise themselves with the basics of The Australian Legal System. From the rule of law to equality and fairness, the students are engaged in examining contemporary legal issues and have begun to consider what constitutes justice. Lively debate and discussion is central to the delivery of the course and later this semester students will also have an opportunity to visit the Supreme Court in Sydney to observe the operation of our court system.
All students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the MUNA competition. This is a youth initiative that provides students with an opportunity to represent a country in a Mock United Nations, debating issues and creating international law. Additionally students have the opportunity to participate in the Law Society’s Mock Trial Competition.

**Geography Update**

Students studying the preliminary Geography course are immersed in examining the interactions of the biophysical environment and developing background knowledge in relation to the Blue Mountains which will be used for the case study and upcoming fieldwork in week 6.

HSC Geography students travelled to Melbourne this week for 3 days as part of their study of Urban Places. The trip provides students with an opportunity to explore issues such as homelessness, ocean pollution and sustainability in a large city as well as explore urban dynamics such as urban renewal and suburbanisation.

**Economics Update**

Our HSC Economics students are currently focusing on the effect of changes in the global economy on Australia through an examination of the balance of payments and our budding Preliminary economists are being introduced to key economic concepts like the production possibility curve and the circular flow of income.

Later in the year all of our Economics and Business Studies students will participate in the UNSW Economics and Business Studies Competition.

**English**

A very warm welcome to all our new families, and welcome back to all our continuing students and parents. This year the English staff are looking forward to working with students in classes and in a range of co-curricular activities.

All students in years 7 – 9 will continue to engage in wide reading at the beginning of each English lesson. Reading widely for pleasure exposes students to new worlds, develops imagination and helps to improve their writing. Students should ensure that they have a novel to read at the beginning of each English lesson. They may choose to borrow a library book, bring a novel from home or have a novel downloaded onto their digital device. When reading ebooks on digital devices, it is important to ensure that the device meets the recommended screen size outlined in the schools BYOD policy. iPhones and iPods do not meet the recommended screen size and are not suitable for reading novels in class. Any student who is a member of the Newcastle or Lake Macquarie City library may be interested in electronically borrowing eBooks on their devices. This service is offered to all library members, is free and allows the borrowing of ebooks from home or school. Information on how to loan and access ebooks is available on the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie library websites.

While we encourage students to have an electronic device to use when required in class, **all students require an English workbook**. This workbook is used for note taking and to complete class work each lesson.

Years 7 – 12 Assessment schedules have been distributed to students and uploaded to the school Moodle. These schedules outline the task requirements, weightings and timing of each assessment task for the year.
Merewether High has had numerous successes in debating and public speaking. Last year our Years 7/8 and Year 10 debating teams participated in the state finals and we are looking forward to continuing this level of success in 2017. All Public Speaking, debating and writing competitions will be promoted to students through email and the daily notices. Students interested in being involved in any of these activities should ensure that they check their email regularly. The following teachers will be coordinating co-curricular activities throughout 2017:

- Years 7/8 debating Ms Francis
- Years 9/10 debating Ms Leanne Corney
- Years 11/12 debating Ms Burdekin
- Public Speaking Mr Warnock
- Writing Competitions Ms Martinez and Ms McNaughton

As a faculty we look forward to working with students throughout 2017.

Esme Corney (HT English)

Library Information Night for Parents

Mr Byrnes (our teacher-librarian) will be holding a library information evening for our parents. This evening is designed to assist you in better supporting your child in completing assessments and assignment work, as well as showing you the wealth of resources that are available to our students both in and outside of the library. If you are keen to assist your child with their research, reading, referencing, class work, homework etc. this information session is for you.

Venue: Merewether High School library.

Time: Year 7 & 8 parents - Tuesday 21st February, 6:30 -7:30pm. (This will be at the conclusion of the Year 7 BBQ and the beginning of the school dance).

- Year 9 & 10 parents - Wednesday 22nd February, 5:30 – 6:30pm.
- Year 11 & 12 parents - Thursday 23rd February, 5:30 – 6:30pm.

A light refreshment of tea, coffee and juice will be served.

It is important for numbers that you rsvp which session you will be attending by Monday February 20th, you can do this by phoning the school on ph.49693855, or emailing Merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au indicating your name and the session you will be attending.

Merewether High School PDHPE Faculty

Dear parent or caregiver

This year, students will be involved in the mandatory subject Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE). This subject prepares and supports students to lead, and contribute to, healthy, safe and meaningful lives which promote respect, responsibility, enjoyment, inclusion and social justice for self and others.

Our school’s PDHPE program covers a wide range of education matter, including relationships, drug use, sexuality and sexual health, body image, mental health and wellbeing, protective strategies, movement skills and performance, safety and physical activity. Some of the content of the program deals with sensitive issues. The school recognises this by teaching about these issues within the context of a developmentally appropriate program and by providing information to you about the program.

The school program will be implemented in a manner that supports the role of parents and caregivers, and reflects the ethos of the school community.

For more information about PDHPE, go to the NESA website (previously BOSTES).

Some of the specific content which will be covered in PDHPE includes:
Stage 4

Supporting yourself and others
Valuing diversity and difference
Developing equal and respectful relationships
Recognising and responding to abusive situations
Communication, connections and seeking help
Personal safety
Influences on health decision-making and risk behaviours

Stage 5

Supporting yourself and others
Valuing diversity and difference
Developing equal and respectful relationships
Recognising and responding to abusive situations
Discrimination, harassment and vilification
Communication, connections and seeking help
Healthy food habits and eating disorders
Drug use including illicit drug and the consequences of drug use on the individual and others
Sexual health including the evaluation of safe sexual health practices, contraception and sexual behaviours
Sexual choices and their consequences
Planning and managing sexual health including reproductive and sexual health checks
Road safety, including responsible driver and passenger behavior and consequences of unsafe road use
Influences on health decision-making and risk behaviours

The PDHPE course will be delivered across 4-5 periods per fortnight throughout the year.

If you would like more information, please contact me at the school on 49693855.

Robyn Morrison
Head Teacher PDHPE

Student Representative Council News Term 1

We’re off to a flying start into 2017…. Valentine’s Day, Harmony Day, Year 7 Welcome BBQ and a school dance.

The SRC is a body of enthusiastic student representatives from Years 7 – 12 who support the school through school service, fundraisers, charity events, dances, BBQ’s…. many things that contribute to supporting other students and the positive atmosphere at Merewether High.

Students are elected by their peers when voting takes place at the end of Term 2. At this time Year 7 students will be able to nominate to join our SRC. We are very proud of our SRC members and the contributions they make to our school.
Upcoming events:

**Tuesday 21st February – Welcome to MHS Year 7 BBQ and Whole School Dance**

The SRC will hold a BBQ for Year 7 students and their families from 5.30pm – 6.30pm on the AB Lawn in front of the Administration Block.

Following the BBQ, there will be a whole school dance from 6.30pm – 9.30pm in the Bensley Hall. Dances are enjoyed by students as a chance to socialize with their peers, many of which come from a wide intake across the Hunter Region. Tickets will be on sale on Monday and Tuesday the week of the dance for $6. No tickets are sold at the door and students must have a signed permission note in order to purchase a ticket. This dance theme is: 

“Aged Care and Active Wear” so come along in fancy dress for a fun evening.

**Tuesday 21st March – Harmony Day – Everybody Belongs**

Harmony Day is an annual event to celebrate the cultural diversity of our community and school. At MHS we take pride in our school values including Diversity and extend this day to celebrate the diversity of race, gender, sexuality, religion, culture, disability, interests of the students and staff of our school. Students and staff will be encouraged to wear something orange on the day with their school uniforms, take part in a selfie competition celebrating diversity at MHS and a free whole school BBQ will be held at lunch time.

We look forward to seeing you at the above events and thank the Students and Staff of MHS for your ongoing support of SRC activities.

**‘The Student Guide’ Mentor Program**

During 2016 ‘The Student Guide’ Mentor Program was initiated at MHS. With our school song firmly in our mind “Merewether guides the way……” students from Years 10,11,12 are matched with students requesting a mentor from any year group to offer guidance and support in helping each other reach their goals. We are looking forward to getting this project up and running again over the next few weeks.

The mentors have taken part in a training program and are ready to provide assistance to students in three areas:

- Academic support in particular subject areas
- Study and Organisational Skills
- General support- someone to have a chat to

Students who are mentors are volunteers who are keen to support other students in the school. They may meet once a week, a fortnight or on an as need basis, perhaps as support completing assessments or prior to the exam period.

Students wishing to have a mentor can come from any year group at the school, they can request one themselves or a teacher may suggest their involvement. In 2016 we had 89 students take advantage of this great opportunity and thank our volunteer mentors for their support, guidance and friendship that was shared with their peers. We would also like to thank Mrs Brooks, Mrs Chalmers, Mrs Eden, our Counsellors and Support Staff for their involvement and support of the program.
If you are interested in ‘The Student Guide’, you may request a mentor through the Survey Monkey link you will receive in coming weeks to your student email account. Mentors will have the chance to nominate again at the end of term 2.

For further information you can contact Mrs Allen in the Language Department.

School Photographs

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday March 7th. Photo envelopes will be sent home this week outlining packages available. Photo packages can be purchased online before the day or paid for by using the envelope with CORRECT payment and bringing it to school on photo day.

It is really important that students have their photograph taken even if they are not purchasing a package. Photographers will return on Tuesday 14th March for a catch up day for any student who misses having their photo taken on the 7th.

If a student wants to have a family photo taken please see Mrs McCudden in the G Block staffroom.

Vicki McCudden

P&C News

Canteen Refurbishment: The work on the new Canteen kitchen has started, and we are scheduled to be back in the renovated Canteen at the start of Term 2. This project wouldn’t have been possible without the help of parent volunteers and we thank them for their service to the school: architects Tim Blackall and Mark Lewis, electrical engineer Graham Francis and building certifier Alan Sacarro.

Temporary Canteen: The Canteen Committee thanks our volunteers whose donated labour continues to make a food service possible, the Canteen Supervisors Sharon and Lisa for running a Canteen in less than optimal conditions, and to MHS Students and Teachers for continuing to support the Canteen in its temporary location. We are sure the renovated Canteen will be worth the effort!

Birthday Offers: Please note that free birthday offers for students have been suspended for this year due to the constraints of the temporary canteen.

Next P&C Meeting: The MHS P&C meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (excluding school holidays) at 7:30pm in the Independent Learning Centre. Tuesday 21st February will be the next general meeting. This is the evening of the Welcome to Year 7 BBQ and School Dance – we guarantee the meeting will be finished in time to collect students! All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Federation of P&C Associations: There are currently two positions vacant for P&C members to represent the Hunter region at the Federation of P&C Associations. Nominations are open from February 15th and close early April. Please come along to the next P&C meeting for more information.
Representing Newcastle as members of the Hunter Hurricanes at the recent NSW u16’s Boys State Championships in Canberra Joey Lyons, Mitch Robinson, Matthew Humby all of year 10 claimed the bronze medal after a very narrow defeat to Sydney University Lions in the semi-final. Matthew Humby was outstanding throughout the tournament and finished the tournament as the leading goal scorer and was announced the MVP of the tournament along with being named in the Tournament 6. Both Matt and Mitch Robinson have been notified of their places in the Australian Born 2000 Squad again for 2017 so we wish them the best of luck as their selection process progresses throughout the year. Ben McPherson of Year 9 was also a member of the Hurricanes squad and his team finished 4th in the B division. Well done Ben! Next for these boys will be the CHS knockout competitions where MHS is sure to be a strong force in the pool so watch this space.

Mrs Abbo
Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2017 the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students:

dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

Parent Information Kits* will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

read all the information provided
complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
return the completed consent form to their child’s school
ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

*The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation).

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. 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.
NEWCASTLE CITY

JUNIOR AFL CLUB

Newcastle No.1 Sportsground, Newcastle West

2017 Online Registrations Now Open

Visit www.newcastlecityjuniorafc.com

NAB Auskick $100
5 Years to 8 Years
Includes 2017 Auskick Pack

U9s and U10s $100

U11s, U12s, U13s, U15s & U17s $150

Junior Girls (U12s) $100
Youth Girls (U16s) $150

A $10 discount will be given for every extra family member
The first 10 girls registered will receive a $20 refund

***** NO WEEKLY FEES *****

For further information please visit www.newcastlecityjuniorafc.com
or contact Simon on 0408474847
THE AUSTRALIAN HWA RANG DO ACADEMY

Learn the dynamic and powerful disciplines of Hwarangdo, to enhance your physical fitness, build your mental strength while learning practical self-defence methods in a safe, fun & welcoming environment.

Classes on Tuesday & Thursday evenings
6pm to 7.30pm
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Cooks Hill

Discounts for Students & Families!!

Phone: 0481 174 185
nic.hwarang.tkd@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/nic.hwarang.tkd

Courtesy | Integrity | Perseverance | Self-Control | Indomitable Spirit
ONLINE REGO IS OPEN NOW
We are looking for players of all ages and ability to join a fabulous, fun filled netball club. We play at Charlestown Netball Courts every Saturday from April – August.

At united we pride ourselves on fun, fitness and friendship. We are also lucky enough to have some of the best coaches and the most dedicated committee members.

Check out our Facebook and Web page:
www.facebook.com/unitednetballclub/
www.unitednetball.com.au

Wanderers Junior Rugby Union, Registration days for U/6’s to U/17’s Boys and Girls.
Friday 10th February from 5pm to 7pm
Saturday 11th of February from 3pm to 5pm
The Blue Room, upstairs at No2 Sports Ground, Smith street, Newcastle
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 Feng
Regional Operations Manager
Hunter Valley Buses
Attention School Students and Parents

As from Monday 21st November 2016

*Some School Routes and Times will change*

**All School Bus Numbers will change to a unique number commencing with the letter “S” followed by 3 numbers**.

AM – School Buses will be S700 – S799 or S900 – S999
PM – School Buses will be S600 – S699 or S800 – S899

It is advisable to check your New School Bus Numbers and Routes from MONDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2016

www.redbus.com.au

Or

Red Bus Office 4332 8655
## Girls Uniform (7-9)

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## Girls Uniform (10-12)

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## Sports Uniform

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## Bags

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## Accessories

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<tr>
<td>Sports Cap</td>
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## Shoes

School Shoes - to be black lace-up, able to be polished leather school shoes which do not extend over the ankle or have a platform. The leather should cover the whole upper foot for safety. Boots, joggers and creepers are not permitted.

Sports Shoes/PE Practical - to be predominantly white, and should have laces or velcro straps, and be supportive of the feet during exercise.

## Please Note
- Sizes not carried are available by order, however, production time (usually 90 days) must be allowed, and a 50% non-refundable deposit made upon order.
- For sizes 4XL and L22 and over, a $10 surcharge will apply.

Online orders are distributed from the Uniform Shop, therefore postage will occur on the next opening day of the Uniform Shop.

Payments can be made with Cash, Credit Card or Debit Credit Cards only.

Please contact your Year Head regarding individual access and availability of these facilities.

Prices subject to change without notice.
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
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
Important Information Regarding Opal Cards

1. **For students entering year 11 at a New School**
   At the End of this year you will need to go online at [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)
   And update your information to “New School”. Print the 2 page document, sign and return to the Administration Office of your New School.

2. **For students entering year 11 at a Current School**
   At the End of this year you will need to go online at [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)
   And update your information to “Year 11”. Print the 2 page document, sign and return to the Administration Office of your School.

3. **For students entering year 7 at a New School**
   At the End of this year you will need to go online at [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)
   And update your information to “New School”. Print the 2 page document, sign and return to the Administration Office of your New School.

4. **For students who have lost, Faulty or had their Opal Card Stolen**
   To replace Lost or Stolen Opal Cards go online at [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)
   And apply for a replacement Opal Card.
   **NB**: Students are required to pay a fare whilst waiting for delivery of new Opal Card.

5. **For students not eligible for free school travel**
   Log online at [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students) and purchase a School Term Bus Pass.

6. **Student Travel Eligibility**
   To be eligible for subsidised travel under the SSTS, school students must be:
   - an infant student; i.e. attending Kindergarten, Year 1 or Year 2 classes, irrespective of the distance from home to school; or
   - a primary student (Year 3-6), and reside more than 1.6 kilometres (straight line distance) from the school attended, measured from the centre of the school site, or 2.3 kilometres or more by the most direct practicable walking route to the nearest point of physical entry to the school; or
   - a secondary student (Year 7-12), and reside more than 2.0 kilometres (straight line distance) from the school attended, measured from the centre of the school site, or 2.9 kilometres or more by the most direct practicable walking route to the nearest point of physical entry to the school;

   Parents/guardians of students deemed ineligible by their school or local transport operator on straight line distance grounds may apply to TfNSW for a review of the determination on walking distance or pedestrian safety grounds.

   Should TfNSW, after carrying out the review, not approve subsidised travel and the applicant(s) considers that there are special circumstances, such as pedestrian safety and/or hardship issues associated with their case; they may appeal the TfNSW decision.

   Appeals are heard by an independent SSTS Appeals Panel which considers each case on its individual merits.

   **For more information**: [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)
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<td>Year 8 PLG</td>
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<td>Year 7 Welcome BBQ</td>
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<td>School Dance</td>
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<td>Year 12 Elevate “Ace Your Exams’</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/4</td>
<td>Student Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/4</td>
<td>Anzac Day – No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/4</td>
<td>All students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/4</td>
<td>Anzac Ceremony Assembly</td>
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<td><strong>MAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN</td>
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<td>10/5</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Year 7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN</td>
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<td>15/5</td>
<td>Year 12 Academic Reviews commences</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City Zone Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/5</td>
<td>Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>25/5</td>
<td>Year 11 Mid Course Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/5</td>
<td>Year 11 Mid Course Exams&lt;br&gt;City Zone Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/5</td>
<td>Years 8-9 Sem 1 Exams&lt;br&gt;Years 7 Vaccinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/5</td>
<td>Years 7-9 Sem 1 Exams&lt;br&gt;ICAS SCIENCE&lt;br&gt;Year 10 PLG</td>
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<tr>
<td>31/5</td>
<td>Years 7-9 Sem 1 Exams</td>
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**JUNE**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>Years 7-9 Sem 1 Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>Hunter Regional Cross Country&lt;br&gt;Year 12 Academic Review concludes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Year 10 Blackout Period commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/6</td>
<td>ICAS Writing this week&lt;br&gt;Star Struck this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/6</td>
<td>Star Struck this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/6</td>
<td>Email invites ROSA&lt;br&gt;Star Struck this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/6</td>
<td>Year 11 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>Year 10 Reports Sem 1 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/6</td>
<td>Year 7 PLG&lt;br&gt;Year 10 Sem Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/6</td>
<td>Year 10 Sem 1 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/6</td>
<td>Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews&lt;br&gt;Year 10 Sem 1 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/6</td>
<td>Medieval Day Year 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 27/6  | ROSA Assemblies  
7,9,11 — 11.00am  
8,10, 12— 1.30pm |
| 28/6  | M Factor |
| 29/6  | NAIDOC Assembly |
| 30/6  | Years 7, 8 and 9 Reports issued  
End Of Term |

**JULY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17/7</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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| 18/7  | Students Return  
Year 11 Jindabyne |
| 19/7  | Year 11 Jindabyne |
| 20/7  | Year 11 Jindabyne  
Year 7 (2018) Tour and information session—4.00pm |
| 21/7  | CHS Cross Country  
Year 11 Jindabyne |
| 25/7  | Year 7 & 9 Parent Teacher interviews |
| 26/7  | Hunter Regional Athletics  
Opportunity placement Test |
| 27/7  | Hunter Regional Athletics  
AUST  MATHS COMP  
Green Day |
| 31/7  | Year 10 Reports Issued  
Year 12 Blackout period commences |
| 1/8   | ICAS English |
| 3/8   | Year 8 & 10 Parent Teacher Interviews  
Year 9 Brainstorm 1.30pm |
| 7/8   | Year 10 (2018) 4.30pm Info Evening  
Year 11 (2018) Course Info Evening 6.00pm |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8/8   | Year 8 (2018) 4.30 pm  
Year 9 (2018) 5.30pm Course In Evening |
| 14/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams  Trial Commence                                |
| 15/8  | P & C  
Year 12 Trial HSC Exams  
ICAS Maths                                    |
| 16/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 17/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 18/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 21/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams  
Year 11 Blackout Period Commences                     |
| 22/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 23/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 24/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams                                                |
| 25/8  | Year 12 Trial HSC Exams Conclude                                       |
| 29/8  | School Dance                                                            |

**SEPTEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</table>
| 4/9   | Year 11 Final Prelim Exams Commence  
Peer Support Year 9                                      |
| 5/9   | Year 11 Final Prelim Exams  
Year 12 Elevate session                                     |
| 6/9   | CHS Athletics  
Year 11 Final Prelim Exams                                 |
| 7/9   | CHS Athletics  
Year 11 Final Prelim Exams                                 |
| 8/9   | CHS Athletics  
Year 11 Final Prelim Exams                                 |
| 11/9  | Year 11 Final Prelim Exams                                            |
| 12/9  | Year 7 PLG  
Year 11 Final Prelim Exams                                 |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>13/9</td>
<td>Year 11 Preliminary Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/9</td>
<td>Year 11 Preliminary Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/9</td>
<td>Year 11 Final Preliminary Exams Conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/9</td>
<td>Year 12 Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 12 (2018) Extension Info Session 4.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Vaccinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/9</td>
<td>P &amp; C</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/9</td>
<td>Year 12 Reports Issued</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Presentation Assembly 9.00am</td>
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<td>Year 12 Formal</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/9</td>
<td>Year 12 Presentation Assembly 9.30am</td>
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**OCTOBER**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Year 12 (2018) Learning Conference / Elevate</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>Year 7 2019 Info Session – 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Year 7 2018 Challenge Day-9.30am to 1.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/10</td>
<td>HSC Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/10</td>
<td>P &amp; C</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/10</td>
<td>Year 11 Reports Issued</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/10</td>
<td>Year 7 PLG</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/10</td>
<td>Year 9 Urban Challenge</td>
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<td>31/10</td>
<td>Year 8 PLG</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/11</td>
<td>Year 7-10 Blackout Period Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/11</td>
<td>Year 7-10 exams commence</td>
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<td>Years 7-10 Semester 2 Exams overflow if needed</td>
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<td>Prefect’s Investiture 11.00am</td>
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<td>21/11</td>
<td>Year 11 (2018) PLG</td>
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<td>P &amp; C</td>
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<td>Year Assembly 11.00am</td>
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<td>Learning reflection Year 8</td>
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<td>4/12</td>
<td>Learning Reflection Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/12</td>
<td>Year 7 (2018) Orientation Day</td>
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<td>7/12</td>
<td>Christmas Photos Santa</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>Year 10 Assembly 9.15am</td>
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<td>Year 9 Assembly 11.00am</td>
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<td>12/12</td>
<td>Year 8 Assembly—9.15am</td>
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<td>15/12</td>
<td>Year 12 BBQ 11.00am</td>
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<td>End Of Term</td>
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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
Chemmart The Junction
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
University Rugby Club
Baggas Pharmacy
Big Boys
Woolworths
Junction Fair Newsagency
IMAX Theatre
Ruby Skies
Sanbah Surf Shop
Babysshop - Adamstown
Lizzettes
Junction Pharmacy
Pulse Climbing
Monkey
Earthscents
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