

August  
2017

# Merewether High School Bulletin



**Diary Dates**

**19/9 P&C**

**SCR 7.00PM**

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George McNamara of Year 8 won the Junior State final of the Rostrum Voice of Youth competition. As a result, he represented the state at the National final in late July in Brisbane where George was placed third in Australia. Congratulations.



## **Dates to Remember**

14-25/8—Year 12 Trials

12/9 Year 7 PLG

20/9 Sports Presentation Assembly

22/9 Year 12 Presentation Assembly

Merewether High School had a number of students who were featured artists and in the orchestra at Star Struck this year. Orchestra members were Isabel Formby, Sebastian Leacey, Jamie Rea, Adrienne Hanslow, Emily Mitchell, Ella Simons and Eve Leacey. The following students were featured artists, Stephanie Hanlon, Campbell Moore, Will Driver and Ezekiel Weedon.

Kate Edwards in Year 11 has been invited to The Australian Geography Competition Big Week Out. Kate came in the top 1% in Australia in her age group and has now been selected for a trip to Kangaroo Island with students from across the country engaged in geography workshops and spatial technologies. Four students will then be selected to go to Canada next year to participate in the International Geography Olympiad. We wish Kate well in this venture.

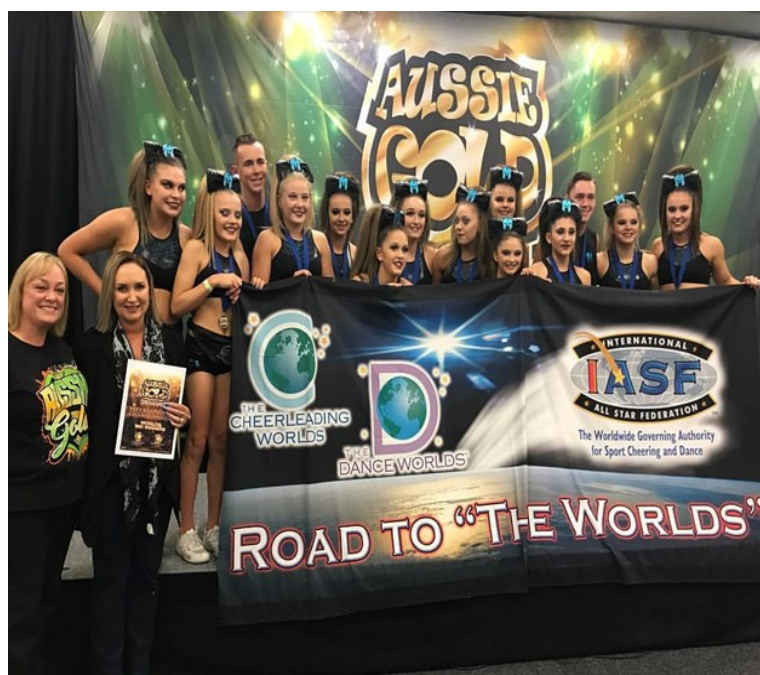
Louis Stibbard has overcome many hurdles to pursue his chosen sport of road cycling. During July, Louis was in the United States at a talent identification camp for road cycling with Team Novo Nordisk. Louis was the only rider from Australia at the camp for 15 to 17-year-olds and was amongst the youngest there. Team Novo Nordisk is a global all-diabetes sports team of cyclists, triathletes and runners, which is spearheaded by the world's first all-diabetes professional cycling team. It comprises nearly 100 athletes from over 20 countries.



Congratulations to Alvin Craig who will represent NSW at the Australian All Schools orienteering championships at Bathurst in September. Alvin will compete in the individual, sprint and relay events from September 26 to 28.

Lukas Gremm Yr 7, Johnathon Gremm Yr 7 and Ryan Woolnough Yr 7 have been selected in the Under 13's NSW Hockey team to contest National Championships in Perth in September.

Charli and Sophia Divine competed at the Aussie Gold International Cheerleading Championships in July on the Gold Coast and not only did they win, but their win secured them a place in the World Championships of All-Star Cheerleading in 2018. The championships will be held in Florida in the USA in April of 2018. The girls' team is the first Australian team to be selected into the senior level 5 co-ed section at worlds.



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Larissa Mullard and Ava Young, along with their team members were named National Champions at the National Aerobics Championships in Brisbane held in July. Larissa and Ava will now compete at the World Championships in Switzerland in October.



Congratulations to Lucy Witherdin who was selected to represent Merewether High School as Secretary for a Day and worked with the Secretary of Education, Mark Scott and met with the Minister for Education Rob Stokes, during her visit to Sydney. Lucy was also named the Premier of the Youth Parliament during the school holidays. Two amazing achievements.

Over the course of this term we will be completing a number of evaluations with staff, students and parents to inform our planning over for the next three years. This information, along with evaluations from staff and material gathered from student forums to be held in Weeks 7 and 8 will be used to inform the future directions we take as a school. As a school we will develop a shared vision and identify three strategic directions that will form the basis of the upcoming three year planning cycle.

Term 3 has begun with our School Development Day, Teacher Parent interviews and Subject Selections for Years 7 – 10. At our School Development Day we continued the work on the new HSC preparing for new syllabus implementation and the changes to assessment in all courses. Staff will continue to work on the changes to ensure we are prepared and have all teaching and learning programs and assessment schedules ready for commencement in 2018.

Next week Year 12 commence their Trial HSC examinations and we wish them well in this important event in their learning program. Students have been preparing diligently and they will see the results of these endeavours.

Our annual POSH Concert will be held at the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music Friday 25 August. The music performed on the night is always exceptional, so if you are looking for somewhere to go on the 25<sup>th</sup> I can highly recommend this concert to you.



### Deputy's Report

In Week 1 of this term, we welcomed our Year 7 students for 2018. Enthusiastic and somewhat nervous Year 6 students and their families, who had been notified of their successful placement for Year 7 2018 came in for a school tour and information session to commence their orientation process. Over the next two terms, we have a comprehensive transition program for our incoming students and this was our first chance to meet them. Our school prefects led tours and showcased the nature of learning at our school and our learning environment. They answered many questions and gave some insight into the wealth of opportunities that exist for students of Merewether High school. The tours were followed by an information session for students and parents, to address specific questions about our school programs, the curriculum designed for Gifted and Talented students, celebrations of success and student wellbeing. We look forward to having this great group of young people join us again for our Gifted and Talented Challenge day later in the year.

Next week sees Year 12 students commence their Trial HSC examinations. Students have been preparing well for this final group of assessments before the run in to the HSC. We have been really proud of the students' focus and commitment to their studies and the quality with which they have engaged in their preparations. Having previously completed an HSC examination through the accelerated program, most students are approaching these final weeks of their HSC year with the benefits of hindsight. They know what to expect from the HSC and have taken on board the lessons learnt through previous HSC preparation to ensure they are in the best position for their upcoming exams. As is always the case, emphasis is to be placed on a growth mindset, with students encouraged to reflect on previous assessment and set new targets for improvement. The HSC is an ongoing journey with the goal posts set for HSC examinations in late October. The work leading up to then is about consistent effort and improvement in a balanced and healthy way that supports students to achieve their personal best. We wish our Year 12 students and their Year 11 accelerated peers every success for these exams.

**Year 11 took** to the slopes of Jindabyne for the senior wellbeing camp and ski trip in Week 1 of this term. Students presented at school on Tuesday morning for their safety briefing and Crossroads program before the long road trip south. They hit the slopes for an action packed and exhausting 4 days with the weather on Day 4 just simply too good to pass up. This resulted in a delayed departure from Jindabyne and some very sleepy people meeting us for the 2.30am pickup on Saturday morning. Students continued to strengthen relationships with their peers spending time with friends from the wider year group. Many students being inexperienced at skiing, discovered just how hard it is to learn a new skill and the complexity of navigating the ski lift left some twisted, yet with plenty of laughter. With the help of a great group of students and teachers, everyone took on the challenges presented and it was a great few days. Many thanks to Ms Taylor for her months of organising to make this trip a success and to the team of teachers who made alternate arrangements for their own families for the week to accompany and supervise our students for this excursion. Students have now settled back into class and next week sees our Year 11 students completing their Trial HSC for their accelerated courses alongside Year 12. We wish them well. Preliminary examinations will commence in in Week 8.





**Curriculum Information Sessions** were held during Week 4 to support students in their decision making around choice in curriculum for 2018. The curriculum information sessions highlight key aspects of the selection process for students to accompany the curriculum booklets distributed earlier in the term. The curriculum booklets are also available for students via the school website in the curriculum and activities area. Scheduled curriculum information sessions targeted the selection requirements of each student group. Choices in curriculum are made for Year 8 2018 (Semester electives and Mandatory Language choice), Year 9 2018 (200 Hr elective & 100 Hr elective), Year 10 2018 (Accelerated Preliminary Course), Year 11 2018 (10 units / 5 courses of Preliminary study).

Students are encouraged to recognise the importance of making good choices based on their strengths, interests and passions for learning so that they will enjoy their learning. Equally, it is wise not to make choices based on what friends are choosing, which teachers might teach it or what parents or siblings may have studied in the past. Good course selection is a key aspect of success for students. In the junior school, it may be about trying something new in Semester electives for Year 8, through to Year 11 Choices that work with students' strengths and skills and allow the learner to stay motivated and continue their love of learning right through their HSC year.

The subject selection process is being completed online this year. Students will receive a unique web link and personal password via their school email account to access the selection platform. Once students have submitted their selections online, they need to print the submission and have this signed by a parent before dropping it into the box outside Mr Kelty's office.



**Merit Certificates and Leadership Passports** form an important part of the school's celebration of student achievement. Throughout the year, all students have access to various award schemes. Detailed information about the awards is contained in the student diaries. I encourage all students to continue their great work in actively seeking merit awards and to gather up their current merits and submit these to their Year Advisers to continue to progress to the higher levels of this scheme.

Leadership Passports and Merit awards are an ongoing recognition program and students can be working towards the completion of these at any time. Students who require a new leadership passport should see Mrs Harvey, Mr Southward or Mrs Gilbertson.

Having completed the Senior Leadership passport and the nomination process, our Prefect Nominees for 2017/2018 were introduced to the student body at our School Assembly. The role of Prefect at Merewether High School is a significant leadership opportunity and one, which has our leaders actively involved in coordinating programs, and as the face of the school in many internal activities and numerous public events. We wish the prefect nominees success as the election process takes place across this term.



### **Year 11 NESA Critical Thinking Tests**

NESA research indicates that universities and employers consider the ability to think critically as essential for success, and would welcome a formal indication of a student's skill levels in the areas of analysis, inference, interpretation, problem solving and evaluation. In response, NESA have introduced a Critical Thinking Test, which students complete online.

Our Year 11 students have been given the opportunity to complete this test throughout Week 4, with the test taking 90 minutes to complete. The test is non-curriculum based and focuses on the application of skills rather than the demonstration of syllabus content knowledge. The test assesses three broad domains of critical thinking – Logical Reasoning, Qualitative Analytical Reasoning and Quantitative Analytical Reasoning. Students, who have participated, will receive a detailed report on

### **Prefects Bulletin Report**

It has been another busy month for the prefects in July. On 15<sup>th</sup> June another pizza challenge was held with Year 12 harkening back to their junior years in a tussle between classes to see who would be crowned ultimate pizza champions. Next and final Pizza Challenge will be happening on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> August we celebrated Education Week where we observed the achievements of public education and focused on the accomplishments and dedication of our students and teachers.

Prefects were also involved in the NAIDOC week assembly on 29<sup>th</sup> June during which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture was at the forefront of the conversation through presentations and activities by the local Aboriginal community.

Coming up on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August and Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, Year 12 will be conducting a bake sale to help raise funds for the Year 12 gift to the school for 2017, so make sure you bring your loose change to help this worthy cause. All funds raised go back to help the school become better resourced for future student generations.

As part of Year 12 end of year activities, Year 12 will be having their Service to School Day on 19<sup>th</sup> September where students and staff will have the opportunity to hire a student during the day to help them with various activities such as complete classwork, line up at the canteen for them, carry bags, clean out storerooms etc. It's a fun activity that not only raises funds for the gift to the school, but also allows Year 12 students connect to their younger peers and teachers.

We would like to extend our good Luck to all Year 12 students who will be sitting their Trial Examinations on 14<sup>th</sup> August. We're almost there guys, buckle up and see you on the other side!

### **Social Science**

#### **Green Day 2017**

Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of July saw Merewether High celebrate our annual Green Day.

This Social Science initiative is designed to educate students about the environment and promote sustainable development.

Students and staff were encouraged to dress in green or sustainable clothing providing a gold coin donation to support a local environmental organisation. This year we are planning to form a partnership with the Plastic Police Initiative to recycle soft plastics in the Hunter region.

In the Learning Centre representatives from a variety of environmental groups utilised the space for a sustainability expo, where they shared ideas and displayed a range of information from preserving native wildlife to showcasing intriguing solar inventions. The MHS Enviro Group ran a range of challenges in the hall culminating in an Environmental Kahoot which saw 400 students participate.



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### **Business Studies and Senior Geography**

In Week 2 the HSC Business Studies students along with the HSC Geography students travelled to Tamburlaine Winery. Our Senior Geography students completed fieldwork in relation viticulture and the human interaction with the biophysical environment while our Business Studies students were able to examine directly the operations of an organic winery and talk to the owners about the challenges of running this type of business.

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



### **Aurora Virtual Classroom Economics Day**

Year 12 Economics students were involved in our first virtual conference at school designed to enable regional students to hear from leaders in Economic theory and the current economic policies.

Chief economist and favourite Ross Gittins from the Sydney Morning Herald provided up to date information and insights into economic issues that students can use in future assessment tasks. The day was run from AC2 enabling students to attend the day without travel to Sydney maximising their learning opportunities. Thank you to Mr Robert Berry for organising this event.





**CAPA REPORT**

**HSC DRAMA PERFORMANCES**

The Year 12 HSC Drama class presented their Group and Individual performances on 26 July in the Learning Centre. All students have prepared thoroughly for their upcoming HSC exams on 28 August and are to be congratulated for their efforts. Congratulations also to their teacher, Nicola McGrath!



**MHS ENSEMBLES**

MHS Ensembles are currently preparing for the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod on 21 August and POSH Concert on 25 August. We encourage all family members and friends to attend the POSH Concert at Newcastle Conservatorium, 7pm. It is going to be a great night!

**LIZOTTES**

MHS Year 12 Music students performed at Lizottes in June, impressing the audience with their musicianship and performance skills. Congratulations to all students involved in the concert – Campbell Moore, Maddie Newland, Georgina Brindley, Jamie Rea, Gabby Walker, Matt Wigney, Davis Harara, Fergus Spencer, Hayden Williams and Zephan Thambar, along with their supporting accompanists.

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#### STATE MUSIC CAMP

There were four students and two staff members from Merewether HS involved in the State Music Camps this year. Sebastian Leacey, Adrienne Hanslow and Isabel Formby were at Senior camp in June and Eve Leacey was at Junior camp in July. Kim Sutherland and Gillian Pettengell were staff members at Junior camp.

#### HUNTER SINGERS

The regional choir Hunter Singers toured to Brisbane in the July school holidays to participate in Choralfest, the Australian National Choral Association national conference. The Merewether HS students on tour were Julia Boyd, Tom Gilbertson, Stephanie Hanlon, Campbell Moore, Maddie Newland, Georgia Olds and Ezekiel Weedon.





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**HUNTER WIND ENSEMBLE**

Hunter Wind Ensemble (HWE) is the regional Wind Band made up of 46 students from 15 different NSW Public Schools in our region). 12 members are from Merewether High School – Lara Fraser-Geddes, Zeraphina Freeman, Adrienne Hanslow, Maya-Jayne Howat, Eve Leacey, Ella Simons, Maghnus Grady, Noah Grady, Callum Smith, Rowan Smith, Max Spencer Karinen and Sam Spratt. The group will be celebrating their 15 year anniversary concert at Newcastle Cathedral on 5th August. This group is touring to Spain and Portugal in January 2018. If you are interested in auditioning for this ensemble, email [hunterwindensemble@gmail.com.au](mailto:hunterwindensemble@gmail.com.au)



**HUNTER WIND ENSEMBLE**

NSW AUSTRALIA

**Visual Arts Exhibition**

On the evening of Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July, Visual Arts students from Years 7-11 exhibited their Semester 1 artworks in the Learning Centre for their friends and parents to view. Paintings, photographs, sculptures and drawings were displayed and received very well by the audience. Congratulations to all our aspiring artists on a wonderful show.





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**MHS CAPA Upcoming Events:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 21 August       | Hawkesbury Eisteddfod   |
| 25 August       | POSH Concert, University of Newcastle Conservatorium                                |
| 28 August       | HSC Drama Performance examinations  |
| 30 August       | Senior Art Exhibition – Merewether Year 11 Portrait Prize and 2017 HSC Body of Work |
| 11-15 September | HSC Music Performance examinations  |
| 19 September    | Year 11 End of Course Performance Exams   |

**August Moospaper**

**Merewether musicians find their forte**

*Anna Carpenter, Year 12*

For some, the 26th June was a regular Monday evening - not so for the group of talented students making up Merewether High's Year 12 music cohort, who performed to a packed audience at the annual MHS Lizottes Night. Fellow students, parents, and teachers alike were eager to witness the mixture of group and solo performances that had been prepared for the event, with many students aiming to perform these impressive pieces later in the year to be assessed for their HSC course. A wide variety of tunes greeted listener's ears - from the classical stylings of Rachmaninoff (performed by Gabby Walker), to Campbell Moore's contemporary vocal rendition of The Cat Empire, there were certainly sounds to please every palette.



Music 1 student Gus Spencer said of the night, “performing is one of the best experiences ever, and the atmosphere [at Lizottes] was incredible. It was a great chance to be able to show off our talents and skills to our classmates, and demonstrate what we’ve been learning”. A massive congratulations is certainly due to the students who wowed the audience on what was truly a memorable night: Davis, Gus, Zephan, and Hayden of Music 1, and Georgina, Campbell, Maddie, Jamie, Gabby, and Matthew of Music 2.

### State Cross Country

*Lana Dowman and Alyssa Wharton, Year 8*

A group of Merewether High School students were buzzing with excitement on the 21st of July, ready to race in the 2017 State Cross Country. The morning was incredibly cold, but that never dampened the racers high spirits as they warmed up at the Eastern Creek Raceway in Sydney. The girls would be running anywhere between two and six kilometres, depending on their age, and the boys anywhere between two and eight kilometres. There were 100+ people in each race, as there were many students there to represent different regions across NSW.



### Education Week Teacher Profile: Mrs Rippon

*Kate Miskin and Britany So, Year 12*

While many fear a visit to the principal’s office, two aspiring journalists ventured into the warm room during lunch to find out more about the school’s most renowned figure. Miss Rippon seemed happy despite the spontaneous request to share details about her journey to becoming the principal of the region’s only selective high school; the ‘most ‘privileged’ role so far in her teaching career.

Miss Rippon’s career in teaching transformed from teaching music to taking on many executive roles and responsibilities, including involvement with school activities and working with students - her favourite parts of the job. She is also dedicated to personally overseeing and signing thousands of letters and certificates of student achievements awarded to our students in order to promote positive student-teacher connections. However, while work is an important part of her lifestyle, Miss Rippon enjoys her time by striving for regular leisure including morning swims, practicing her musical skills on piano, taking her golden retriever for long walks and resting her mind by watching a little “mindless” television. In the future, she plans on continuing her work with the student body but for now, we’re quite happy with Miss Rippon putting the ‘pal’ in Principal. Happy Education Week, everyone!



**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST  
Young Science Ambassadors Program 2017-2018  
Day Return flight to Antarctica.**

On 17 January 2009, two members of the Royal Society of Victoria, Richard Lightfoot and David Dodd (both Antarctic veterans), organised a Qantas charter flight to the South Magnetic Pole located out to sea off Adelie Land, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the first party to reach the then location of the Pole on the Polar Plateau at 75 degrees 25 minutes S. and 155 degrees 16 minutes E. The Party, which was part of Shackleton's 1907-1909 British Antarctic (Nimrod) Expedition, was led by Professor Edgeworth David, with Douglas Mawson and Dr Alistair Forbes Mackay and their 2000 km man-hauled sledging journey remains today as one of the most remarkable epics of the 'Heroic Age' of Antarctic exploration and discovery. The trip also commemorated the Royal Society's participation in all four International Polar Years (IPY) since 1882-83, 1932-33, 1957-58 and 2007-08.

The Young Science Ambassadors program was established as an outcome of the science education outreach program and is aimed at encouraging young secondary school students to study science subjects and thereby go on to study sciences at tertiary level and seek a rewarding career in science. The concept involves outstanding year 10/11/12 science students (boys and girls) selected by their schools to participate in a day return flight to Antarctica.

The 12.5 hour day return flight to Antarctica; to Australia Antarctic Territory, French Adelie Land and New Zealand's Ross Dependency (Cape Adare, Trans-Antarctic Mountains, McMurdo Sound and Mt Erebus) is run by *Antarcticaflights* with chartered Qantas 747 aircraft. These flights have been conducted by the company since 1994 and are of course weather dependent for ideal viewing conditions and flight plans on the day are designed to provide this opportunity. On board lecturers and University scientists accompany the flights and School staff supervise project work during the flight covering all aspects of Antarctic science.

*Antarcticaflights* are extremely supportive of the Young Science Ambassadors concept and offer a special discount for science students on the basic level seats. **Students from Merewether High School who are interested in participating in the program on Saturday 25 November 2017, are invited to submit an expression of interest by August 30, 2017. The expression of interest should have a maximum length of ½ A4 page and be submitted to Mr Smith ASAP. It must contain;**

**Name and year group (higher year groups will be given 1<sup>st</sup> priority)**

**A commitment to payment of \$1100 (maximum – insurance additional \$99) before August 30, 2017.**

**Science subjects studied and relevant results.**

**Potential career aspirations in Science related fields.**

Mr. S. Smith  
(Head Teacher Science)



# Posh Concert

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 7pm



*Harold Lobb Concert Hall*

*Newcastle University Conservatorium of Music*

*(Opp Laman and Auckland St, Newcastle)*

*Showcasing Year 12 Music students and all*

*Merewether High School Music Ensembles*

*Tickets available at:*

*Merewether High School Cashier's Office or*

*Newcastle University Conservatorium Concert Hall Box Office*

*from 6:30pm*

*Adults \$18*

*Student / Concession \$10*

*Family Ticket \$50*

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<b>AUGUST</b>	
<b>1/8</b>	ICAS English
<b>3/8</b>	Year 8 & 10 Parent Teacher Interviews Year 9 Brainstorm 1.30pm
<b>7/8</b>	Year 10 (2018) 4.30pm Info Evening Year 11 (2018) Course Info Evening 6.00pm
<b>8/8</b>	Year 8 (2018) 4.30 pm Year 9 (2018) 5.30pm Course In Evening
<b>14/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams Commence
<b>15/8</b>	P&C - 7:00pm Year 12 Trial HSC Exams ICAS Maths
<b>16/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>17/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>18/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>21/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams Year 11 Blackout Period Commences
<b>22/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>23/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>24/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
<b>25/8</b>	Year 12 Trial HSC Exams Conclude
<b>29/8</b>	School Dance
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
<b>4/9</b>	Year 11 Final Prelim Exams Commence
<b>5/9</b>	Year 11 Final Prelim Exams Year 12 Elevate session
<b>6/9</b>	CHS Athletics Year 11 Final Prelim Exams
<b>7/9</b>	CHS Athletics Year 11 Final Prelim Exams
<b>8/9</b>	CHS Athletics Year 11 Final Prelim Exams
<b>11/9</b>	Year 11 Final Prelim Exams
<b>12/9</b>	Year 7 PLG Year 11 Final Prelim Exams
<b>13/9</b>	Year 11 Preliminary Exams
<b>14/9</b>	Year 11 Preliminary Exams
<b>15/9</b>	Year 11 Final Preliminary Exams Conclude

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<b>18/9</b>	Year 12 Meeting Year 12 (2018) Extension Info Session 4.30pm Year 7 Vaccinations
<b>20/9</b>	Sports Presentation Assembly - 9:00am Y12 Reports Issued Y12 Formal
<b>22/9</b>	Y12 Presentation Assembly - 9:30am
<b>OCTOBER</b>	
<b>9/10</b>	Year 12 (2018) Learning Conference / Elevate
<b>10/10</b>	Year 7 2019 Info Session - 4.00pm
<b>11/10</b>	Year 7 2018 Challenge Day - 9.30am to 1.00pm
<b>16/10</b>	HSC Commences
<b>17/10</b>	P & C - 7:30pm HSC Exams
<b>23/10</b>	Year 11 Reports Issued
<b>24/10</b>	Year 7 PLG
<b>25/10</b>	Year 9 Urban Challenge
<b>26/10</b>	Year 9 Urban Challenge
<b>27/10</b>	Year 9 Urban Challenge
<b>31/10</b>	Year 8 PLG
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
<b>1/11</b>	Year 7-10 Blackout Period Commences
<b>6/11</b>	Year 7-10 exams commence
<b>7/11</b>	Year 9 PLG Years 7-10 Exams
<b>8/11</b>	Year 7-10 exams
<b>9/11</b>	Year 7-10 exams
<b>10/11</b>	Last Day HSC Year 7-10 Exams
<b>13/11</b>	Year 7-10 Exams
<b>14/11</b>	Year 7-10 Exams Year 10 PLG
<b>15/11</b>	Year 7-10 Exams
<b>16/11</b>	Years 7 -10 Semester 2 Exams overflow if needed
<b>17/11</b>	Years 7 -10 Semester 2 Prefect's Investiture 11.00am



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<b>21/11</b>	Year 11 (12 2018) PLG P & C - 7:30pm
<b>23/11</b>	Year Assembly 11.00am
<b>27/11</b>	Learning reflection Year 8
<b>29/11</b>	Year 7 Lifesaving
<b>30/11</b>	Year 7 Lifesaving
	<b>DECEMBER</b>
<b>1/12</b>	Year 7 Lifesaving
<b>4/12</b>	Learning Reflection Year 7
<b>5/12</b>	Year 7 (2018) Orientation Day
<b>7/12</b>	Christmas Photos Santa
<b>11/12</b>	Year 10 Assembly 9.15am Year 9 Assembly 11.00am
<b>12/12</b>	Year 8 Assembly 9.15am Year 7 Assembly 11.00am
<b>14/12</b>	HSC Results Presentation Assembly - 10.30am
<b>15/12</b>	Year 12 BBQ - 11.00am End Of Term



## Youth Aware of Mental Health

The Department of Education is working with the Black Dog Institute to run a school-based peer support and mental health literacy program called Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM).

### What is YAM?

YAM is a program aimed at addressing the mental health needs of young people.

YAM involves discussion and role play. It aims to get young people involved and talking about mental health. By doing this young people will learn problem solving skills and gain knowledge about mental health.

This is a free program for all Year 9 students. The Department of Education has funded all costs associated with the YAM program. **Who is it for?**

All Year 9 students

### What is in the program?

There are 6 themes addressed in the program

- What is mental health?
- Self-help advice
- Stress and crisis
- Depression and suicidal thoughts
- Helping a friend in need?
- Who can I ask for advice?

### How will YAM run in our school?

YAM will run over 3 weeks and is delivered in the classroom setting (up to 30 students) by accredited trainers external to the school.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Opening session	Role play 2	Closing session
+	+	
Role play 1	Role play 3	

Students will be given a booklet to keep. It will include a guide of local health resources as well as a list of different organisations who work with youth in the local community.

### Who can I contact to discuss YAM?

The contact for YAM in our school is

Mrs Debbie Ravula

### When will YAM be delivered in our school?

YAM will be delivered in week 7, 8 and 9

Tuesday 29 August, 5 and 12 September

### Where can I find more information about YAM?

<http://www.y-a-m.org/>



**Nationally Consistent  
Collection of Data**  
School Students with Disability



## Information for parents and carers

### WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to disability and the level of reasonable adjustment they are receiving.

The national data collection counts students who have been identified by a school team as receiving an adjustment to address a disability as defined under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au).

### WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students receiving an adjustment due to disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as other students.

The national data collection provides an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

### WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When undertaking the national data collection, every school in Australia uses the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney collects and submits data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The annual collection aims to, over time, lead to nationally consistent, high quality data that will enable schools, education authorities and

governments to gain a more complete understanding of students who are receiving adjustments because of disability in schools in Australia, and how to best support them.

### WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au).

### WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting teaching methods) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

### WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student receiving an adjustment due to disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability.





The information collected by schools will be available to all governments to inform policy and program improvement for students with disability.

### **WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?**

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder, as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy or diabetes, that require monitoring and the provision of adjustments by the school, may be included.

### **WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?**

Teachers and school staff count the number of students receiving an adjustment due to disability in their school, and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided, based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

### **HOW IS MY CHILD'S PRIVACY PROTECTED?**

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential and is an explicit focus of the national data collection. Personal details, such as student names or other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

Further information about privacy is available from [www.education.gov.au/notices](http://www.education.gov.au/notices).

### **IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?**

Yes. All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students receiving adjustments due to disability in their care, and the level of adjustment they receive.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child's school principal and the relevant education authority.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

You can also visit [www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability](http://www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability).

An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at <http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/>.





# Merewether High School UNIFORM SHOP



Phone: 0401 725 885 (shop hours)

E-mail: merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au

Web: www.alintaapparel.com.au

### OPERATING HOURS

– School Term –

Monday 8.00am – 12.00pm

Thursday 1.00pm – 3.30pm

GIRLS UNIFORM : 7 - 9				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Girls Sky S/S Blouse	All Sizes	\$38.50		
Tartan Formal Skirt	All Sizes	\$69.00		
Girls Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Girls Fitted Pants	All Sizes	\$49.00		
Knitted Jumper	10 - 16	\$82.00		
	18 +	\$92.00		
GIRLS UNIFORM : 10 - 12				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Girls White S/S Blouse	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Tartan Formal Skirt	All Sizes	\$69.00		
Girls Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Girls Fitted Pants	All Sizes	\$49.00		
Knitted Jumper	10 - 16	\$82.00		
	18 +	\$92.00		
BOYS UNIFORM : 7 - 9				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Boys Sky S/S Shirt	All Sizes	\$35.00		
Boys Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.00		
Boys Formal Trousers	All Sizes	\$55.00		
Knitted Jumper	10 - 16	\$82.00		
	18 +	\$92.00		
BOYS UNIFORM : 10 - 12				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Boys White S/S Shirt	All Sizes	\$35.00		
Boys Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.00		
Boys Formal Trousers	All Sizes	\$55.00		
Knitted Jumper	10 - 16	\$82.00		
	18 +	\$92.00		
SPORTS UNIFORM				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Sports Polo	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Sport Shorts	All Sizes	\$38.00		
Tracksuit Jacket	All Sizes	\$79.00		
Tracksuit Pants	All Sizes	\$50.00		

BAGS				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Backpack	Large	\$84.00		
Trolley Bag	One Size	\$109.00		
ACCESSORIES				
	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty
Socks - striped crew (1pack)	All Sizes	\$10.00		
Socks - white crew (1pack)	All Sizes	\$6.95		
Socks - black crew (1pack)	All Sizes	\$6.95		
Microfibre Tights - navy	All Sizes	\$10.00		
Gloves - navy	One Size	\$8.00		
Scarf - navy	One Size	\$12.00		
Leather Belt - black	All Sizes	\$15.00		
Bucket Hat	One Size	\$21.00		
Sports Cap	One Size	\$18.00		

### 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 sneakers 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 available : Primary School: Boys J4 – XS & Girls J4 – L8 / Secondary School: Boys J10 – 3XL & Girls J10 – L20.
- 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 bank regarding individual access and availability of these facilities.