

September  
2017

# Merewether High School Bulletin



## Diary Dates

19/9 +

17/10 P&C

SCR 7.00PM



Congratulations to Milly Stephenson, gold in the 14 years 100 metres and silver in the 200 metres and Sarah Pickering, gold in the 14 years 800 metres and silver in the 1500 metres, at last week's CHS Athletics Championships. An outstanding achievement by both girls. Congratulations to Aidan Mulder winning silver in the 14 years 400m.



Work is well underway with the demolition and the beginnings of the construction for the administration block and the front of school upgrade. Work has been progressing well with minimal disruption to the school experienced. The expected timeline for completion is on target and we hope to be back in the front office for the beginning of the new school year.

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## Dates to Remember

20/9 Sports Presentation Assembly

22/9 Year 12 Presentation Assembly



Our hardworking SASS team were recognised last week with a morning tea and flowers for the great work they do to support the running of the school, day in and day out. SASS Recognition Week was held across the state from the 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September, giving staff the opportunity to take time out to say thank you and to recognise the work of our SASS staff.



Congratulations to three of our students who have been awarded medals in ICAS Science, Eben Taylor, ICAS Spelling, Emma Cornally and ICAS Writing, Harry Su. This is a tremendous effort by all three with the presentation ceremony for medals to be presented to each student to be held in Sydney later in Term 4.

Congratulations to Mirielle Edwards who has been named as a State Champion in the Australian History Competition this year.





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

Monday 9th October will be the first day of the Higher School Certificate for our Year 11 students. To commence this very important year, all students will participate in a Learning Conference for the day. Students will be involved in sessions on Board of Studies requirements, scaling, moderation, past students will talk about their preparation and a session on time management and study skills will complete the day. The day is to support our students as they commence their final year at high school.

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

Congratulations to our Year 12 and Accelerated Hospitality students who handed over 68kg of Shepherds Pie to OzHarvest this term. This was 110 individual serves.

This brings our grand total to 518kg of food donated since we started our association with OzHarvest in 2012.

Congratulations to Charlie Hawke who continues to excel in the pool, recently competing in the NSW Country championships, and was named swimmer of the meet. He broke three state records in 50m butterfly, 200m freestyle and 100m individual medley. Charlie then moved onto the State Swimming Championships where he won nine gold medals and a bronze. He came first in the 50m, 100m, 200m and 400m freestyle, 100m and 200m butterfly, 200m and 400m individual medley, and the 100m backstroke. He also came third in the 100m breaststroke.

Congratulations to Bailey Proud who has been selected in the Australian Still Water Surf lifesaving team to compete in the World Championships later this year.

Reunion – Year 7 1977 – Year 12 1982 Merewether High School - forty years on.

Carrington Place – 132 Young Street – between 2:00pm- 6:00pm on the 30/9/17. Contact Anthony Dombkins 0434565674, for more details. Students and staff from the years above are invited to the reunion.



## Deputy Principal's Report

As the weather warms up and the days get longer we look through spring to summer. In a bad analogy, the work the staff and students have done over the last 6 - 8 months is about to bear fruit with our HSC students in October/November.

I wish all students the best in their upcoming HSC exams and remind them that their results will not mark them, more so, their love of learning, battles they have fought and the struggle they have endured will set them up for future success. Merewether High is no doubt a place of high expectations but one where we work to prepare students to refine their strengths and develop on areas for improvement - we hope all students leave valuing the journey and armed for their particular future.

Whilst we are about to farewell one talented student group, our years march on and I would like to recognise the insight of families and collaboration with staff in having students select their pattern of study for 2018. Research indicates that a key component in student success is student self direction and choice in curriculum pattern. Our subject selection evenings and discussions with students illustrate the engagement our students have in navigating a path of study that interests, excites and challenges each learner. This year we moved to a system of online subject selections which allowed considered and informed decision making and we are currently working with students on their curriculum pattern for 2018.

Our timetable for 2018 is under construction and our timetable staff are working with students discussing the best possible fit for individuals where their priority selections may not be available. I would like to thank families for their interest and involvement in the process and we hope to be able to deliver a challenging and engaging curriculum for all.

Parent learning groups will resume in Term 4. This term our focus was subject selection and curriculum advice and Ms Harvey and I were only able to meet with Year 7 and Year 12 groups. Last week I met with our outgoing Year 12 parents who reflected on the years of support they provided each other through Parent Learning Groups and the guidance and assistance staff have given their children. I thank this great group of parent for their active involvement and ongoing communication which has allowed us as a school to better nurture their children in their studies. They were very appreciative and asked me to pass on both a message of their thanks to the school and a strong encouragement for all families to embrace the opportunity of Parent Learning Groups. I know Ms Harvey and I regret that all families are unable to attend but strive to make the presentations available on our website and in the administration area for all parents.

As Term 4 begins, I would encourage all students to focus on their organisation and time management skills as they prepare for the final examinations scheduled for week 5 and 6 for Years 7-10. Some time in reflection over the holidays, where students identify their learning strengths and some areas for growth will allow each student to form a plan for success in Term 4. The emphasis we place at Merewether High on reviewing your performance, engaging with feedback and then seeking to grow is a cycle which builds achievement. I hope our HSC students will reap the rewards of their hard work and the fact that they have grown to understand themselves as learners, a journey which began for them six years ago at Merewether High.

## Prefect's Report

Over the last month, the prefects have been busy with many events for the school.

In week 4, we celebrated Education Week, taking a moment as students to appreciate the consistent hard work and dedication of our staff and teachers and all the behind the scenes work they do, from late night marking to supporting students welfare and more. To give them a small pick-me-up, the prefects hand wrote personalised messages attached to lollipops and delivered them to the teachers to show our appreciation not just during this week, but over the entire schooling year!

As Term 3 draws to a close, as a year group, Year 12 have begun to say our goodbyes to the school. For some fun lunchtimes to relive our memories of our Year 7-10 classes, our lunchtime pizza challenges-trivia, tug-of-war and dodgeball, have been organised by the prefects to bond the year.

To leave a lasting impact for the school, the prefects and Year 12 have also been busy raising money for our gift to the school. In addition to the Easter Raffle earlier in the year, Year 12 have been busy cooking up a storm for our two bake sales, providing the school with delicious goods. From brownies to cupcakes, gingerbread to cookies, we had most delicacies covered! Our final Tuesday will be our 'Service to School' Day, in which the student body and teachers have an opportunity to purchase a Year 12 student of their choice to do any activity they desire! We hope our efforts serving the school and our other fundraising efforts will provide the school with a gift to make MHS a better learning environment.

As our final Prefect report from the Class of 2017, we thank the students and teachers for giving us this opportunity to represent you all and we hope we've done a good job. We also wish the best of luck to next year's group of young leaders of MHS!





## SRC

What a great start to the another SRC year! During week 5 the newly-elected SRC representatives enjoyed a day of introductions and planning to settle into their appointed roles. They also elected official positions within the group, such as Chairperson, Secretary and various sub-committees. Congratulations to Aditya Enjeti our Chairperson for 2017 - 2018. From the events on the SRC's calendar, everyone should be excited for the busy and exciting year ahead!

Speaking of exciting; how about that school dance!? For those who joined us at the 'Colour Coded' dance in week 6 thank you for a colourful and enjoyable evening. From what we could see everyone who came took the opportunity to de-stress and enjoy moving to the great beats by Advantage DJ. The night was a fantastic success for the new SRC and they should be proud of their efforts. If this dance was any representation of the year ahead, it's going to be a good one!

Upcoming SRC events to be run will be a charity event for Soul Café and MHS Christmas in December. As usual, the Jolly man himself will be visiting the school for photos and candy cane deliveries. We will also be organising an out-of-uniform day so keep an eye on notices regarding this event.

Last but not least we need to make special mention to our outgoing members of the 2016 - 2017 SRC. Thank you for all your efforts over the last year. We hope you gained a lot from your experience and enjoyed your time as a student representative. For those who are finishing school this year, good luck in your future paths. Enjoy the twists and bends, for they make the journey interesting.

Thank you for your support

The SRC and SRC Advisers

Miss Owen Mrs Allen Miss Minns



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## COLOUR CODED DANCE PHOTOS





Thank you to all nominees..... it was a highly contested election this year and I am very proud of you all for nominating yourselves and you should be proud of yourselves.

The following students will form our SRC for 2017 - 2018... CONGRATULATIONS!

YEAR 7

7B Aleesha Sureshnair

7C Eva Nyman

7E Emily Bryant

7G Rochelle Manning

7M Cooper Ivory

7N Dulara Perara

YEAR 8

Tulip Cranson

George McNamara

Benyamin Bach

Joshua Robertson

Daniel Clarke

Sarah Pickering

YEAR 9

Jeremy Groh

Harry Adnam

Aleeyah Clifford

Xin Yuan Yang

Chris Beck

Harriet Brindley

YEAR 10

Zoe Davis

Aditya Enjeti

Jem Cranson

Harry Tregilgas

Teza Sankoorikal

Ryan Stoodley

YEAR 11

Todd Hodgson

Holly Yare

Sophie Griffiths

Tess Horton

Miriam Temperley

Mariam Khalid



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### Colour Coded Disco

*Aden Weinmann, Year 12*

The Colour Coded School Dance, held on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, is the final dance of the year. It provided an opportunity to socialise with schoolmates outside class. The theme given led to mono-chrome markings, colour-coordinated clothes and those that prefer their own style. For the three hours of excitement, the DJ entertained with bangers from the last decade and a few nods to the 80s and 90s, satisfying the entire crowd.

The SRC did a great job organizing this event, with tickets once again selling for \$6 each, a constant through the last six years of MHS. The SRC was hard at work decorating and organising for three hours, furnishing the event with happiness, helpfulness and smiles all round, creating a warm, friendly atmosphere; including drinks and snacks to buy on the night.

All in all, the event was a hit and everyone had a great time. What a great, fun conclusion to 2017 for our Year 12 graduates!





## **Social Sciences**

### **University of New South Wales Business Studies Competition**

Each year our Business Studies and Economics students enter the prestigious and challenging Australian Economics and Business Studies Competition run by the University of New South Wales. In 2017 three students have been awarded prizes for achieving exceptional scores in this competition. Congratulations goes to the following students:

- **Patrick Dowzer**- \$100 prize
- **Jye Holliers**- \$100 prize
- **Leah Adam**- \$50 prize

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

### **Australian Geography Competition**

Over 70,000 students from 743 schools participate in the National Geographic Australian Geography Competition. Congratulations goes to the following Merewether High students who came in the top 1% of Australia:

Year 7 - Jackson Yann

Year 11- Kate Edwards

Year 9- Alice Musgrave

Year 12 – Louis Graves

Year 9 – Callum Wainwright

Year 12 – Caitlin Young

Year 10 - Eben Taylor

Year 12 – Paul Rodgers

Additionally I congratulate Kate Edwards who came in the top 1% in Year 11 but was also selected to attend Geography's Big week out in October. This trip involves flying to Adelaide and travelling to Kangaroo Island to engage in a week of geospatial activities and events. From this event 4 students will be selected as a team to represent Australia at the 2018 International Geography Olympiad in Quebec City Canada. We are very pleased for Kate to attend such an event and wish her well with the selection for the Australian team.

### **LEGAL UPDATE - Mock Trial Team 2017**

Congratulations to the Merewether High School Mock Trial team for 2017 who have won in the elimination round against San Clemente. The team performed to a high standard in a civil trial regarding the theft of a car on the site of a service centre. They were successful in proving their case as well as achieving the highest score on the day. It was an exceptional performance by all team members both with the preparation and trial on the day.

Thank you to Mrs Clark who escorted the students to the trial and helped brief and prepare students with Mrs Tonks.

Head Teacher Social Science

Lisa Burnett

**Yr11 Jindabyne**

*Ashley Naylor and Andrew Brassington, Year 11*

Team 18 recently undertook the immense trip to the snow which consisted of 3 jam packed days on the slopes with near perfect conditions and loads of fun.

The official day one of skiing began too early, too cold and with too many setbacks of late roll-calls, but once we all arrived at Blue Cow. Moods were not even dampened slightly by these setbacks, and the fact that it was SNOWING helped heighten them further. After splitting off into our ski groups of various skill levels, we began our first lessons. Once the beginners were fairly sure they could almost stop without falling over, groups separated onto the mountain and surrounding areas for free time. People ventured from Blue Cow all the way to the Summit of Mt Perisher, and down into the beautiful valley of Guthega. Depending on level of skiing, or confidence, black and blue runs were tackled and undoubtedly conquered- by either luck, fluke, skill or sliding down on your bum.



Day Two was much the same, with the inclusion of a few more injuries, a couple of minorly major bus defaults, a bit more confidence built or lost, and a bit of a white out on the slopes, but all was well upon returning to the lodge for a bit of trivia. Day Three was sunny and warm, and everyone was reluctant to pack away our skis for good at the end of the day.

The Jindabyne excursion was a massive success, and could not have been executed as flawlessly without the planning of all the teachers involved. On behalf of Team 18, thank you for the great trip!! We wish we could go again!

**The Year Sevens of 2018**

*Annabelle Miller and Eve Oxenham, Yr 8*

Only recently did the next generation of year sevens to be initiated into the halls of Merewether High School catch a glimpse of the place in which many of their dreams - or for some a few borderline nightmares in the form of incomplete assignment tasks due in the next period - will come true; that's right, we're talking the year seven 'School Life' Introduction.

With many reminiscent recounts and encouraging speeches, along with a complete tour of this esteemed school of learning, we can only cross our fingers that these young and hopefuls will overlook the infamous and dramatically increasing sausage roll prices at the canteen.

The tour was led by our very own prefect body, in which parents and children alike were shown the school so the soon to be "sebies" would be able to familiarise themselves with these alien surroundings. The tour concluded back at the hall where the current Year Sevens shared their camp experiences while the school captains, the principal and both deputies talked more about the educational side of things and school life. All in all, it's safe to say the 2018 year sevens are prepped, psyched and ready to go!



## Green Day 2017

*Elke Wallace-Smith and Chloe Bassingthwaighe, Yr12*

Merewether united to celebrate the annual Green Day coordinated by the Social Science faculty, with aims to promote sustainable development and educate on a vast range of environmental issues. As per tradition, students traded in their uniforms for their greenest attire and brought a gold coin donation which was donated towards a soft plastic recycling initiative being coordinated by the school enviro group.

The sustainability expo hosted a range of local environmental organisations, showcasing new conservation methods and giving insight into how individuals can partake in making a difference and reducing waste.

"This year we've tried to direct the focus of Green Day more on environmental education than anything," Annaliese Turner, an Enviro Group coordinator said, "we hope that the Sustainability Expo combined with new events such as our Kahoot and the Green Day Gala will have a deeper impact on students, and trigger some thought about their environmental footprint."



The Enviro Group's 'Green Day Gala' saw teams of students compete in environmental related challenges, including a 'ping pong bob', enviro charades, and a sustainable fashion show. Dylan Connors and Isabel Formby of Year 11 took out the crown as the first ever Green Day Gala champions. MHS's largest "Kahoot" was held with over 100 students and teachers participating in the virtual quiz on sustainability. This Green Day first was a huge success and hopes are high for it to make a return in 2018.

The Bensley Hall also accommodated the Year 9 Commerce stalls with a variety of food on offer from pizza resale to home baked cookies. Another successful Green Day provided valuable insight into environmental issues and initiatives, while being an enjoyable day for all students and teachers of MHS alike.

## Japanese Exchange Students

*Maya Cox, Sophie Loiselle and Zara Kelly, Yr 8*

On Thursday the 3rd of August our Asian languages teacher, Mrs Allen, picked up our newest Japanese Exchange students. There are 10 students and 2 teachers from various high school in Ube city. The students (who are in years 8 and 9) visited our school for 3 days during their stay. They spent the rest of their time visiting the Lord Mayor, seeing native animals at oakvale farm and sightseeing.

Our school really enjoyed hosting these students and teachers, we all learnt a lot about different languages and cultures. Thank you to all of the host families (Liana Corbett Yr 7, Nathaniel Girdler Yr 8, Lili Sabine yr 8, Rebecca Mason Yr 9, Nikki Burgman Yr 9, Zac Cox Yr 9, Kaitlyn McMahon yr 9, Saffron Sabine Yr 10, Ryan Stoodley yr 10, Georgia Pike Yr 11, Louis Graves Yr 12), and of course Mrs Allen for organising and making this trip possible. It was an amazing experience for everyone involved.



*Photo: The students and teachers at school before they left Japan*

### Tuckwell Scholarship for Best and Brightest: Lizzy Mee

*Aden Weinmann, Year 12*

The Tuckwell Scholarship, offered by Australian National University, is a wonderful opportunity for high achieving students across the country. The rigorous testing focuses on students that have a great amount of extra-curricular activities with an ATAR requirement of 95.00. Successful scholars gain entry to an elite group where they receive positive peer pressure and gain support through University life. The fields of interest differ among the group from teaching to medicine. With a yearly sponsorship of \$20,000 the options are wide open. Lizzy Mee of Year 12 has succeeded in her application this year, earning her a place as a Tuckwell scholar at ANU.

The final stage of application is a weekend visit to the University where their character, aspirations and determination are assessed. Lizzy attended 2 group interviews the first day, giving a chance to stand out, and agonised through 5 personal interviews the next day. This stage reduces 75 candidates, originally 800 initial applicants, down to the final 25 scholars, who received a call from Louise and Graham Tuckwell themselves, the sponsors.

Lizzy will be studying Science for the next 4 years with an interest in Genetics and Chemistry. She also expresses interest in continuing French studies, advocating for expanding awareness of the other cultures through language. Congratulations to Lizzy once again for an outstanding achievement, we wish her all the best in her studies!

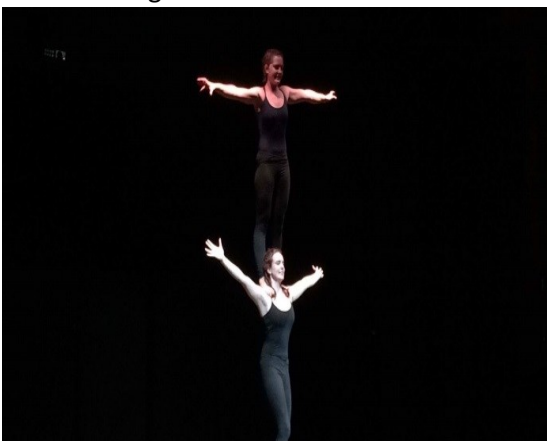


### M FACTOR delivers a star quality show

*Jacob Gamble, Year 12*

Wednesday the 28th of June saw the Bensley Hall ignite in raw talent as the classic biannual talent quest "M Factor" took centre stage. Judged by former school captain Abby Butler, Director of Pantseat Performing Arts Lia Bundy, and Deputy Principal Nadene Harvey, this prestigious competition consisted of close to 20 finalist acts showcasing a range of acting, singing, dancing, and even circus skills.

It was a night not to be missed as students from all years lit up the



stage while five of our most fabulous teachers lip synced to an all-time ABBA favourite "Money, Money, Money". In the end, the Judge's Choice was awarded to Saharsh Joshi with his performance of "Uptown Funk". Davis Harara, Elliot Kozary, Kofi Harara, Zephany Thambar, Gus Spencer, and Jamie Rea scored the People's Choice with their energetic rendition of "24K Magic" while Annabelle Cleary and Ruby Dempsey won SRC Choice in an intriguing circus skills piece entitled "Pirates". "It was super fun performing and the crowd was really supportive," Annabelle remarks, "their cheering was very encouraging and it was awesome being a part of that." Congratulations to the SRC for once again staging an incredible event.



## Moospaper

### *A Final Note from the Editor*

*Jacob Gamble, Year 12*

Three years ago, Mrs Abbo along with some students from the Class of 2014 established a Journalism Group for students to contribute articles for the monthly bulletin. I can still recall my first meeting as a shy Year 9 student surrounded by the intimidating Year 12 students in their crisp white shirts. Since then, I've taken on the flaming baton of Merewether's student run newspaper and watched the fire ignite with glory. Twenty nine bulletins later, I find myself writing my last ever article for the Merewether High School Moospaper. Seeing this group evolve into such a friendly collective of people with shared interests has been a true privilege. Watching the younger journalists improve their writing skills and witnessing the passion of our members in meeting the deadlines while sacrificing their Thursday recesses for meetings has been both an inspiring and rewarding experience. My involvement in this group of almost four years has taught me so much in organising meetings, and recruiting members while improving writing and editing skills. Graduation is fast approaching so as RuPaul would say, it's time for me to "sashay away" and enter the wide world of journalism outside of high school. I have full faith that Kate, Andrew and Ashley of Year 11 will do an amazing job leading the group next year, I can't wait to read all about what the school is getting up to. Thank you to all the parents, students, and teachers who read and appreciate our work. Ciao!



### *RoboCup Representatives Wired for Success*

*Kate Edwards, Year 11.*

Image credit: Mr Johnston.

On Tuesday August 22nd, six teams of keen Merewether students made their way to the University of New South Wales to compete at state level in the annual RoboCup robotics competition. The teams comprised students from years 7-10, and each team had designed and built a robot to compete in either a Dance, Soccer, or Rescue challenge. Throughout their preparation the teams were coached and mentored by Ms Taylor, who unfortunately wasn't able to attend on the day. Mr Johnston instead stepped up to take the reins, describing the event as "an outstanding day." Merewether's Dance team took out first place in their division and, as well as progressing to nationals, have been invited to Government House. Three of the six MHS teams progressed to the national competition, which will be held in Brisbane over the upcoming school holidays. The winning team at national level will progress to the world championship in Costa Rica.





***Bountiful Baked Beauties Crowd Quad for Senior Sale***

*Zack Schofield, Year 12*

It was a bright cold day in August and the clocks were again striking 12:35. As beloved Vice-Captain and emerging male model Jacob Gamble had instructed, an exodus of exam-weary seniors streamed into our quiet quadrangle, nervously awaiting the moment of majesty and true enlightenment they were fated for all their lives. This was to be the pinnacle of their schooling career, carefully and profoundly prepared for the previous night in the annual ritual of the nocturnal baking bonanza.

At 12:45, the 2017 year 12 bake sale began. Tsunamis of blue-shirted students barrelling across the quad to be the fabled first-in-line, a position now available since the seniors were stuck behind the stalls. Store-bought cupcakes and ridiculously effortful homemade treats were gobbled equally along this thin white line of senior salespeople, for suspiciously variable prices. Those with courage, haggled, while those with smarts waited for the desperate price drop that came in the second half. It was, in a word, epic.

By the last lunch bell, Year 12 was successful in selling off the last of the goodies. The legacy of the year 12 bake sale was safe for another year.

***The New SRC Shows School Spirit***

*Eve Oxenham, Year 8*

Recently, the year groups of MHS selected six fellow peers responsible for representing them in the Student Representative Council (SRC). These newly-elected students quickly rose to the occasion by managing to stylishly coordinate a school dance that took place on Tuesday in Week 7, an extremely successful debut as a capable group of students. Not only this, but later in the week they were crowned at the Thursday assembly as the new Student Representative Council, catching a glimpse of high school stardom.

The SRC's input and greatly appreciated effort towards the school is no secret, so one may ask what it takes to be a member of this council; popularity? Good looks? A classic Bob the Builder 'Can we fix it? Yes, we can!' attitude? Well, as per the words of Daniel Clarke, recently re-elected member of the SRC for Year 8; "you really just have to be friendly, sociable and most of all approachable". Given the SRC's responsibility for organising most social school events, these traits seem like a must have for all aspiring and current student representatives. Nobody can deny the amazing qualities of the group of talented people who make up this year's SRC, and Merewether High School eagerly awaits more successful and immensely enjoyable events with the unique MHS flare!

**The Archibald... But Better: Merewether Portrait Prize**

*Ashley Naylor, Year 11*

The Learning Centre was transformed from a place of dull expanse to a packed art gallery complete with ambient jazz on the night of the Merewether Portrait Prize. Amazing artworks by Year 11 and Year 10 accelerated Visual Art students were put on display, all vying for the crown of the People's Choice Portrait Prize winner with their varying depictions of Merewether teachers- from etchings of Mr Harrison to a pastel drawing of Ms Penson. The talent was tremendous and every student tapped into the true nature of their chosen teacher using a vast array of medias were used to create some intriguing works.

To accompany this display were the monumental major works of the seven dedicated Year 12 art students, who created some astounding works, including boudoir-esque paintings of the notorious Jacob Gamble himself. Throughout the night, art students rallied their parents and friends to vote for their portraits- using coercion and even blackmail. Nevertheless, the brilliant Kate Sanders took the crown with her photorealistic drawing of Mrs Gilbertson. Runner up was Oscar Turmine's photographs of Mr Poulios, and the Encouragement Award was awarded to Lauren of Year 10 Accelerated Visual Art for her ink sketches of Mr Gibb.



*Kate with her award-winning sketch*

**CAPA FACULTY**

What a busy but rewarding few months we have had in the CAPA faculty!

**MUSIC****Senior Music Showcase at Lizottes**

There were some wonderful performances from senior Music students at Lizotte's this year. This incredible venue gives students the opportunity to work in a professional venue with a great sound and lighting crew. All students are to be congratulated for their great work. The variety and quality was sensational!

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## Posh Concert

Every year we celebrate the successes of our Year 12 Music students in a concert of high quality and excellence. Posh Concert is also a chance to showcase the Merewether Music Ensembles on the professional stage at Newcastle Conservatorium of Music. The concert this year was inspirational, as solo and group performances donned the stage. The Year 12 Music 1 and Music 2 students chose a piece from their HSC repertoire to perform on the stage. These performances were interspersed with each of the various musical ensembles.

The Merewether ensembles and their conductors that performed on the night were as follows:

Jazz Ensemble	Mrs Alison Tenorio
Percussion Ensemble	Mrs Rebekah McClure
Vocal Ensemble	Ms Kim Sutherland
String Ensemble	Mrs Gillian Pettengell
JAM Ensemble	Mrs Rebekah McClure
Clarinet Ensemble	Mrs Alison Tenorio
Concert Band	Ms Louise Gleeson
Flute Ensemble	Mrs Alison Tenorio

We would like to thank the comperes of the night, the School Captains, Samuel McIntyre and Priya Vakil, as they made the night run smoothly.

Congratulations to the Year 12 music students of 2017!



**HUNTER WIND ENSEMBLE****HUNTER WIND ENSEMBLE**

Hunter Wind Ensemble (HWE) is the regional Wind Band made up of 46 students from 15 different NSW Public Schools across the Tamworth Directorate (from Lake Macquarie, out to Tamworth and up to the Queensland border). 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. This group has recently competed in the Australian National Eisteddfod in Canberra and earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in their section. This year they have also performed at the Music of the Guns concert at Fort Scratchley, the All Schools ANZAC Ceremony at Civic Theatre and their 15 year anniversary concert at Newcastle Cathedral. HWE has been selected to perform a feature item in the Festival of Choral Music concert series at the Opera House later in the year. 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)

**VISUAL ARTS**

Visual Arts students have been very busy over the past term preparing for exhibitions and finalising their HSC Body of Work. On the night of Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, our annual Merewether Portrait Prize in conjunction with the Year 12 HSC artworks exhibition was held in the Learning Centre. The Merewether Portrait Prize is a Year 11 exhibition loosely based on The Archibald Prize. Every student studying Year 11 Visual Arts picked an esteemed staff member of the school and created a portrait of them in a two-dimensional form. Guests are then invited to vote for their favourite portrait. This year we had a variety of art forms represented, from drawing and painting, to photography, etching and even wood burning. It is always an exciting night but this year was especially thrilling as we had 35 portraits from which to chose our favorite. In the end, Kate Sanders was voted People's Choice with a drawn portrait of Ms Gilbertson, Oscar Turmine-Minchison was runner-up with a series of photographs of Mr Poulios and Lauren Wilson-Dann won the Encouragement award for her ink drawings of Mr Gibb. Congratulations to these students.

Congratulations must also go to our Year 12 students who have completed the practical component of their HSC course with the submission and exhibition of their Body of Work. Each student elects to create an artwork based on their own personal concept in a medium of their choice. The range of forms included painting, drawing, photography, sculpture and film. We wish our students all the best in their HSC.

**Hawkesbury Eisteddfod**

Concert Band, Jazz Band, String Ensemble and JAM ensemble have once again successfully participated in the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod. This is the second year the music groups have travelled down to the event and the students have once again enjoyed the experience very much.



It was JAM's debut performance and they did very well. With only a few rehearsals they impressed the adjudicator and won their section! The String competed in the Open Section against other ensembles with many adult members. The group came second, missing out on first place by one point. They received very high praise from the Adjudicator, including a mention as one of the best performances of the day.

**MUSIC ENSEMBLE – JAM**

JAM - Just Add Music - has begun rehearsing and has attracted quite an eclectic mix of musicians. At the first rehearsal, the group had ukuleles, guitars, keyboards, glockenspiels, flutes, clarinets, a drummer, bass guitarist, and even an ocarina! There were all levels of talent ranging from highly experienced seniors, to new year 7 musicians. The group rehearses Monday lunch in KM2. If JAM sounds like something you might be interested in, get along and join in the fun. It's all about having a jam together and enjoying music! Everybody welcome.



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## Merewether High School Bulletin



Lauren Wilson-Dann, Oscar Turmine-Minchison and Kate Sanders



Tehleah Greenwood with Ms Nicola McGrath and her portrait

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Harlan Hammick with his portrait of Mr Scott



Annika St Jean with Mrs Coreena Allen



Soyeun An with her Year 12 Body of Work



Elena Pavlou-Watt with muse Jacob Gamble



## Drama

Year 12 Drama students completed their HSC practical examinations, including individual and group performances on the 28<sup>th</sup> August. The class is to be congratulated on their ongoing commitment and passion for Drama which resulted in exemplary projects that represented Merewether High honourably. Year 9 Drama students, who formed their live audience, were extremely impressed with the quality and range of the pieces.

We would like to wish Year 12 the very best of luck for their upcoming written examination!



## Drama Ensemble

Throughout the year the Drama Ensemble has thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with a variety of skill-building and improvising activities. During Term 4 they will be competing in a Theatresports competition ran internally within the school, which will balance quick wit, group work and unlikely stories to create hilarious 'off the cuff' performances.

The group includes students ranging from Years 7-10 with new members always welcome!



### ***CHS Open Boys Soccer Team Hits a New Goal***

*Jules Tyrie, Year 11*

MHS's Open Boys Soccer team travelled to Sydney in Week 7 to compete in the state grand final of the NSW Combined High Schools (CHS) Open Boys Soccer Competition. Merewether had not won this competition since 1997, so the pressure was immense for the boys to perform. Tensions were rising as the first half ended with a score of nil all. After an inspiring pep talk from Mr Southward, the team emerged stronger and eventually won with a nail-biting close score of 1-0.



All players had an incredible time on the day and throughout the competition, many of the younger players keen to take to the field next year and hopefully win again. Year 11 student, Finley Beasley, was awarded player of the match. A special thanks goes to Mr Southward and Mr Harrison who coached the boys in their own time and were there every step of the way leading up to the team's success.

### ***Year 12 Reflection***

*Timothy Whelan and Anna Carpenter, Year 12*

As another year comes close to heading off to the HSC, we reflect on our time at MHS and everything it has given us. The last 6 years for many of us have been a rollercoaster, with its ups and downs that came along the way. As we all prepare to walk out of our last class, our last exam, the last time we may see many of the people who we had seen every day, perhaps forever; we look at all the good times and everything we have learned. To the friends we have made along the way, and the teachers that helped us reach our true potentials, and to all the good times we have had; thank you MHS. To the rest of the students at MHS, enjoy your time here. Try everything to the best of your ability, whether that be work or recreation, and enjoy all the memories you'll make along the way. And as you approach your final days, make sure you look up from the books every once in a while so that you can look back on your days at MHS fondly, not just as a school, but as one of the best times of your life.



## Hospitality

What a way to finish 2 years of Hospitality at MHS. Our Hospies recently completed a practical assessment task on food safety and cooking bulk amounts of food. The food then needed to be appropriately packaged and stored. The 2 classes donated 110 individual serves of Shepherd's Pie, which was 68kg when weighed. This brings our grand total to over 500kg of food donated to OzHarvest since we began our association with them in 2012.

Furthermore, \$1442 was donated to the Hospie's chosen charity Soul Café at a recent assembly. This money was raised at coffee shops and degustation functions throughout the year.

I am incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication displayed by each student and have thoroughly enjoyed my time teaching them over the last 2 years.

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





### **What an Achievement!**

As many members of our school community may be aware our Open Boys Soccer team are State Champions after winning the Puma Cup Final in Sydney of August 30<sup>th</sup>. Well done boys!

Our school has a proud history of achievement in Open Boys Soccer dating back to the days of Tech High and the Tasman Cup and then through the early years of Merewether High School. Over the past few years, we have fielded some great sides who have fought bravely through the preliminary rounds only to suffer premature defeat and the associated disappointment.

This year's squad worked hard through very competitive selection trials and in the first few rounds we settled on a strong combination of rigorous defence and measured attack with great success. Tom Suters and Narveen Richardson starred through the tournament as central defenders repelling many raids from at first local teams and then some polished Sydney sides as we progressed through the rounds. Our starting front line of Troy Brouwer, Albert Balogh and Ketut Bryant provided the spark and finish to our attack with Troy being the polished goal scoring machine we needed.



Strong work from Finley Beasley, Gordon Ferguson and Dunnil Yohanes as our midfield engine saw us through hard fought victories against Lambton HS, Freshwater High and Castle Hill. In these early rounds the depth of our squad was tested and all members rose to be integral parts of our team through the tournament. Special mention to the younger team members Fyre Petrie, Joe Langlois and Jared Muller who stood tall against much older competition and will no doubt be long time servants of Merewether High Football.

Reaching the semi-finals at Glenwood Park in Sydney was a highlight for our team. Pitted against Kirawee High in a big stadium we battled through a scoreless first half before playing some sparking football in the second half as Gordon Ferguson and Fyre Petrie scored great goals to seal our win. It was great to see the level of family and school support at our Sydney matches and I know it lifted our boys. After much celebration in the dressing room and on the bus home we set our minds to the final match against Terrigal High School under lights!

As the main game on a day of finals we arrived at Seymour Shaw Park Miranda to take on Terrigal High to watch the curtain raiser matches with that strange blend of nerves and excitement. Our game started frantically and we fought hard in the first half but were dominated by a determined Terrigal team. Starting the second half with a focus on the basics that underlined our past victories, we steadily took control of the game and were rewarded with a goal to Troy Brouwer from a stunning free kick. This rattled our opposition and we dominated the next 20 minutes of the game as the fought hard to equalise, but to no avail. Full time, 1-0 Merewether High State Champions!



After the match, our Captain Tom Suters spoke with pride of our journey and achievements and paid tribute to the Terrigal team and our faithful supporters.



**NSWCHS PUMA CUP COMPETITION - 2017  
CHAMPION: MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL**



*Back Row:* Stuart, Hansen, Fyre Petrie, Tom Suters (Captain), Troy Brouwer, Declan Crook, Dunnil Yohanes, Oscar Bingham, Kurt Hawkins, Tony Southward (Coach).

*Front row:* Sam O'Sullivan, Ketut Bryant, Jared Muller, Gordon Ferguson, Joseph Langlois, Finley Beasley, Narveen Richardson.

*Absent:* Albert Balogh.

I would like to congratulate all boys involved in the campaign this year for the integrity with which they played each match and the support they showed for their team mates. They spoke proudly each game of their efforts being for each other and for their school. They will all play many more soccer matches but are among the very few etched in history as winners of the Puma Cup.

Tony Southward (Proud Coach)

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# Merewether High School Bulletin



	SEPTEMBER	
4/9	Year 11 Final Prelim Exams Commence	
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	
13/9	Year 11 Preliminary Exams	
14/9	Year 11 Preliminary Exams	
15/9	Year 11 Final Preliminary Exams Conclude	
18/9	Year 12 Meeting Year 12 (2018) Extension Info Session 4.30pm Year 7 Vaccinations	
20/9	Sports Presentation Assembly - 9:00am Y12 Reports Issued Y12 Formal	
22/9	Y12 Presentation Assembly - 9:30am	
	OCTOBER	
9/10	Year 12 (2018) Learning Conference / Elevate	
10/10	Year 7 2019 Info Session - 4.00pm	
11/10	Year 7 2018 Challenge Day - 9.30am to 1.00pm	
16/10	HSC Commences	
17/10	P & C - 7:30pm HSC Exams	
23/10	Year 11 Reports Issued	
24/10	Year 7 PLG	
25/10	Year 9 Urban Challenge	
26/10	Year 9 Urban Challenge	
27/10	Year 9 Urban Challenge	
31/10	Year 8 PLG	

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	NOVEMBER
1/11	Year 7-10 Blackout Period Commences
6/11	Year 7-10 exams commence
7/11	Year 9 PLG Years 7-10 Exams
8/11	Year 7-10 exams
9/11	Year 7-10 exams
10/11	Last Day HSC Year 7-10 Exams
13/11	Year 7-10 Exams
14/11	Year 7-10 Exams Year 10 PLG
15/11	Year 7-10 Exams
16/11	Years 7 -10 Semester 2 Exams overflow if needed
17/11	Years 7 -10 Semester 2 Prefect's Investiture 11.00am
21/11	Year 11 (12 2018) PLG P & C - 7:30pm
23/11	Year Assembly 11.00am
27/11	Learning reflection Year 8
29/11	Year 7 Lifesaving
30/11	Year 7 Lifesaving
	DECEMBER
1/12	Year 7 Lifesaving
4/12	Learning Reflection Year 7
5/12	Year 7 (2018) Orientation Day
7/12	Christmas Photos Santa
11/12	Year 10 Assembly 9.15am Year 9 Assembly 11.00am
12/12	Year 8 Assembly 9.15am Year 7 Assembly 11.00am
14/12	HSC Results Presentation Assembly - 10.30am
15/12	Year 12 BBQ - 11.00am End Of Term





## NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2017

*The final vaccination day is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017*

### **WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS MISSED A VACCINE**

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

#### **WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS NOT RECEIVED ALL HPV VACCINES BEFORE THE END OF 2017?**

Any year 7 student with missed doses of HPV vaccine can be caught up in 2018.

#### **ADDITIONALLY:**

**Any 2017 year 8 student** who commenced HPV vaccination while in year 7 and are yet to finish the course of HPV (and who has not received any from their local doctor) can still receive this at the next clinic at their school.

**Any year 11 or 12 student** who returned a signed consent card for Meningococcal ACWY vaccine and did not receive this in Term 2 (and who has not received it from their local doctor) can still receive this at the next clinic at their school.

Please note:

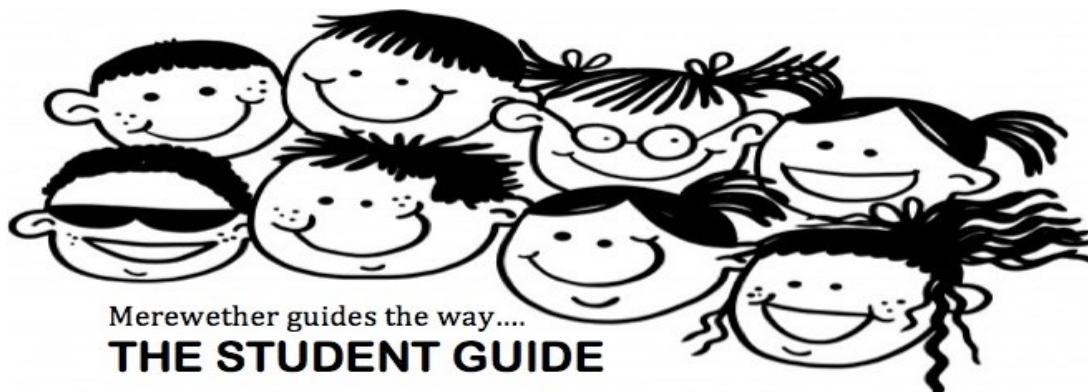
**As of July 2017 any student** who has missed school program vaccines or any childhood vaccines can now receive these vaccines from their local doctor. *For more information please refer to [www.immunise.health.gov.au](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au) and click on "National immunisation program – expansion".*

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

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

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

## 'THE STUDENT GUIDE' MENTOR PROGRAM'



During 2017 'The Student Guide' Program is running again at MHS. Just like the words of our school song.... "*Merewether guides the way.....*" students from Years 10,11,12 will be 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 connecting new match ups over the next few weeks.

This program is very flexible.... Do you want someone to give you a hand with an assessment task? Do you want regular help with a subject? Would you like a bit of support with a particular topic for a while? Would you like some tips to get organised? Or perhaps someone to have a chat to? Or just to meet someone new?

Your friendly mentors are able to offer:

- 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 to support the completion 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 we thank our volunteer mentors for their support, guidance and friendship shared with their peers. It is a confidential program aimed at building relationships in the school to support each other.

If you are interested in 'The Student Guide', you may request a mentor through the Survey Monkey link that has been sent to your email account. For further information you can contact Mrs Allen in the Language Department.

The Student Guide Coordinator

Mrs Allen



## Merewether High School Uniform Shop



### Shop Hours

Monday 8.00-12.00pm

Thursday 1.00-3.30pm

### Contact Details

0401 725 885

[merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au](mailto:merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au)

130 Chatham Street, Broadmeadow  
NSW 2292

Girls Uniform: Yr7-Yr9	Size	Price
S/S Blouse	J8-L20	\$39.00
Tartan Skirt	J8-L20	\$69.00
Formal Shorts	J10-L20	\$44.00
Fitted Pants	J10-L20	\$49.00
Girls Uniform: Yr10-Yr12	Size	Price
S/S Blouse	J10-L20	\$43.00
Tartan Skirt	J8-L20	\$69.00
Formal Shorts	J10-L20	\$44.00
Fitted Pants	J10-L20	\$49.00
Boys Uniform: Yr7-Yr9	Size	Price
S/S Shirt	J8-3XL	\$37.00
Formal Shorts	J8-3XL	\$48.00
Formal Trousers	J10-3XL	\$55.00
Boys Uniform: Yr10-Yr12	Size	Price
S/S Shirt	J8-3XL	\$37.00
Formal Shorts	J8-3XL	\$48.00
Formal Trousers	J10-3XL	\$55.00
Outerwear	Size	Price
Jumper	10-16	\$82.00
	18-20	\$92.00
	22-26	\$102.00

Sports Uniform	Size	Price
Sports Polo	J8-3XL	\$44.00
Sports Shorts	J8-3XL	\$38.00
Tracksuit Jacket - Heavy	J10-3XL	\$89.00
Tracksuit Pants	J10-3XL	\$50.00
Bags	Size	Price
Swim Excursion Bag	one	\$20.00
Backpack	Large	\$84.00
Accessories	Size	Price
Sport Socks	All Sizes	\$10.00
White Socks	All Sizes	\$6.95
Black Socks	All Sizes	\$6.95
Microfibre Tights	All Sizes	\$10.00
Leather Belt	All Sizes	\$17.00
Bucket Hat	S-XL	\$22.00
Sports Cap	One Size	\$18.00
Gloves		\$8.00
Scarf		\$11.00
Fabric Marker		\$4.00

### Note:

- Sizes not carried are available by custom order. 3 month lead time applies. An additional \$10.00 is applied to custom orders and all sizes above and including a 4XL/L22.
- Online orders are distributed from the Uniform Shop the next opening day of the shop. A postage charge will occur for all orders marked for delivery.
- Payments can be made by Cash, Credit Card or Debit Credit Cards only.

Prices Effective from 1-10-2017 and are subject to change without notice.