

May
2019

Merewether High School Bulletin



Diary Dates

P&C Meeting

Tuesday 21st May

7:00 ILC

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22nd May

Cross Country

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Sydney Symphony
Orchestra Excursion

Principal's Report

This term sees Mrs Amber Watson and Mrs Jen McKeough joining the staff team at Merewether High. Mrs Watson is a member of the CAPA Faculty and Mrs McKeough joins us as school counsellor on Thursdays and Fridays. We welcome Mrs Watson and Mrs McKeough to Merewether High School and look forward to working with them throughout the coming year.

Congratulations to all students who received a letter at the end of Term 1 commending them for outstanding work throughout Term 1. This recognition occurs as part of our school reward scheme in Terms 1 and 3 each year.

All Year 12 students will be interviewed as part of our support program to review their academic progress during weeks 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this term. Interviews are held with either the Principal or one of the Deputy Principals. The purpose of these interviews is to review students' academic progress to date and to help plan for academic success as we move towards the HSC.

Term 2 is shaping up to be a very busy term with Mid-Course assessments for Years 7 – 11, Parent Teacher Interview afternoons for Year 12 and Year 11 and reports issued to all years other than Year 10. Year 10 reports will be issued at the beginning of Week 3, Term 3 as Year 10 exams are not held until the second last week of this term and all exams then need to be marked prior to reports being completed. Parent Teacher interviews for Years 7 – 10 will be held early Term 3.

Year 7 and 9 sat their NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, grammar and punctuation, spelling and numeracy this week, 14th, 15th and 16th May. Individual student results will be available early September and will be sent home to parents with our students.

NAPLAN is a snapshot, at a point in time test, which gives us data to tell us what our students are doing well and areas for development. We ensure all students are familiar with the format and process of the tests but continue our normal teaching and learning programs with the skills to be tested in NAPLAN embedded into our everyday practice. We have many points in time that gives us vital data to see where our students are at and NAPLAN is just one of these.

Saskia Ferguson and Heyma Nahar were our student representatives on the organising committee for the 64th Annual Newcastle and Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Commemorative Event. The event honoured the vital role of members of the Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police who help countries around the globe make the difficult, early transition from conflict to peace under the flag of the United Nations. Saskia and Heyma were outstanding in their role on the day. Mr Steve Gibb is to be congratulated on his role behind the scenes supporting our students in the work to put this event together.

Mac Gilligan of Year 11 was interviewed in March by 1233 radio outlining the process he went through to perfect his Nixie tube clock. He commenced the work in Year 9 as part of his IBL project where the Nixie clock did not work as he would have liked. Twelve months later he revisited the project and established the Nixie 2.0 completing the project with a working Nixie tube clock.

Our school captains, Zoe Davis and Ryan Stoodley, visited Parliament and Government Houses on Wednesday 8th May. This program is part of the leadership program offered to school leaders and gave our captains the opportunity to view parliament in session, hear from local members about their journey to politics and the chance to meet the new Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC.



On the 28th March a number of our students contested the regional Rostrum Public Speaking competition with Merewether High students winning both the junior and senior sections. Scarlett Morante in Year 7 came first with her speech on “A Towering Achievement” and Archie O’Neill, also in Year 7, spoke about “Being part of the Conversation” and was named runner-up. George McNamara won the senior round, his first time speaking in the competition. The next round of the competition will be the state final in June.



Eighty of our students participated in the World's Greatest Shave at the end of Term 1, raising a combined \$37,669.81 for the Leukemia Foundation. The sum is the ninth highest raised by any team across Australia. The money will fund research and provide emotional and practical support for families.



Charlie Walker of Year 9 competed in the Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships in April on the Gold Coast. Charlie won a silver medal in the Under 14 Surf Race. He also joined with his tea to win a bronze medal in the Under 15 Cameron Relay.



Congratulations to Shivani Richardson who received the Year 10 Academic Excellence award from Sydney University. Whilst Shivani was presented with the award initially at our 2018 Presentation Assembly, Shivani and her family were invited to an award ceremony held in the Great Hall at Sydney University on the 3rd April. Shivani is seen here receiving her award on the day.





Congratulations to Mrs Lorraine Scott, a long serving staff member who was recently recognised at an award ceremony held by the Executive Director, Mr Tim McCallum. Lorraine received an Excellence in Education award for service to education. The awards were for either a School Administrative Support Staff or community member, with only three awards presented from each Network of Schools.



At our recent assembly, Year 11 students presented the Cooks Hill Surf Lifesaving Club and the Newcastle Surf Lifesaving Club \$1000 each as a result of their fundraising in honour of Kain Wratten. The funds and the efforts of our students were greatly appreciated by the Surf Lifesaving Clubs.





Over two-hundred high school students attended the University of Sydney's 2019 Bioengineering Innovation Outreach Challenge during the recent holidays and were asked to identify innovative solutions to some of the world's most complex medical challenges. The Merewether High School team was awarded the Scientific Excellence prize in recognition for having developed a solution for administering multiple different medications intravenously without using needles or pills.

Delta Hateley from the team described the experience:

The Bioengineering Innovation Outreach Challenge 2019, hosted by the University of Sydney and the ARC Training Centre for Innovative Bioengineering, challenged us to identify a short-coming in current medical technology and use problem solving skills to develop a solution in the form of a scientific innovation. Our team, representing Merewether High School, consisted of Year 10 students Phoebe Parker, Lily Francis, Sarah Pickering, Jeremy Thomas and myself. The team travelled to Sydney University on Monday 15th April to attend the presentation day, joining over 200 other high school students to present our medical innovations. Over 30 separate teams presented, and the day involved multiple valuable presentations from leading scientists and people from the Sydney University, including talks from Dr Karl Kruszelnicki and Professor Benjamin Eggleton. From these presentations we were able to gain an insight into the future of science, in particular, the future of biomedical science.

Our team developed a device to address the problem of hospital patients needing to receive multiple pills or painful needle injections throughout their treatment period. We developed a single painless transdermal patch with an interchangeable drug unit, which allows for the exchange of multiple different drugs to deliver medication according to each patient's specific needs. The Sydney University gave us special media focus and featured us in their article about the event.

As a result of the day, our team was fortunate enough to receive the award for 'Scientific Excellence' in recognition of our "identified solution for a short-coming in current medical technology at the 'Bioengineering Innovation Outreach Challenge 2019' event."

This experience was an excellent opportunity to engage in the scientific research environment and learn from a collection of esteemed experts in the field.

Congratulations to Vihan Roy who received the gold medal in the National Latin examination.

Congratulations to Charlie Walker (Year 9), three gold and four silver medals, Kelsey Van Eldik, two silver medals and Ava Jankovic, one silver and three bronze medals at the NSWCHS Swimming Championships held in Sydney in the last week of Term 1. Charlie, Kelsey and Ava, along with Noah Kellett, Yueltan Leong and Sam Bloomfield will represent us and the state at the NSW All Schools carnival. Noah, Yueltan and Sam will join Charlie in the 4 x 50 metre freestyle relay. Charlie has been selected to represent in nine events, Kelsey, six events and Ava, five events.

Congratulations to our boys' open water polo team who won the state championship at the end of last term. We celebrated the boys' achievement on assembly last week. A great effort from a team that has performed so well over the past six years.





Deputy's Report

I would like to warmly welcome staff, students and parents back to Term 2. We are looking forward to an engaging and busy ten weeks ahead of us here at Merewether High School. As Mr Southward mentioned in the last Bulletin, we had Pi Day, Harmony Day and World's Greatest Shave as major events towards the end of last term. Pi Day was a terrific success with the following students being recognised for their excellent efforts. Pi Recital 1st place winner and crowned Pi King was Riley Osborne, (Year 7) 230 digits and the Bake Off 1st place was Annabelle Miller (Year 10) with her peach crumble was the only pie to ever receive full marks! 60/60. The SRC and Mrs Allen organised a wonderful Harmony Day celebration with several students and staff dressing in traditional dress and parading on assembly. This led into lunchtime activities with a variety of stalls, selling foods from different cultures. Cultural activities were conducted in the Learning Centre and traditional sporting activities on the fields took place. Thank you to everyone involved, celebrating our diverse cultural backgrounds here at MHS and supporting the theme for 2019 "Everyone Belongs". Congratulations to the Merewether High School Community for the outstanding effort put into the World's Greatest Shave, prefects' organisation, participants having their heads shaved, Hairdressers/Barbers offering their time and everyone who so generously donated to this worthy cause, raising in excess of \$37,000.

Term 2 can be quite rigorous for students with assessment periods for Years 7-11. Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN in week 3, Year 11 Assessment period is in week 5, Years 7-9 assessment period in week 6 and Year 10 assessment week in week 9. Students should be focusing on ensuring they have an appropriate study space, planning focused study times to suit their busy schedules, ensuring they have class notes up to date and developing summaries. They should complete revision questions and practice papers. We wish them well in their assessment tasks and examinations and look forward to meeting with parents and carers later in the term for Years 11 and 12 and early next term for 7-10. We continually encourage students to have a growth mindset with their learning and look at the assessment periods as one of these opportunities. We encourage students to set goals and plan to put actions in place to achieve their goals. After tasks encourage your child to gain feedback from teachers and focus on four main questions we encourage all students to consider.

What can I do ?

What can't I do?

How does my work compare to that of others?

How can I do better?

Mr Southward is on Leave from week 4 and Mr Berry will be relieving Deputy Principal for the rest of the term. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us to support your student in their educational journey. We look forward to seeing you at Parent Learning Groups throughout this term.

Jane Crooks, DP Years 7,9 and 11

Mr Southward and Mr Berry Years, 8,10 and 12

CAPA

Central Australia

By Chloe Kidd, Yr 9

During the April school holidays, 11 MHS students including: Julia Boyd, Dawn Dyson, Chloe Kidd, Mia McKay, Vithaki Mukunthan, Georgia Olds, Lucinda Paterson, Rowan Smith, Sam Spratt, Alice Thompson and Kiera Washunsen who are all members of either Hunter Singers or Hunter Wind Ensemble went on a combined tour of Central Australia. We travelled a total of 7700km by coach around New South Wales, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. We saw some amazing places and performed in many gorgeous and culturally significant venues.

Some great moments of our tour included a standing ovation at our Broken Hill concert, seeing Uluru, hiking in Kings Canyon, riding camels, relaxing in the Artisan Spa, and performing at Barcaldine's ANZAC Day Dawn Service. We can't forget the endless facts given by Doug the bus driver throughout the trip, especially about Priscilla: Queen of the Desert.

Although the camping element of the tour and the infinite flies did test our resilience, and touring with 100 people at times tested our patience, the whole experience was really amazing and helped both ensembles grow a lot.

We would also like to thank all the teachers and caregivers involved with tour, because they really took care of us. And, a super special thanks to Mrs Tenorio, who worked so hard so organise the tour, and who is an absolute blessing to both ensembles.

We really suggest that if you play a wind instrument or like to sing, you should join Hunter Wind Ensemble, or Hunter Singers, because it's super fun and they provide so many opportunities like this.



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If you are interested in joining either of these NSW Department of Education ensembles please contact:

Hunter Wind Ensemble: hunterwindensemble@gmail.com.au

Hunter Singers: admin@huntersingers.com

MEET THE MUSIC

Our 2nd Meet the Music Concert at Sydney Opera House for the year took us on a journey to the Stars with a beautiful work composed by a young female Australian composer, Ella Macens – The Space Between Stars. We were then dazzled by the virtuosic talent of Paul Goodchild, Principal Trumpeter for Sydney Symphony Orchestra who has been a member for the past 40 years with the William Lovelock Trumpet Concerto! Finally we were taken on an emotional journey as we explored ‘The Inextinguishable’, Symphony No. 4 by Carl Nielsen. We would like to thank Ms Jin Jung who accompanied us on this excursion, her first time attending a concert in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House.





Senior Music Evening at Lizotte's

When: Monday 1st July 2019

Doors open for dinner at 6pm. Performances begin at 7pm

Where: Lizotte's Restaurant – 31 Morehead Street, Lambton

Experience the talent and skill of Merewether High's HSC musicians.

Sit and enjoy a delectable evening of music & food.

TICKETS: for the evening are available directly from the Lizotte's website at

\$18 per person www.newcastle.lizottes.com.au

An al-a- carte menu is available on the evening. The prices of the al-a-carte on average are entree \$15-\$20, main \$25-\$30, dessert \$10-\$17 and the snack bar menu ranges from \$6-\$17.50 and includes tapas style food.

Limited seats available

CAPA Upcoming Events:

20th May – MHS Vocal Ensemble, Secondary Choral Concert at Sydney Town Hall

24th May – Year 7 Excursion to Newcastle Town Hall for a concert featuring Sydney Symphony Orchestra

5th June – Merewether High Portrait Prize Exhibition, MHS Learning Centre

12th-15th June – Star Struck Week, Newcastle Entertainment Centre

13th June – Visual Arts IBL Exhibition, K Block Drama Room

19th June – Yr 8 Elective Music Performance Night, MHS Learning Centre

1st July – Yr 12 Performance Night at Lizotte's, Lambton

31st July – Muriel's Wedding, Sydney. Open to all Music Elective students

1st August – POSH Concert (all MHS Music Ensembles and Yr 12 Music students) at Newcastle Conservatorium

Alison Tenorio - Relieving Head Teacher CAPA

JAPAN TOUR 2019

During the April school holidays 31 students along with Mrs Allen, Mr Smith, Mrs Biram and Ms Martinez set off on their 10 day Japanese adventure.

In Tokyo we visited the trendy districts of Harajuku and Akihabara and enjoyed a view of Mount Fuji and the massive city of Tokyo from the Skytree. A visit to the Ghibli Museum, the home of Totoro and Miyazaki anime was also a highlight there.

In Kyoto we visited the temples and shrines this city is famous for including the Golden Temple, Fushimi Inari Shrine and its thousands of bright red tori gates and Kiyomizu Temple where students could drink from the fountain of luck, long life and love. The illumination of Kyoto Station's light show was a treat too. The highlight of Kyoto was the afternoon trip to Nara Deer Park and Todaiji Temple.

Hiroshima was a quieter change of pace where we visited the Peace Park, tried the region's famous dish of Okonomiyaki and visited the beautiful Miyajima Island where we also had great success in making Japanese sweets at a cooking class.

By far the most enjoyable day though was when we were welcomed to our Sister City in Ube by City Council Staff and Keishin High School. We visited the beautiful Tokiwa Park and experienced the traditional tea ceremony, then headed to an afternoon at Keishin High where the students interacted with Japanese students to learn about Japanese culture, our sister city, try on kimonos and play games together. We look forward to welcoming Keishin High back to Merewether in August.





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Thank you to all travellers and especially the teachers for a wonderful adventure in Japan.

Mrs Allen - Language Teacher



ENGLISH

NEW HSC COURSES AND ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

Courses

Content is organised by key processes which highlight and emphasise the important aspects of language learning and provide a continuum of learning from Stage 5. Explicit content, relating to literacy and language, in each module description ensure that these important areas remain a key focus. The syllabuses contain content related to explicit language learning.

STANDARD ENGLISH

Year 11 – will be available for Year 10 students to choose at Merewether High School for 2020

The new syllabus prescribes the study of three modules beginning with the common module *Reading to Write* which is designed to support students to consolidate the key skills they will need for successful transition to senior study. Teachers, through the judicious selection of texts that address the needs and interests of their students, will provide opportunities for students to increase the command of their own written expression.

The new module *Contemporary Possibilities* provides dedicated time to the study and analysis of contemporary digital texts. Students will engage in a detailed study of one complex multimodal or digital text such as film, media or interactive narratives. Through this study they will enhance their understanding of the significance of this mode of communication in a global world. Sample teaching units are being developed and will demonstrate different approaches to teaching this module.

The third module requires study of a substantial literary print text such as a prose fiction, drama or a selection of poems from the work of one poet.

Year 12

Students will study three extended literary texts. In addition, they will study a related text for the common module, *Texts and Human Experiences*.

The Craft of Writing Module requires students to read widely and study challenging short texts from the prescribed list to use as models for their own written expression.

These altered text requirements provide time for students to engage deeply with a range of texts to refine their writing skills. All students should benefit from a stronger focus on the process of writing for a range of purposes and audiences.

ADVANCED

Year 11

In addition to the common module *Reading to Write* students will study two further modules including a *Critical Study of Literature* and *Narratives that Shape Our World*.

The latter module requires students to explore how stories and storytelling influence the ways individuals and communities understand and represent themselves.

Year 12

Students will study four extended literary texts. In addition, they will study a related text for the common module, *Texts and Human Experiences*.

The *Textual Conversations* module requires a study of two texts that have a close intentional relationship with each other. The revised Text Prescriptions provide more flexibility in the way texts will be paired, for example two novels or the works of two poets may be studied.

The Craft of Writing module provides opportunities for students to extend their knowledge, skills and confidence as accomplished writers through their study of at least two short prescribed texts and their own wide reading.

School-based assessment components, weightings and requirements have been simplified. No specific weightings have been allocated to the modes, in any of the English courses.

In each course, one mandatory multimodal presentation has been included to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills across a range of modes. A multimodal presentation includes at least one mode other than reading and writing such as listening, speaking, viewing and representing.



Assessment

New, rigorous guidelines for effective school-based Higher School Certificate (HSC) assessment will be introduced for all Stage 6 Board Developed Courses (excluding VET, Life Skills and Content Endorsed Courses) from 2018 (Year 11 students) and 2019 (Year 12 students).

The school-based assessment guidelines will be tougher to prevent plagiarism and cheating and help reduce student stress caused by over-assessment.

Reducing stress

To reduce excessive stress and allow more time for teaching and learning, school-based assessment tasks will be capped at three per course in Year 11 and four per course in Year 12 (including the HSC trial examination).

Reducing plagiarism and cheating

Redesigned HSC examination questions will help reduce formulaic, pre-prepared responses and cheating. Stricter guidelines will assure the authorship of take-home assessments and projects.

Why change assessment?

The final HSC examinations form 50 per cent of a student's final HSC marks.

In its consultation, NSW Education Standards Authority (at the time BOSTES) found that teachers, parents and students reported that Year 11 and Year 12 students experienced assessment fatigue.

In reality, assessment tasks are clustered at similar points of the school year. From the student perspective, every assessment task counts, whether it is worth 5 per cent or 25 per cent. The assessments are not always single tasks, such as one essay, and often comprise subtasks that require a substantial amount of work to complete.

Students often feel compelled to choose to do "what's due next", or "what's worth more". Some assessment tasks replicate previous HSC examination questions, either in the form of an essay, or mimicking the examination. This limits the variety of tasks used to assess student knowledge and skills.

Fewer assessment tasks will allow schools to spend more time teaching the knowledge and skills in a course, and shift the focus from superficial learning just for the examination.

Will HSC examination questions change?

The final HSC examinations held every year will continue. They will also continue to form 50 per cent of a student's final HSC marks. However, HSC examination questions will change to help reduce cheating and plagiarism.

Some HSC examination questions are very similar every year. Teaching and learning can become formulaic in reflecting this. HSC examination questions will be less predictable so students must apply their knowledge and skills in their answers.

Students repeatedly practice their essay writing skills (particularly in English and History), resulting in prepared and memorised essays. Some schools set the previous HSC essay questions for homework tasks, or under examination conditions for the HSC trial examination.

Memorising key facts and skills, such as times tables and quotations, is important, however memorising entire essays to adapt and reproduce in an examination is a narrow demonstration of a student's application of knowledge and skills.

Donna McNaughton

Head Teacher English

HISTORY

YEAR 7

Year 7 have been working hard to immerse themselves in a few of the different historical artefacts found around the world. Being their first term in high school, Year 7 have been studying a unit called “what is history”, looking at archaeology and understanding how we as historians gain an understanding into the past. Turns out we have lots of great historians among us this year!



We were inundated with fabulous recreations of some famous artefacts including the Moai, Stonehenge, James Ossuary and The Akan Gold Weights,.

Year 7 spent time in class researching their chosen artefact and learning how to assess the reliability of online sources. Students were required to begin to look at the different perspectives of artefacts and how these perspectives have differed and changed over time.





Each class used their models to set up a museum exhibition with their own QR code linked to their information panel for all other students to enjoy! Year 7 really enjoyed sharing their understanding with their class and learning new facts about the different artefacts that their peers had presented.

Fantastic work Year 7!! From all of us at Humanities, you should be proud of your fantastic efforts.



MHS Leo's World's Longest Coin Line attempt



On Saturday the 16th of March, 7 members from the Leo's Club of Merewether High School went to the Newcastle Entertainment Centre in order to attempt to build the world's longest coin line, and break a Guinness World Record. This initiative was run in coordination with the Lions Club of Elmore Vale and Leo's Clubs from other schools such as Hunter Valley Grammar School and Mount View High School. The aim of this goal, was to raise as much money as we possibly could for research into a cure for childhood cancer which affects more than 750 children between the ages of 0 and 14 each year.

On the day, several committed volunteers from Lions' and Leo's clubs laid out over \$22,000 worth of 5 cent pieces. Although it was an arduous task, the cheerfulness of all of the volunteers, helped to create a wonderful atmosphere, full of laughter and fun! The sausage sizzle by Raymond Terrace Lions Club was also a good treat for everyone. All in all, the volunteers had a fantastic day working towards a truly meaningful cause. A big thank you goes to; Alicia DiSequira, Cooper Porter-Kay, Lily Francis, Evina Yadav, Melinda Lietch, Lily O'Callaghan and Daniel Malloney, who all came and helped on the day!

Steve Gibb - Head Teacher Humanities

TAS

Merewether High Schools - MakerSpace

Merewether HS has received two new 3D printers bringing our 3D Printer numbers to six. These six machines support the TAS faculty in delivering STEM focus areas within the school.

Students gain access to this technology through elective areas in Year 8 Design & Technology, Year 9 Future Homes and in senior years to complete design work and participate in extra curricular areas like F1 in schools and Future Homes projects.

Mr. Andrew Donaldson



Boys' Open Water Polo

The open boys' water polo team have once again claimed the state title for another year. The team included Matt Humby, Mitch Robinson, Joey Lyons, Whittaker Downey, Campbell Starrett, Jared Muller, Ben McPherson, Oscar Power, Tom Grice and Alex Garnett.

Over the last four years they have competed in six CHS State finals with 4 gold and 2 silver... which is an outstanding feat for any school, but particularly a regional school such as Merewether High.

This year the boys' team remained undefeated throughout the whole competition against Tomaree, Whitebridge, Lambton, Murray, Alstonville and Hills Sports High. After each of the games every coach and organiser commented about the sportsmanship of the boys in our team. At the state finals on the 5th of April we won our pool convincingly and in the semi final against Farrar HS we won 12-1.

The boys played the Grand Final against Kirrawee High School which has a long history of representative players in the sport. We played the team in 2017 and were beaten and so the boys were determined to make this year count.

Matt and Mitch were instrumental in building team confidence and strategies to ensure victory. Campbell, who has been our goalie for all of the previous games, was injured so Whittaker stepped up and did an amazing job in goals. Jared, Ben Joey, Oscar, Tom and our new player this year Alex all played with focus and the teamwork ensured the boys came home with gold, with the final score being 6-3. Matt Humby was awarded player of the final. Well done boys.



Ms Mel Easton - Water Polo Coach



Magic Moments Youth Summit - Exploring in Careers

Last July school holidays I got in the car on my way to Magic Moments Youth Summit, and I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I was excited to go but nervous to be the only person from Newcastle there and to turn up to a five night camp not knowing any of the kids attending. I'd heard about the camp through the amazing Heather Yelland who I met the year before and who is one of the presenters. The camp seemed like it would be a great opportunity, so I decided to give it a go, and I'm so glad I did! Over the course of five days and nights I got to participate in so many amazing activities and presentations, from team challenges, identifying my passions and goals, learning financial skills to developing a business plan and competing for a \$1000 grant to start that business.

I made so many lifelong friends who I still keep in touch with online, learned so many invaluable things and was exposed to so many incredible stories and people over the course of the camp. There were kids at the camp from 10 different countries around the world and even a group of kids who raised the money to come from Philippines so that they could learn skills to be better leaders within their small community over there.

I would recommend Magic Moments to anyone who is willing to give it a go and get a bit out of their comfort zone, especially if you are interested in becoming an entrepreneur or learning more about business and leadership, along with setting big goals for yourself. I can't wait to go back this July, and I would love to have some MHS students come along with me. The organisers have been very generous in giving me a code for a \$200 discount off the camp price, which is Friends200.

If you have any questions at all please ask me or get in touch. You can view the wrap up of 2018 camp here to get an idea what it was like; <https://youtu.be/VRjVd4MWDFI>

Liana Corbett - Year 9

National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) As a parent, guardian or carer, what do I need to know?

Under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, schools have an obligation to ensure that students with disability are able to access and participate in school on the same basis as their peers.

To ensure this, students with disability may receive adjustments or support, depending on their functional needs, to access and participate in education.

Parents, guardians and carers have an important role in their child's education. They work collaboratively with the school to ensure that the school understands their child's needs and that appropriate adjustments are made to enable access to education.

The NCCD is an annual count of students who are being provided with adjustments to address disability. All Australian schools and approved authorities for schools participate in the NCCD each year.

Merewether High School is currently undertaking the process of collecting the data for our students. For further information please refer to the following link regarding the role of parents/guardians and carers:

<https://www.nccd.edu.au/resources-and-tools/roles/parents-guardians-and-carers>



All NSW school-enrolled children are now eligible for their 2019 **\$100 Active Kids voucher**. The voucher can be used with any approved Active Kids provider, to help cover costs towards registration, participation or membership fees for sport, fitness and active recreation.

How to claim your voucher



1 Visit service.nsw.gov.au and login to your MyServiceNSW Account



2 Click on the Active Kids icon found in your **SERVICE** tab



3 Fill out the requested information (you will need your current Medicare card)



4 Print a copy of each voucher or email it to yourself

How to use your voucher

- 1** Once you have chosen an activity give the voucher number to your activity provider, or log onto your provider's website and enter the voucher number
- 2** If you can't find a provider you can search <https://my.service.nsw.gov.au/MyServiceNSW/ActiveKidsSearchProvider>



*Vouchers can always be found in your MyServiceNSW account by looking in the My Applications tab



Hunter Valley Buses Pty Ltd

ABN 68116171432

Telephone 02 4935 7200

Fax 02 4966 8200

Address 6 Glenwood Dr, Thornton NSW 2322

Post PO Box 3161, Thornton NSW 2322

cdcbus.com.au

23rd April 2019

Dear Principal,

Hunter Valley Buses (HVB) are writing to you as a provider which operate school bus services to your school. HVB would like to address some concerns regarding the current use of School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) School Opal Cards.

The SSTS provides eligible school students with free or subsidised travel only between the student's home and school for school attendance on school days on any Opal Bus Service boarded in the course of their journey. When using a School Opal Card, it is a condition of use that students must tap on at the beginning of a trip and tap off at the end of a trip at an Opal Card Reader.

Opal data gathered by tap on and tap off is used to determine the level of service provided to your school. If students don't tap on and tap off, lack of perceived patronage could lead to a service appearing to be under utilised, prompting a review of the level of service provided to that school.

With this in mind, we seek your assistance in reminding your students to tap on and tap off being one of the conditions of use of the School Opal Card. Our experience has shown the following effective methods to encourage proper use of School Opal Cards:

- Teachers supervising at boarding points could encourage students to have their School Opal Card ready prior to arrival of their bus, minimising delays in loading to allow timely departure.
- Loading students in possession of a Student Opal Card first.
- Communicating relative information regarding the use of the School Opal Card via School Newsletters and electronic media to highlight to Parents/Care Givers the importance of proper use of the School Opal Card.
- Communicating to students the importance of correctly using the School Opal Card at School Assembly.

HVB would appreciate your support with the above which will greatly assist us in providing a more efficient and effective service reflective of your school's requirements.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Hunter Valley Buses





Transport for NSW provides students with **free** school travel

In return, we ask that you tap on and tap off every time when travelling on public transport to and from school.



**Tap on and tap off your
School Opal card every time**



It is a condition of the *School Pass Terms* and the *Student Codes of Conduct* when travelling that students in possession of the School Opal card must tap on and tap off every time when using public transport to travel to and from school. Per section 3.2 of the Opal Privacy Policy, Transport for NSW collects information from taps on and taps off to support coordination, planning and policy development for transport, transport services and transport infrastructure.



Merewether High School
CHANGE OF FAMILY DETAILS

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

DATE OF CHANGE: _____ Roll class/Scholastic year: _____

STUDENT-First name: _____ Surname: _____

FAMILY NAME IF DIFFERENT FROM STUDENTS: _____

ADDRESS DETAILS

MAILING TITLE: _____

NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: _____

SUBURB: _____ POST CODE: _____

NEW MAILING ADDRESS (if different to above): _____

SUBURB: _____ POST CODE: _____

OLD ADDRESS: _____

SUBURB: _____ POSTCODE: _____

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

1ST PARENT/CARERS NAME: _____

HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____ WORK: _____

2ND PARENT/CARERS NAME: _____

HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____ WORK: _____

FAMILY EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

NB: This is the address where all email correspondence from the school will be sent.

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS – other than parents

1ST EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____ Relationship to student _____

HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____ WORK: _____

2ND EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____ Relationship to student _____

HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____ WORK: _____

MEDICAL CONDITIONS (please advise of student medical condition): _____

FAMILY LAW DETAILS (please provide a copy of court orders if applicable)

TYPE OF ORDER: _____ DATE: _____

ACCESS DETAILS: _____

PARENT/CARER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



Shop Hours
Monday 8.00-12.00pm
Thursday 1.00-3.30pm

Contact Details
0401 725 885
merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au
130 Chatham Street, Broadmeadow
NSW 2292

**Merewether High School
Uniform Shop Order Form**



Order Form Details

Date: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

Contact Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Payment Options

Visa Mastercard Cash (enclosed)

Name On Card: _____
Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: ____/____/____
CVC: _____
Signature: _____

Uniform: Y7-Y12	Size	Price	Size	Qty
S/S Blouse 7-9	J8-L20	\$40.00		
S/S Shirt 7-9	J8-3XL	\$38.00		
S/S Blouse 10-12	J10-L20	\$44.00		
S/S Shirt 10-12	J8-3XL	\$38.00		
Iartan Skirt	J8-120	\$71.00		
Fitted Formal Shorts	J10-L20	\$45.50		
Fitted Pants	J10-L20	\$50.00		
Formal Shorts	J8-3XL	\$49.95		
Formal Trousers	J10-3XL	\$55.00		
Outerwear	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Jumper	10-16	\$84.00		
	18-20	\$94.00		
	22-26	\$104.00		

Sports Uniform	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Sports Polo	J8-3XL	\$45.00		
Sports Shorts Unisex	J8-3XL	\$39.50		
Sport Shorts Girls Cut	J10-L20	\$39.50		
Tracksuit Jacket MF	J10-3XL	\$79.00		
Tracksuit Jacket Heavy	J10-3XL	\$89.00		
Tracksuit Pants	J10-3XL	\$51.50		
Bags	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Swim Excursion Bag	one	\$70.60		
Backpack	Large	\$86.50		
Accessories	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Sport Socks	All Sizes	\$10.00		
White Socks	All Sizes	\$6.95		
Black Socks	All Sizes	\$6.95		
Microfibre Tights	All Sizes	\$10.50		
Leather Belt	All Sizes	\$17.50		
Bucket Hat	S-XL	\$22.50		
Sports Cap	One Size	\$19.00		
Gloves		\$8.50		
Scarf		\$12.50		
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 1-9-2018 and are subject to change without notice.



Merewether High School
Uniform 7-12.



Merewether High School
Uniform 7-12.



Merewether High School
Sports Uniform



Merewether High School
Bags and Accessories



May

Merewether High School Bulletin



2019

May	
Mon 20/5	Year 12 Academic Reviews Y7 Brainstorm Production - 9am
Tues 21/5	Y8 PLG - 9am Y12 Parent Teacher Interviews P&C Meeting - ILC - 7:30pm
Wed 22/5	Zone Cross Country
Fri 24/5	Y 11 Assessment period Sydney Symphony Orchestra Newcastle
Mon 27/5	Yrs 7– 9 Blackout period commences Reach Science Yrs 7 - 10
Tues 28/5	Y9 PLG - 9am Reach Science Yrs 7 - 10
Wed 29/5	Reach Science Yrs 7 - 10
Thurs 30/5	Reach Science Yrs 7 - 10
Fri 31/5	Reach Science Yrs 7 - 10 Hunter Regional Cross Country
June	
Mon 3/6	Yrs 7 - 9 Assessment period M Factor Concert
Tues 4/6	Y10 PLG - 9am
Wed 5/6	National History Competition
Fri 7/6	Y12 Academic Review concludes
Mon 10/6	Queen's Birthday Weekend
Tues 11/6	Y11 PLG - 9am Starstruck Week
Mon 17/6	Y10 Blackout period commences Waste Awareness Week Reach Spelling - Y7 Reach Writing - Y7 & Y8
Tues 18/6	Y12 PLG - 9am Reach Spelling - Y7 Reach Writing - Y7 & Y8
Wed 19/6	Reach Spelling - Y7 Reach Writing - Y7 & Y8
Thurs 20/6	Reach Spelling - Y7 Reach Writing - Y7 & Y8
Fri 21/6	Green Day Reach Spelling - Y7 Reach Writing - Y7 & Y8



Mon 24/6	Y10 Assessment period commences
Tues 25/6	Y7 PLG - 9am
Thurs 27/6	Y11 Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 28/6	NAIDOC Assembly
	July
Mon 1/7	ROSA Assemblies Y7,9,11 - 11am Y8,10,12 - 1:30pm
Tues 2/7	Y11 Jindabyne day 1/4
Wed 3/7	Y11 Jindabyne day 2/4
Thurs 4/7	Y12 UoN - all day Y11 Jindabyne day 3/4
Fri 5/7	Y11 Jindabyne day 4/4 Reports Issued
	TERM 3
Mon 22/7	School Development day - no students
Tues 23/7	All students return Y12 Meeting
Thurs 25/7	Y7 2020 Tour and Information Session - 4pm
Fri 26/7	CHS Cross Country
Mon 29/7	Reach English - Y7-Y10
Tues 30/7	Y7 & Y9 parent Teacher Interview Reach English - Y7-Y10
Wed 31/7	Opportunity Class Placement Test Regional Athletics Reach English - Y7-Y10
	August
Thurs 1/8	POSH Concert Reach English - Y7-Y10
Fri 2/8	Reach English - Y7-Y10
Mon 5/8	Y10 Reports issued Y12 Blackout period commences Reach Maths Y7 - Y10
Tues 6/8	Y7 PLG - 9am Reach Maths Y7 - Y10
Wed 7/8	Reach Maths Y7 - Y10
Thurs 8/8	Y8 & Y10 Parent Teacher interviews Reach Maths Y7 - Y10
Fri 9/8	Reach Maths Y7 - Y10

May

Merewether High School Bulletin



2019

Mon 12/8	Y10 (2020) Information Evening - 4:30pm Y11 (2020) Information Evening - 6pm
Tues 13/8	Y8 (2020) Information Evening - 4:30pm Y9 (2020) Information Evening - 6pm
Mon 19/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams Commence
Tues 20/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Wed 21/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Thurs 22/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Fri 23/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Mon 26/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Tues 27/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Wed 28/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Thurs 29/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams
Fri 30/8	Y12 Trail HSC Exams conclude
September	
Tues 3/9	Elevate Y12 - 8:50am ICAS Digital Technologies School Dance
Wed 4/9	CHS Athletics
Thurs 5/9	ICAS Science - Y7 - Y10 CHS Athletics
Mon 9/9	Y11 Final Assessment period commences
Tues 10/9	Y12 PLG - 9am ICAS Writing - Y7 - Y10
Thurs 12/9	ICAS Spelling Bee Y7
Tues 17/9	Y7 PLG - 9am ICAS English - Y7 - Y10
Thurs 19/9	ICAS Maths Y7 - Y10
Fri 20/9	Y11 Final Assessment period concludes
Mon 23/9	Y7 Vaccinations
Tues 24/9	P&C Meeting - 7:30pm
Wed 25/9	Y12 Reports issued Sports Presentation Assembly - 9am Year 12 Formal
Fri 27/9	Y12 Presentation Assembly - 9:30am

May

Merewether High School Bulletin



2019

TERM 4	
October	
Mon 14/10	Y12 (2020) Information Session - 4pm Y11 Elevate - 10am
Tues 15/10	Y7 (2021) Information Session - 4pm
Thurs 17/10	Y7 GATS Challenge Day - 11am - 2:30pm HSC commences
Fri 25/10	Bandfest
Mon 28/10	Y11 Reports issued
Tues 29/10	Y7 PLG issued
Wed 30/10	Y9 Urban Challenge day 1/3
Thurs 31/10	Y9 Urban Challenge day 2/3
November	
Fri 1/11	Y9 Urban Challenge day 3/3
Mon 4/11	Y7 - Y10 Blackout period commences
Tues 5/11	Y8 PLG - 9am
Mon 11/11	Y7 - Y10 Assessment period
Tues 12/11	Y9 PLG - 9am Last Day HSC
Tues 19/11	Y10 PLG - 9am
Fri 22/11	Prefects' Investiture - 11am
Mon 25/11	IBL Panel Y8 & Y9
Tues 26/11	Y11 (Y12 2020) PLG - 9am IBL Panel Y8 & Y9
Thurs 28/11	Y11 Assembly - 11am
December	
Mon 2/12	Learning Reflection Y7
Mon 9/12	Learning Reflection Y8
Tues 10/12	Y7 (2020) Orientation Day
Fri 13/12	Y10 Assembly - 9am Y9 Assembly - 11am
Mon 16/12	Y8 Assembly - 9am Y7 Assembly - 11am
Tues 17/12	HSC Results Presentation Assembly - 10:30am
Wed 18/12	Y12 BBQ - 11am Last Day of School