Principal’s Report

Congratulations
Based on the 2012 HSC, Louisa Thong achieved an ATAR of 99.95, the highest possible ATAR in the state. Only forty-eight students across the state received this score. Louisa was named Dux of 2012 at our end of year Presentation Assembly. Congratulations also to Oliver Ray 99.85, Milonee Shah 99.75, Peter Bradshaw 99.50, Genevieve Fair 99.35 and Grace Buckner 99.25. All of these students will tell you their achievements were the result of consistent effort and a lot of work.

Welcome Back
Welcome to our new and existing families and a special welcome to our Year 7 students who are very quickly finding their way around the school. We also welcome the following new staff: Mrs Burdekin, English; Miss Binks, Science; Mr McBeath, PDHPE; Mrs Wilson, English; Miss Steele, SASS; and Mrs Nicholls, SASS. Mrs Reilly who had been at Merewether for ten years was successful at the end of 2012 in being appointed to Toronto High School as Deputy Principal. Mrs Reilly is an outstanding teacher and will be sorely missed by students and staff alike. We wish her well in her new position. Mrs James will relieve as Head Teacher Humanities until such position is filled.

HSC Results 2012
Our results in 2012 saw an improvement from the results of 2011. 218 Band 6s and 433 Band 5s were achieved by our 2012 cohort in comparison to 202 Band 6s and 380 Band 5s in 2011. Value added data also saw positive growth for the majority of students. A full analysis of our 2012 HSC results will be available in the 2012 MHS Annual School Report which will be available on the school website on the 1st April 2013.
Presentation Day 2012

Our Presentation Assembly held on the last day of school saw us celebrate the many achievements of our students. Below is an excerpt from my speech which highlights a few of those achievements.

Today we celebrate the achievements of our outstanding students at Merewether High School. I am extremely proud to be standing up here today, where we take time out to formally recognise those students who have achieved excellence in their academic work, citizenship and individual learning areas.

Congratulations to each and every one of you for the efforts you have made in your endeavours during 2012. Continue the excellent work you are producing and you will realise your dreams.

The academic awards students receive today are for those students who have achieved excellence in Years 7 – 10 and first place in course in Years 11 and 12. Our special awards include university scholarships, citizenship awards, bronze awards and the Year 10, 11 and 12 dux will be announced. These awards are the highest accolade students can receive while at Merewether High School.

During this week we have recognised all other students through Year Assemblies and the students receiving awards today also received awards at their respective Year Assemblies.

In every aspect of endeavour the students of Merewether High School have excelled. Academically we have much cause for congratulations.

In NAPLAN the Year 7 and Year 9 reading and numeracy overall results were above state and the average of all other selective schools.

In the ROSA, Recognition of School Achievement, which replaces the School Certificate, 93% of students in English, 91% in Maths and 87% in Science, achieved in the top two grades.

Yesterday Emily Richardson was named first in the state in Hospitality and recognised at a reception held at Parliament House. This morning we received our HSC results. Milonee Shah received a perfect score of 100 in Mathematics and was placed on the Top Achievers list in this course. Louisa Thong was also placed on the Top Achievers list in Economics. This places both girls in the top ten in the state. Eleven students, Grace Buckner, Ryan Dorahy, Holly Edwards, Sarah Grist, Liyang He, Ryan Liddle, Oliver Ray, Milonee Shah, Jonathon Sharpe, Louisa Thong and Gemma Wood made the all rounders list and our overall results saw 218 Band 6s and 433 Band 5s which is an increase on last year’s results.
Academic results are only a part of the many opportunities available to students at Merewether High. 2012 has seen many achievements across all aspects of school life. I would like to outline just a few of those achievements:

- Sankare Siritharan was selected to be Director General for a Day shadowing Cheryl Best, General Manager Learning and Development and Bryony Beal, Regional Director for a Day shadowing Frank Potter during Education Week.
- Jordan Carmody-Shaw and Bryce Dowie received University of New South Wales ICAS medals for achieving High Distinctions in the Australia wide Mathematics and Science competitions respectively placing them in the top 1% of all students in this competition.
- Dean Barrie was selected to participate in the New South Wales Constitutional Convention at Parliament House.
- Jonathon Chapman and Alexander Rutherford were nominated for Encore as a result of their HSC performance pieces.
- Alexander Fairclough was nominated for DesignTECH as a result of his Design and Technology HSC major work.
- Betrice Walker, Emily Chen, Samara Thambar, Cameron Allan, Rachel Leonard, Eliza Sharpe and Simona Gorgievski received State Awards in the National History Challenge. These students helped Merewether High to take out seven of the twelve available state awards.
- Cameron Allan and Rachel Leonard went on to receive two of the nineteen available National awards in the History Challenge.
- Cameron Davy and Estelle Hughes received Hunter Blues for Water Polo and Hockey respectively and Julia Barton received a Hunter Sports Award for Water Polo.
- Yang Ming Goh received the prestigious Stellar Astronomy Scholarship.
- The Year 12 Debating Team reached the state quarter finals in the Premier’s Debating Challenge.
- Campbell Melrose was selected to compete in the State Finals of the Premier’s Debating Challenge.
- Our Drama students represented the school at regional and state events, including the Shakespeare Festival, the regional DramaWorks program and the State Drama Festival.
- Merewether HS was represented at Star Struck, with soloist Abby Butler, backing vocalists Cameron Allen, Emma Elsley, Zac Hamilton-Russell and Campbell Moore and cellist Jamie Rea.
- Kate Gagulic and Sankare Siritharan received the Excellent Achievement Award at the Model United Nations Assembly and represented us at the National Competition.
- Cameron Allan, Vehayana Janu, Oran Krynda and Betrice Walker won the University of Newcastle Business Planning Challenge.
These are but a few of the many achievements within the school during 2012. The diversity of the skills of our students and the opportunities for students at Merewether High School are evidenced in these achievements.

2013 will see us commence the implementation of the curriculum changes we have announced this year. Year 8 will commence their electives providing students with more choice in their studies. Planning and professional learning for the Year 9 Project Based Learning course and the accelerated Year 10 HSC courses commencing in 2014 will be a major focus. Staff will continue training in curriculum differentiation in a Quality Teaching Framework.

There are many staff who make an impact and have an input into making our school what it is. Thank you to the staff for giving their best in the development of our students. The support staff within the school, the office, library, home science, science, and grounds staff have done an outstanding job within, at times, very critical time frames. Thank you to them.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful support of the P & C under the guidance of Mr Mal Roope and the Executive. The P & C this year supported the installation of interactive whiteboards into each of our learning spaces. This will ensure staff and students have access to the latest technology in teaching and learning. The completion of the building of the Independent Learning Centre, as an addition to the library is also as a result of the support of our P&C. In particular I would like to thank Mr Andrew Peek for his work on this project and for his drive and enthusiasm in providing a resource to support our senior students in their learning. To Liz and Sharon our canteen supervisors and the canteen committee, thank you for your work throughout the year in feeding our students and the staff.

At the end of every year it is also time to farewell one of our staff. Mr Phillips from Science is taking leave at the beginning of next year which will lead to his retirement half way through the year. Mr Phillips has been an outstanding teacher here at Merewether for many years. His skills on the rugby field have seen many students supported by his knowledge in improving their own skills. I would like to personally thank Mr Phillips for his years of service and the work he has done with hundreds of students in that time.

Again, congratulations to all our award recipients; be proud of your achievements. In particular to our Year 12 students, thank you for joining us this one last time. We are very proud of you.

I would like to wish everyone here today a very festive season and a restful break. To the community of Merewether High thank you for all your efforts and support throughout 2012 and finally to the staff and students, thank you for making this school the place it is.

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

Athletics Carnival
The Athletics Carnival will be held this year on Monday 25 February at the Glendale Athletics Complex. The venue is used extensively by schools over the next two and a half terms and we are allocated a date by the venue. I would like all students to ensure they attend this carnival and share in a day that allows us to work as a whole school and build the sense of spirit necessary for a school to be successful. More information will come out in regards to this carnival closer to the date.
**Year Advisers 2013**
Please contact the school when you have a concern and need a question answered. The Year Advisers should be your first contact. Year Advisers 2013 are:
- Ms Taylor and Mr O’Donnell – Year 7
- Mrs Greenland and Mr Donaldson – Year 8
- Mrs Johnson and Mr Byrnes – Year 9
- Mrs Brooks and Mr Harrison – Year 10
- Mrs Allen and Mr Grogan – Year 11
- Ms McNaughton and Mrs Tenorio – Year 12

**Head Teachers 2013**
- English – Ms McNaughton
- Mathematics – Mr Singh
- Science – Mr Smith
- Humanities – Mrs James
- Social Science – Mrs West
- CAPA – Ms Sutherland
- PDHPE – Mrs Morrison
- TAS – Mrs McCudden
- Technology/Languages – Mr Glover
- Admin – Mr Kelty
- Welfare – Mr Byrnes

If you would like to find out something specific to a course area please contact the Head Teacher in regard to your enquiry.

**Deputy Principals 2013**
- Mrs Harvey – Years 7, 8 and 9
- Mr Muddle – Years 10, 11 and 12

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

If you would like to email your child’s Year Adviser, the relevant Head Teacher or Deputy Principal, please do so via the school email address: merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**Student Uniform**
Thank you to everyone who has been patient while our uniform supplier has come on line over the past few months. The shop opening hours are: Monday 8:00am-12:00pm and Thursday 1:00pm-3:30pm. You do not need bookings for the shop - drop in anytime during the shop opening hours.

**Attendance**
Later in this bulletin there is an extract from the Department’s brochure on attendance. The majority of our students have outstanding attendance which supports them in achieving their potential. If at anytime you are concerned as to your child’s attendance please contact their Year Adviser, the Head Teacher Welfare, Mr Grahame Byrnes or the relevant Deputy Principal.
Fees
We are currently finalising invoices for all students for their 2013 fees. These should be posted home in the near future. Thank you to those parents who have already paid their fees for 2013.

Parent Involvement
Included later in the bulletin is how you as a parent can be involved in the school. The first P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday night 19th February at 7.30pm in the Independent Learning Centre at the front of the school. Come along and find out what is happening around the school.

From the DP
What a great start to the school year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the many families who have joined our school community for 2013. In addition to some new students in our later years (8-12), we have of course proudly welcomed 180 new Year 7 students and their families to our school and they have made a fantastic start. Already the students have participated in the school orientation program, the Prefect travel training, the school swimming carnival, peer support, school assemblies and of course plenty of classroom learning.

With so much happening, students are quickly coming to terms with the volume of “stuff” they need to bring to school each day and have certainly tested the volume capacity of those new back packs. Frank (our general assistant) has been overwhelmed with the distribution of locker keys and helping students locate their new personal storage space. Students who have not yet organised a locker are encouraged to think about taking up this opportunity to limit the weight of their school bag.

To further welcome year 7 families into our school, the SRC are hosting a family BBQ and Welcome Disco. Year 7 students and their families are invited to attend a BBQ in the Quad from 5.30 – 6.30 pm on the 13th March. Following the BBQ, students will be able to attend the school disco for all students Years 7-12 from 6.30 to 9.30pm. Tickets for the disco will need to be purchased in advance as there will be no tickets sold at the door - The SRC will control the sale of tickets.

Uniform: The overall presentation of students is fantastic. We are pleased with the supply of uniform through our school uniform shop and I am very impressed by the support from parents in the dress code and would like to congratulate all the students who wear their uniform proudly. There have been many positive comments from the community about the presentation of our students.

Student uniform is monitored daily through class roll marking procedures, and whilst most students are getting it right 100 percent of the time, for a few students, shoes do continue to be an area of concern. State and Federal legislation requires that all students participating in practical subjects must wear the correct shoes. These shoes must be black leather and protect the foot. Apart from the safety issues associated with this requirement, each student needs to practice compliance with the requirements of a normal working organisation as they prepare for life when they leave school.

We have this year introduced leadership passports for our junior and senior students and one area of leadership that is recognised through this program is the wearing of school uniform.

Peer Support: Our Year 10 peer support leaders have this week commenced their peer support program with Year 7. Groups of 10 Year 7 students are working with 3 student leaders from Year 10. This program supports the transition process for our Year 7 students and also supports our Year 10 students in the further development of their leadership skills. The program will continue to run once a week for the duration of Term 1 culminating in a group celebration in Week 11.
Chess Club: The school Chess Club will again be operating in 2013. We have entered the Country Schools Chess Competition and have performed well in this competition in the past. It would be great to have some new members in the club and any student with an interest in Chess is invited to attend the chess club on Monday’s at lunch time in the library. The club is assisted by Mrs Coull and I would like to thank Mrs Coull for her ongoing support of this program in the school.

At this time of year, it is again timely to mention our Road Safety and in particular Bus Travel. Students are reminded that they must observe all road safety rules in and around the school. At both the start and at the end of the school day, when large volumes of students are entering and exiting the school, we must be mindful of the vehicles travelling around the school. Community members have raised concern over students not using the lights and crossings provided and hence creating dangerous situations for drivers and near miss incidents, of particular concern is the area around the “Nineways”. Please consider your personal safety and that of others by ensuring you observe road safety rules at all times. Our bus students travelling on public buses are also reminded of bus etiquette and maintaining our positive reputation for this in the community. That is, please ensure you vacate your seat for a person who is in greater need than yourself for example elderly persons, persons with a disability or parents with young children. It is lovely to report that we regularly receive positive calls from the public commenting on the pleasant manner of our students and the way they have observed this etiquette when travelling.

Career Acceleration Program: Interviews took place on Thursday and Friday of week 3 for placement into the Semester 1 University Links courses. This semester we are offering Legal System and Method A (LAWS1001A), Introduction to Engineering Practice (GENG1803) and Molecules, Cells and Organisms (BIOL1001). Congratulations to the students who were successful in gaining a place in these courses and we wish you well for your extension studies this semester. Applications will be called later in Term 2 for the Semester 2 courses and application forms can be collected from Mrs Harvey.

Competitions: I have received notice of a number of exciting competitions that students can enter. These initiatives are supported by the federal government to raise awareness and support safe and supportive schools. Of course, there are great prizes up for grabs. The competitions are open to all students and are as follows:

- Celebrating history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples - Creative Writing competition for students in Year 7 – 9 and an Essay Writing competition for students in Year 10 – 12.
- In support of safe schools are smart schools and the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence – The Take a Stand Together / Bullying No Way competition is open to all students.

If you are interested in entering any of these competitions please see Mrs Harvey for further details.

DP Fanfare - Congratulations to the following students
- Oscar Bingham Y7– National Futsal Champion
- Lucy Witherden Y7 – Fantastic start to High School
- Chloe Bell Y 8 – Outstanding performances at the school swimming carnival
- Maddelene Gifford Y8 – Excellent participation and school spirit at the swimming carnival
- Prefects Y12 – Outstanding support of Year 7 travel training program.

N Harvey
Deputy Principal
Deputy's Report

Welcome to what promises to be yet another productive and rewarding year for all parties associated with Merewether High School.

Once again, we look forward to working with students, parents and the broader school community to enhance the educational outcomes for all MHS students.

Students have been reminded of our core values of pride, respect and responsibility. We are very privileged at MHS in that the vast majority of students regularly display these values. For those students who at times lapse in their display of such values, we must always remember that the actions of a few can very quickly sour perceptions of the whole. As previously indicated by Ms Harvey, the wearing of the correct school uniform on every day of attendance is an expectation of the school and we encourage parents to support us in this endeavour. The vast majority of our students wear the correct uniform and display great pride in themselves, their school and their families.

However, the following are not acceptable in relation to school uniform:

- The wearing of PE shirts and shorts on days other than Sport Day (Wednesday) – students are to wear the normal school uniform on all other days and change into their PE uniform when they have PE lessons.
- The wearing of canvas/track shoes and/or shoes that have white stripes and/or black socks – black leather school shoes are the approved footwear along with white socks – joggers are only permitted on sport days.

Parents are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to increase their awareness of the school’s learning programs by attending Parent Learning Groups which are being conducted for all Year groups during this term – see details elsewhere in this Bulletin. In addition, Assessment Planners for all Year groups are being prepared and will soon be posted on the school website. Our 2013 HSC Assessment Calendar for Year 12 is already on the school website for the information of parents.

Knowledge of the standard of work expected will be communicated to ensure each student clearly understands expectations. If there is any doubt in the student’s mind as to what is required, they are encouraged to seek immediate clarification from the relevant teacher. The school has stressed to students and staff, the importance of formative feedback on all assessment tasks. It is essential that students not only understand why they received a specific mark/grade for an assessment task, but also, what they can do in future to improve the marks received for tasks. Students are encouraged to discuss such matters with their individual classroom teacher.

Should there be any queries in relation to any of these matters, please contact the school on 49693855 to discuss.

Graeme Muddle
Deputy Principal
The Music Ensembles at MHS have had a busy and exciting start to the year. The Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble will have a workshop day in the Learning Centre on Friday 1 March.

The following ensembles are offered this year:

- **Percussion Ensemble** – Monday lunchtime in the Learning Centre
- **Vocal Ensemble** – Tuesday lunchtime in KM1
- **Concert Band** –
  - Thursday lunchtime in the Learning Centre
  - Friday 8.00am in the Learning Centre
- **String Ensemble** – Thursday lunchtime in KM1
- **Jazz Ensemble** – Friday lunchtime in KM1

**FEES FOR ENSEMBLES**

- **Concert Band** $60 per semester
  - This covers tutoring costs and the purchase of music and equipment.

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

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

**INSTRUMENT HIRE:** The school has a number of instruments available.

See Music Staff (or phone 4969 3855) for details. **Hiring Fee $100 per annum**

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

**MEET THE MUSIC CONCERTS**

Elective music students have the opportunity to attend Meet the Music concerts in the Sydney Opera House. There are four concerts – one per term – and all concerts are supported by classroom support materials so the students gain the best advantage of attending the concerts. There are just 20 tickets available. The concerts cost $45 each. Please see music staff for more information. The 2013 dates are 7 March, 2 May, 1 August and 31 October.

**MUSIC EXCURSION TO ENCORE**

Year 11 and 12 music students will be attending a performance of Encore in the Sydney Opera House on Monday 25 February. This is a great opportunity for senior music students to see the exemplary performers from the 2012 HSC.

**REGIONAL ENSEMBLES**

Merewether HS students have the opportunity to participate in regional ensembles and events such as the Regional Wind Ensemble, Hunter Singers and Star Struck. Information about these are available in the CAPA staffroom. The Regional Choir Hunter Singers is a prestigious ensemble which was founded in 1989. Merewether High School has 14 students involved in Hunter Singers – Aidan Bailey-Coles, Livia Dunlap, Emma Elsley, Tom Gilbertson, Zac Hamilton-Russell, Adrienne Hanslow, Steven Kentish, Campbell Moore, Maddie Newland, William Sim, Britteny Smith, Alex Vidler, Ezekiel Weedon and Alex Williamson. Anyone wishing to audition for Hunter Singers should see Ms Sutherland in the CAPA staffroom.

**STAR STRUCK**

Merewether HS will have a dance ensemble and vocal ensemble involved in Star Struck this year. Auditions for these ensembles will be held later this month. Students should listen carefully to Period 1 announcements for further information. Mrs Scollay will be supervising the Dance group and Mrs Tenorio will supervise the vocal ensemble. In addition, applications forms for Star Struck instrumental soloists and orchestral players are available outside the CAPA staffroom.

Kim Sutherland
Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts
Social Sciences Faculty

Year 12 Geography Fieldwork
Ms Donnelly, Mrs Tonks and Mr Berry accompanied 34 students to Melbourne this week for a fieldwork trip. This mandatory component of the HSC Geography course provides our students with an excellent case study for the HSC topic Urban Renewal and it gives the students first hand knowledge of the challenges of the changing urban environment. A full report on the fieldwork trip will be published in the next Bulletin.

Up-coming fieldwork trip

Geography Fieldtrip
New Zealand
19-24 September, 2013

Once again the Social Science faculty will be taking a fieldwork trip to New Zealand in 2013.

Ms Donnelly organised and conducted an amazingly successful trip in 2012 to the North Island.

A parent information meeting for those going on the fieldtrip will be held on Tuesday 19th February in the Foley Library at 6:30pm.

If you would like any further information about the trip prior to the meeting please email Ms Cathy Donnelly; catherine.a.donnelly@det.nsw.edu.au

Team Selections (Extra-curricular activity)
The 2013 Mock Trial Team selection process is currently underway. Mr. Gill will be announcing the team shortly. Historically this team has been very successful in the state wide competition. In 2012 they reached the last 16 in the state.
Competitions

Merewether High school students will be participating in a number of competitions across the range of subjects offered by the Social Sciences faculty. Imminent competitions include:

- The National Geographic Channel (Australian Geography Competition 2013). This will be held in the week starting 25 March 2013. This competition is compulsory for Geography classes in Years 9 and 10. Year 7 and 8 Geography students can also take up the challenge and compete in the competition. Mrs Tonks will issue information about how to enter the competition in the coming weeks.

- Year 9 commerce students will be involved in the Money Stuff Challenge and the Sharemarket Game during first semester. The Sharemarket Game teaches valuable skills including decision making, problem solving and data analysis.

Acceleration

- Fifteen students have been accepted into the accelerated Business Studies program. Their teacher Mr. Gill is impressed with the enthusiasm and diligence which they have displayed in the first few weeks of the program.

In the Classroom

All students in Years 7 to 10 commerce and geography classes have been issued with assessment schedules. The schedules include:

- course outcomes,
- report outcomes and
- assessment items.

The commerce and geography schedules have also been posted on the school’s Moodle site for students to access from school and at home.

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

Staff News

After a well-deserved holiday the Social Sciences staff returned to work in late January to engage in teaching and to once again provide the many extra-curricular activities which the faculty has traditionally offered to students.

For the first time since 2005 there are no changes to the teaching staff in the Social Sciences Faculty, so everyone is very familiar with the operations of the faculty.

Mrs Kerry West
Head Teacher
LANGUAGES

This year the language department is running courses in French, German, Indonesian and Japanese. Throughout the course of their studies students will encounter a variety of vocabulary and structures which will enable them to communicate with native speakers of these languages, as well as enjoy many cultural aspects of these beautiful countries.

To aid students in their language learning we have provided some tips, apps and websites which will not only be enjoyable but also make it easier to revise and practice.

TIPS
- Make time to practise and revise
- Think of images or silly phrases to help recall words
- Listen to shows, podcasts and watch movies

FOR ALL LANGUAGES

www.quizlet.com - is a site our language staff are all using to help students learn the words of the topics we are teaching. It is updated regularly for all languages and has proven a very useful and popular tool with our students. It also can be linked to the app – Flashcardlet for use on Iphones, Ipods, Ipads

JAPANESE

JAPANESE APPS:
Hello Hello Japanese
Sticky Study
Kana – character writing
Kanji Study
iKana Teach Lite- good for hiragana
Hiragana Lite & Katakana Lite

WEBSITES:
http://www.learn-japanese.info/indexv.html
http://www.coscom.co.jp
http://www.nhk.or.jp/lesson/english/index.html
http://www.genkienglish.net/genkijapan/hiraganachart.htm
http://www.genkienglish.net/genkijapan/katakana.htm
For seniors- http://hsc.csu.edu.au/japanese/#branchid-116075
INDONESIAN

INDONESIAN APPS:
Hello Hello Indonesian
iKamus
Kompas
Basic Indonesian
Learn Indonesian- iLang

WEBSITES:
indonesian/indonesian.htm
Toggletext – great online dictionary
http://www.digitaldialects.com/Indonesian.htm
http://www.bintangbahasa.com/bhs/index_b_free.html
http://www.games.co.id

FRENCH

FRENCH APPS:
Mots pele-mele
Busuu
7 jours
French
French GCSE
Larousse French

WEBSITES:
Great site with listening, reading, writing, speaking activities, hsc exam advice, useful vocabulary
For all students: http://www.tale.edu.au/tale4students/search.html
keywords=french&SectionName=Secondary&stages=
A site with a variety of games and resources for French learners

GERMAN

APPS:
Busuu – good for learning vocabulary and phrases, listening and comprehension in a range of topics
Wordmaker – a German wordsearch game, make words and score points, VERY challenging !!
Hello hello German – Role play situations – vocabulary, language structures, listening and speaking

WEBSITES:
Practice basic German vocabulary on a variety of topics by playing the games
http://www.digitaldialects.com/German.htm
German quizzes, games, grammar practice
http://german.about.com/library/quiz/blqz_start.htm
Interactive games to reinforce new vocabulary
 Careers

International Science School 2013 @ Sydney Uni Year 11 & 12
Applications close 21st February

NANOSCIENCE: SMALL WONDERS, BIG FUTURE

Centuries of progress in science and technology have given us amazing understanding and control over the matter around us in the universe. In the last few decades we have learned to explore and manipulate matter at the scale of atoms and molecules - at a level where quantum effects take over, and familiar materials take on entirely unexpected properties.

This new age of nanoscience and nanotechnology promises a vast array of novel applications, from invisibility cloaks inspired by extraordinary metamaterials, to bespoke medicines fighting disease at the molecular level, to the next generation of optics-based IT technologies that will blow away today's fastest communication systems.

The 37th Professor Harry Messel International Science School (ISS2013) will be run from June 30th to July 13th 2013. The ISS2013 Nanoscience: Small Wonders, Big Future will bring together top international and Australian nanoscience experts - along with leaders from the breach of science, including keynote speaker and Nobel prize-winning cosmologist Professor Brian Schmidt.

About the program

During the two-week program, students take part in a variety of science activities to help them discover and realise their scientific potential.

- Talks and interactive workshops run by leading scientists challenge and expose students to new ideas.
- Students enter the world of thriving science laboratories and participate in hands-on experiments.
- A dynamic social program provides opportunities to develop new friendships with students from around the world, and to get to know the University and the wonderful city of Sydney.
- Students live on campus throughout the ISS at one of the university residences, and have access to the University's gym, pool and library.

How to apply

- Applications for the 2013 program are online and are now open for students who will be in either year 11 or 12 in 2013.
- Please read the How to Apply and Application Guidelines pdf prior to starting your application.
- Applications close: Thursday 21 February 2013
- To complete an application, visit the ISS application website.

AIRFORCE CADETS

321 (City of Newcastle) Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets, located at Bullecourt Barracks Military Road, is undertaking its 2013 intake on 27 February at 7pm. The Australian Air Force Cadets is a federally funded youth development organisation for 13-19 year olds, 321 Squadron parades on Wednesday evenings during the school term from 6:30pm - 9:30pm. The following is a YouTube link to a short, 30sec advertisement: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RDcol1Leig. Our website address is http://321sqn.aafc.org.au//
Year 12 Study Day at Singleton HS 31st May, 2013.
This event is for Year 12 students and or accelerated students who wish to attend a series of mini HSC seminars delivered from a variety of experienced teachers and HSC markers.
I generally run a bus to this event each year leaving MHS at 7am and picking up students along the way. The day costs $45 per student plus the bus fare TBD.
If you are interested in this event. Email or speak to Mrs Abbo Levina.Abbo@det.nsw.edu.au

MyDay Oral Hygiene & Health Sciences
Date : 1st Mar 2013
Time : 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Venue : Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga
Cost : FREE
Contact : Judy Walsh : infoevents@csu.edu.au
Program Info; Hands on workshops and information sessions on Nutrition and Dietetics, Oral Health and Hygiene, Radiography.
Go to CSU for more information—you MUST see Mrs Abbo if you are attending this event so I can organise a permission note

Careers Snapshots
For more information go to the myfuture website
http://www.myfuture.edu.au

Meteorologist

It can be said that much of January is all about the weather - it dictates our trips to the beach, can force us to hide from the heat in an air-conditioned cinema, and the rain can interrupt a perfect day at the cricket or tennis.

Meteorologists hold the knowledge (and power) that helps us choose our daily wardrobe choices, plan our leisure calendar and prepare for extreme weather and the hazards it can bring. As well as providing the public with weather forecasts, predictions from meteorologists are also important for aviation, marine, defence and emergency services and industries.

On top of this, meteorologists conduct atmospheric research and study, as well as monitor climate and rainfall patterns. All of this works to improve understanding of the climate and make improvements to the planning and management of the world’s water resources and food production.

Video of the Month
Ecotoxicologists simulate environments to study how pollutants may poison animals and plants.

In this video, join Emma in her work with marine environments and learn how an interest in the environment and a broad science degree led her to a career as a specialised marine scientist.

You may also like to check out the microbiologist and scientist videos. These demonstrate the broad range of roles and specializations of life scientists.

To find out more about the role of meteorologists, including the typical working conditions, personal requirements, and courses that can lead to a career in meteorology, visit the meteorologist occupation profile page on myfuture.
Mining Skills on Show

The NSW Minerals Council, under the banner “NSW Mining”, is excited to announce it has secured the opportunity to be the Naming Rights Sponsor of *Skills on Show 2013*. The show is held as part of the Newcastle Regional Show from 1 - 3 March 2013, the purpose of which is to showcase careers in NSW mining industry. *Skills on Show* is a large, interactive visual display showcasing companies’ and industries’ skills, careers, technology and trades needed for future growth, including job opportunities and pathways for young people to consider when looking for a career.

The NSW Minerals Council and member companies will be providing a not to missed opportunity for students, teachers and parents to come along and find out more information about how to kick start a career in the mining industry. [http://www.skillsonshow.com.au/page18196/Home.aspx](http://www.skillsonshow.com.au/page18196/Home.aspx)

**WANT A COOL CAREER IN MINING? APPLY FOR A NSW MINING SCHOLARSHIP TO GET YOU STARTED.**

**APPLICATIONS EXTENDED TO 15 FEBRUARY 2013**

On behalf of our sponsoring companies, the NSW Minerals Council (NSWMC) invites eligible 2013 *Year 11* and *Year 12* students to apply for a 2013 NSW Mining Scholarship.

This motivating program is designed to attract and retain senior secondary students’ interest in the minerals industry as a possible future career of choice through a co-ordinated program of activities and contact with the industry and stakeholders such as our sponsoring companies and universities.

NSW Mining Scholarship recipients will receive a cash grant of $500 for successful completion of Year 11 and $1,000 for successful completion of Year 12. $2,000 is granted to those scholarship students who go on to successfully complete their first year in an undergraduate minerals related tertiary course in NSW within 12 months of completing their secondary schooling.

To be eligible to remain a NSW Mining Scholarship holder, Year 11 and 12 students must participate in a minimum of 2 NSW Mining Scholarship related activities conducted by NSWMC or sponsoring companies each year. Scholarship activities may include open days at mine sites or universities; sponsoring company events; career expos organised or conducted by the minerals industry; mentoring programs; minerals industry careers dinners and work experience.

A key feature of the program is that every scholarship recipient will be allocated a ‘mentor’ from their sponsoring company. Mentors will provide students with a long-term contact within the industry, offering career advice, study assistance and access to work experience and other mine site activities and resources.

To apply, see [Eligibility Criteria](#) below and [Application Form](#) attached.

**IMPORTANT:** Written applications close **15 FEBRUARY 2013.** Please note that the NSW Minerals Council office will be closed from 21 December 2012 to 7 January 2013.

**NSW Mining Scholarship Eligibility Criteria:**

- Students must maintain a set pattern of study and satisfactory academic results so that the student will be eligible for a HSC.
- To be eligible to extend a scholarship from Year 11 into Year 12, scholarship holders must demonstrate participation in at least two “careers education” activities conducted by the sponsoring companies or NSWMC.
- To be eligible to extend a scholarship post Year 12, students must enrol in, and satisfactorily complete, their First Year of an undergraduate degree in a designated minerals related tertiary course.

**Written Applications:**

- Applications are required in writing, including details of recent academic record and a brief supporting statement from the Head Teacher of Science or Maths. Short-listed students may be required to attend a personal interview. Personal attributes and suitability, together with a genuine interest and commitment to the industry, should be considered as key selection criteria in addition to a sound academic record.
- Unsuccessful applicants in Year 11 may re-apply in Year 12.
URGENT REMINDERS for Week 3 Term 1

- UBS Applications to Mrs West - Wed. 13th Feb.
- (Year 11) International Science School App. due to Mr Smith Mon 11th Feb.
- ADFA visit to MHS - Friday 15th lunchtime BC1—all welcome.

University Visits for Year 12

**UNSW Campus Tour—13th March 2013**
We will be running a bus to the UNSW from MHS on March 13th 2013. There will be approx 40 places and it will be booked on a first in best dressed basis. Should there be places left I will offer them to year 11.
The cost will be between $10-$20 per person for the bus. The bus will leave MHS around 8.30am and return to MHS around 5.30pm.

**Sydney University Visit.**
I have booked a visit and I am waiting for confirmation of the date. It will take place in early term 2. We will travel by train from Cardiff early in the morning and return around 6 pm. The only cost will be the return train ticket. There will be approx 30 places for this excursion and again it will be on a first in best dressed basis.

**Got something to say?**
The UN Youth State Conference in NSW is a 3-day accommodated conference focusing on the United Nations, global politics and world issues. The 3 days are filled with a plethora of workshops and sessions that are designed to evoke thought, engage students and inspire them to elicit change. The theme of the conference this year is *Our Voice*, *Our Say*; a theme inspired by the notion of advocacy, encouraging young people to take action on the things they care about, and to know that their voice matters and can make a difference. The conference finishes with a day of lively Mock-UN debate, where students voice the views of a country within the UN on real issues such as military intervention, human rights abuse and economic security.
The conference is open to anyone from Years 9-12, and prior knowledge, debating or public speaking experience is not required. Come along, voice your opinion and hone your skills. We look forward to meeting you!

**Details**
**Location:** The Collaroy Centre, Homestead Ave, Collaroy Beach, NSW (Sunday’s debate will be held at the University of Technology, Sydney)
**When:** 5:00pm Friday 15th March to 5:00pm Sunday 17th March
**What:** The program includes workshops, speakers, leadership skills, problem solving, a themed disco and a full day of model UN debate.
**Cost:** $230, which includes all meals, accommodation, transport to debates and delegate packs.
**Visit the website below for more information and to register. Hurry**
COMMUNITIES AROUND AUSTRALIA STUMP UP FOR THE McGrath Foundation!

Merewether High School will be one of a thousand community groups across Australia sharing in the Vodafone Sydney Pink Test phenomenon this year by participating in the Pink Stumps Day on the 23rd February 2013, an initiative of the McGrath Foundation and Cricket Cares, Cricket Australia’s community action program.

At school, there will be a cricket gala day on the 6th March, for Years 10, 11 and 12. Team entry will be part of our fundraising target of $700. Students are encouraged to form their own teams, dress up in pink and have a great day playing cricket.

As we begin counting down to our Pink Stumps Day, we’re asking our friends, family, colleagues, teammates and loved ones to help us reach OUR fundraising goal. Every dollar makes a difference and your donation will help the McGrath Foundation to place McGrath Breast Care Nurses in communities right across Australia, as well as to increase breast awareness in young Australian women. To date, the McGrath Foundation has placed 79 Breast Care Nurses across Australia, who have helped support over 17,800 Australian families.

Merewether High School has created a fundraising webpage that can be accessed for online donations (see link below).


100% of all money raised will be donated to the McGrath Foundation and you will automatically receive a tax-deductible receipt via email.

Help us SMASH our fundraising goal for a six and donate NOW!

Requirements for PE, PASS and Sport Lessons

Physical Education/PASS/Sport Uniform Requirements

Students are required to wear the MHS PE/Sport uniform to participate in Physical Education lessons, practical PASS lessons and for sport each Wednesday. The uniform is designed to promote safe and active participation using a fabric that cools and dries quickly to assist in maintaining personal hygiene.

This uniform consists of:
- MHS PE/Sport uniform shorts/track pants;
- MHS PE/Sport uniform shirt;
- joggers and socks.

Students are encouraged to wear a hat and sunscreen during outdoor lessons, and during recess and lunch breaks to minimise the harm caused by the sun’s damaging UV rays.

Non-Participant Policy

Students unable to participate in PE/PASS/Sport are required to:
- bring in a note from their parent/guardian explaining the reason for non-participation;
- provide a Medical Certificate if unable to participate in practical lessons for an extended period of time
  (usually more than 2 weeks).

SPORTS TOUR REPORTS- See Separate Document attached to this Bulletin

PDHPE Staff
School Attendance
All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can children make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

All students should:
- Aim for 100% attendance
- When absent, make sure they hand in an appropriate note the next day
- Be on time and ready for all school activities and lessons
- Leave the playground promptly at the roll-call/recess/lunch bell
- When late, make sure they have a signed late note
- Ensure they go through the front office if sick and need to go home early. (Under no circumstances should a child ring their parents directly and ask them to come and pick them up from school prior to the end of the day.)

Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitors part or whole day absences. Parents and schools have specific responsibilities concerning children’s attendance at school.

Responsibilities of parents
The Education Act 1990 requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children are enrolled at and regularly attend school.

What is a justified reason for being absent from school? Justified reasons for absences may include the student:
- Having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- Being sick, or having an infectious disease

Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified:
- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings and other children
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts

Keeping the school informed
If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may:
- Send a note, fax or email to the school
- Telephone the school, or
- Visit the school.

The principal of the school has the right to question parents’ requests for their child to be absent from school. They may also question an explanation given for a child's absence from school.
Must my child attend all activities, including sport?
YES. Sport and other physical activities help the healthy physical and mental development of children. Sports and sports carnivals are normal school activities and students must attend.

Holidays
Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If this is necessary parents should discuss these absences with the principal and will be requested to apply for a Certificate of Exemption from attendance at school. This will ensure that these absences are not permanently recorded as unjustified.

Arrival on time
Arriving at school and class on time:
- Ensures that students don't miss out on important learning activities
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class and therefore,
- Reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption.

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents or carers in the same way as other forms of absence.

School Photographs
School photos will be taken on Tuesday, 5th March. Photo envelopes will be sent home with students soon - students are to bring the envelope and correct payment ON PHOTO DAY. Students need to be in full school uniform.
There will be a catch up day for absent students the following Tuesday, 12th March. Students wishing to have family or friendship groups photographed on the day please see Mrs McCudden in G Block for the relevant envelope.

Advice to Parents about general use adrenaline autoinjectors (EpiPen)
The Department of Education and Communities has recently announced that all government schools will receive a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) for their first aid kit.

This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child been diagnosed with anaphylaxis. Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector is intended to be used if:

- An undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- There is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student
- A student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline autoinjector has been administered

Please ensure your child has a ASCIA Plan in place.

ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (general) with the adrenaline autoinjector

Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this matter.
NSW SCHOOL-BASED VACCINATION PROGRAM 2013

Each year NSW Health offers the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school-based vaccination program.

In 2013 the following vaccines will be offered:

- Hepatitis B vaccine for all Year 7 students who have never received a course of hepatitis B vaccine when they were a baby
- Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine for all Year 7 students who have not previously received varicella vaccine or had chickenpox disease.
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine will be offered to Year 7 male and female students, and to Year 9 male students, as a 3-dose course over a six-month period (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school into Year 8).

*Parent Information Kits* will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to their child’s school. Please ensure that your child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.


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

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the Consent Form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and, for female students only, link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

*A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at the clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.*

**IMPORTANT POINTS**

- ensure your child has eaten breakfast the morning of the clinic
- ensure your child is wearing clothing that enables the upper arm to be exposed
- **COMPLETE CONSENT FORMS IN BLUE OR BLACK PEN ONLY**
- Vaccinations will occur on Monday 18th March, Friday 7th June and Tuesday 8th October
2013 NSW School-Based Vaccination Program

The NSW Ministry of Health has been informed that a small number of Parent Information Kits which contain forms for parents to read and sign for school vaccination may be missing important information.

Please check that all information is included in the Parent Information Kits when it is brought home by your student:

- parents of Year 7 female students should receive a pink Year 7 Girls envelope that includes a checklist, privacy statement and 4 Consent Forms and Information for you and your child sheets for:
  1) Human Papillomavirus (HPV) (pink)
  2) Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa) (blue)
  3) Hepatitis B envelope (green)
  4) Varicella (chicken pox) (yellow)

- parents of Year 7 male students should receive two envelopes:
  - a blue Year 7 Boys envelope that includes a checklist, privacy statement and 3 Consent Forms and Information for you and your child sheets for:
    1) Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa) (blue)
    2) Hepatitis B envelope (green)
    3) Varicella (chicken pox) (yellow)
  - an olive green Boys Human Papillomavirus (HPV) envelope that includes a Consent Form and Information for you and your child sheet

- parents of Year 9 male students should receive an olive green Boys Human Papillomavirus (HPV) envelope that includes a Consent Form and Information for you and your child sheet.

If all the information is included and you would like your child to be vaccinated, please read the Information for you and your child sheet, sign the Consent Form and return the signed Consent Form to your child’s school. If you do NOT wish your child to be vaccinated, do NOT complete or return the Consent Form.

If any information is missing from your Parent Information Kit, please contact your child’s school immediately and a replacement Kit will be provided.
The following details information as listed on the MHS website under the node

“Parents' Homepage”

Welcome to the Homepage for parents, carers and friends of Merewether High School. The parent body makes a significant and generous contribution to the school thanks to the support and involvement it receives from parents. Children benefit when their parents are actively involved. The future of our children depends on what we parents do in the present.

There are many and varied ways to participate. Below is a list of how you can help our children and the school. To read more details on these subjects and to get contact details click the tabs on the left. To understand more on why you should contribute and the benefits of this click the tab on the left named “Why Participate”.

**Volunteer at the canteen**, for example once a month or once a term. Your child likes to see you there, it's a good chance to get to know some other parents and keep in touch with the school. Profits from the canteen give the P and C a regular income and go to the latest P&C projects.

**Gardening Bees**. A few hours contribution on an occasional Sunday morning helps create a tidy and respectful environment for our children.

**Parent donations** to the building fund are tax deductible and spent on the latest P&C building project.

**P&C Projects** are projects that the school cannot get Government funding for.

**Apply for grant.**, This can be done at home at a time to suit you.

**Catering** for selective school events. The school requests the parents cater for the Prefects Investiture, Orientation Day and Annual Presentation Assembly.

**P &C Fundraising** eg parents buying the Entertainment Book.

**P &C Meetings** are held in the Library on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

**Duke of Edinburgh** award is operated by parents’ refer separate section on the website.

**Parent Learning Groups** are run by the school.

Parent volunteering has flexible arrangements. We encourage you to be a positive participating parent.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 21/2</td>
<td>Aboriginal Performance Y7 &amp; Y8 - Learning Centre (LC)-pds 5&amp;6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Fri 22/2 | Zone Netball Gala Day  
Y8 Welfare-Brainstorming Production |
| Mon 25/2 | Athletics Carnival-Glendale  
Music-Encore Opera house |
| Tue 26/2 | HSSA-Diving  
HSSA-Boys Volleyball  
Y9 Parent Learning Group (PLG) 9:00am-10:30am-LC |
| Thur 28/2 | HSSA-Girls Volleyball |
| **March** | |
| Fri 1/3 | Zone Cricket Gala Day  
Y12 Legal Studies Assessment Task  
Band Workshop-LC |
| Mon 4/3 | HSC Language Oral Exam timetable released  
HSC Practical Exam timetable released  
HSSA-Boys Basketball  
Y12 Study Skills Program-Memory Mnemonics-LC |
| Tues 5/3 | HSSA-Swimming Carnival-Maitland  
Y10 PLG-9:00am-10:30am |
| Thur 7/3 | Meet the Music– Opera House |
| Tues 12/3 | Y12 English Standard-Assessment Task 2 –pds 3  
Y12 English Advanced-Assessment Task 2-pds 3  
Y11 Parent Learning Group-LC  
School Photographs-catch-up day-11am |
| Thur 14/3 | Y12 Blackout pd begins  
Selective High School Test for Y7 2014-8am  
Y10 Science - Forensics-LC all day |
| Fr 15/3 | BOS-2013 Y12 HSC student enrolment closes  
Faculty meetings-2.30pm |
| Mo 18/3 | HSSA Girls’ Basketball  
Vaccinations-Y7 + Y9 boys-LC |
| Tues 19/3 | HSSA Girls’ Football  
Y12 PLG-LC-9am  
P & C meeting—Library—7.30pm |
| Wed 20/3 | HSSA Boys’ football |
| Thur 21/3 | HSSA Water Polo  
Blood Donormobile-8:45am |
| Fri 22/3 | HSSA Netball |
| Tues 26/3 | Y7 PLG– 9am-LC |
| Wed 27/3 | Y12 Blackout ends  
MHS Cross Country Carnival-Racecourse |
| Thur 28/3 | Y12 Mid-course exams commence  
Y11 Science Common Skills Test-MPC |
<p>| Fri 29/3 | Good Friday |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1/4</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 2/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams day 2/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 3/4</td>
<td>Y7 Camp-day 1/3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 3/10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HSSA Rugby Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 4/4</td>
<td>Y7 Camp-day 2/3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 4/10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW CHS Swimming-Sydney day 1/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 5/4</td>
<td>Y7 Camp-day 3/3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 5/10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW CHS Swimming-Sydney day 2/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 6/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 9/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 7/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 10/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 11/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams-day 9/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12/4</td>
<td>Y12 Mid-course exams conclude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29/4</td>
<td>School Development Day-No Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BOS-Personalised HSC written exam timetable released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 30/4</td>
<td>School Development Day-No Students</td>
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**May**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1/5</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y10 Study Sansei-LC-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Study Sansei-LC-10am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Parents Seminar-Study Skills Program-MPC-7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 2/5</td>
<td>Meet the Music 2-Opera House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 6/5</td>
<td>BOS-2013 HSC written exam timetable released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 6/6</td>
<td>Choralfest-Lake Macquarie PAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 10/5</td>
<td>HSSA Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13/5</td>
<td>Secondary Choral Concert-Sydney Town Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 14/5</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN Tests-day 1/3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 15/5</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN Tests-day 2/3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 16/5</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN Tests-day 3/3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Awabakal Environmental Education Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 17/5</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 9 NAPLAN Tests catch-up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20/5</td>
<td>Y12 Academic Review commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 21/5</td>
<td>ICAS Computer Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y8 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Parent Teacher Interviews-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting/Library-7:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## EVENT DIARY

### Fri 24/5
- MUNA-Muswellbrook
- Y11 Blackout period begins

### Tues 25/5
- Y9 PLG-LC-9am

### Fri 31/5
- Y11 Mid-course exams commence
- HSC Seminar Day-Singleton High School

### June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 3/6</td>
<td>Y7-9 Blackout period this week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Mid-course exams day 2/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 4/6</td>
<td>Y11 Mid-course exams day 3/6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y10 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 5/6</td>
<td>Y11 Mid-course exams day 4/6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ICAS Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y12 EES Assessment Task-pd5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 6/6</td>
<td>Y11 Mid-course exams day 5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 7/6</td>
<td>Y11 Mid-course exams conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Legal Studies Assessment Task</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Star Struck Choir rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Academic Reviews conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccinations-Y7&amp;9 Boys-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 10/6</td>
<td>Queens’ Birthday Holiday-No Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 11/6</td>
<td>Y10 Blackout period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Star Struck performances this week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y7-9 Half Yearly exams commence-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12/6</td>
<td>Y7-9 Half Yearly exams day 2/4-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Star Struck performances this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 13/6</td>
<td>Y7-9 Half Yearly exams day 3/4-MPC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Star Struck performances this week</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y11 Biology Excursion– Shortland Wetlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14/6</td>
<td>Y7-9 Half Yearly exams day conclude-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Star Struck performances this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 17/6</td>
<td>Y10 Half Yearly exams conclude-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welfare Y7-9 Cybershots-LC-all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICAS Writing English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 18/6</td>
<td>Y12 English Standard</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Assessment Task-pd3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ICAS Spelling English</td>
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<td>Y12 English Advanced Assessment Task-pd3</td>
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<td>Y10 exams-day 2/4</td>
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<td>P &amp; C Meeting-Library-7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19/6</td>
<td>Y10 exams-day 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 20/6</td>
<td>Y10 exams conclude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Sciences-Experiment Fest-University of Newcastle-all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 Music Performance Evening-Lizootes-7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 24/6</td>
<td>Support Unit Disco-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 25/6</td>
<td>Y12 English Extension 1-Assessment Task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 26/6</td>
<td>Y12 Physics Assessment Task-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 27/6</td>
<td>NAIDOC Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Parent Teacher Interviews-MPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28/6</td>
<td>Y7-9 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 15/7</td>
<td>School Development Day-No Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 16/7</td>
<td>All Students Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Jindabyne Excursion day1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting Library 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17/7</td>
<td>Y11 Jindabyne Excursion day 2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 18/7</td>
<td>Y11 Jindabyne Excursion day 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 19/7</td>
<td>NSW CHS Cross Country Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y11 Jindabyne Excursion day 4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 22/7</td>
<td>Y12 Meeting-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 English Standard Assessment Task 4 pd3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y12 English Advanced Assessment Task 4 pd3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 23/7</td>
<td>MHS Hosting BUGS-SUTTON-England day1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 &amp; Y9 Parent Teacher Interviews-MPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 24/7</td>
<td>HSSA Athletics Carnival day 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MHS Hosting BUGS-SUTTON-England day 2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opportunity Class Placement Test for 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 25/7</td>
<td>Y12 Blackout period commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HSSA Athletics Carnival day 2/2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MHS Hosting BUGS-SUTTON-England day 3/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29/7</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y10 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 30/7</td>
<td>Y7 PLG-LC-9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 31/7</td>
<td>ICAS-English</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 1/8</td>
<td>Meet the music 3-Opera House</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Education Week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Australian Maths Competition-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y8 &amp; Y10 Parent Teacher Interviews-MPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 2/8</td>
<td>Y7 Science-“Snaketails”-pds 1&amp;2-LC</td>
</tr>
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<td>Education Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 6/8</td>
<td>Y8 PLG-LC-9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 8/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 9/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams day 2/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 12/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams day 3/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 13/8</td>
<td>Y9 PLG-LC-9am ICAS-Maths Y12 Trial HSC exams day 4/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 14/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams day 5/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 15/8</td>
<td>Y11 Blackout period commences Y12 Trial HSC exams day 6/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 16/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams day 7/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 19/8</td>
<td>Y12 Trial HSC exams day 8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 20/8</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting-Library-7:30pm Y12 Trial HSC exams day 9/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 21/8</td>
<td>Y11 (2014) Course Information Evening-MPC-6pm Y12 Trial HSC exams day 10/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 27/8</td>
<td>Y8 (2014) Course Information Evening-MPC-6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 29/8</td>
<td>Y11 Preliminary Final exams commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 30/8</td>
<td>Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 2/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Y10 Study Skills Program-Time Management-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2/9</td>
<td>Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 3/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 3/9</td>
<td>Y12 Study Skills Program-Ace Your Exams-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4/9</td>
<td>Y9 Urban Challenge-Sydney day 1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 5/9</td>
<td>Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 5/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 6/9</td>
<td>Y9 Urban Challenge-Sydney day 2/3</td>
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<td>Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 6/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9/9</td>
<td>Y9 Science-Ruben Meerman-LC-pds 1-4. Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 7/9</td>
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<td>NSW CHS Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 10/9</td>
<td>Y7 PLG-LC-9am Y11 Preliminary Final exams day 8/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 12/9</td>
<td>Blood Donnromobile Y12 (2014) Course Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17/9</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting-Library-7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18/9</td>
<td>Y12 Reports issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20/9</td>
<td>Y12 Farewell Assembly-MPC-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; Y9 Boys Vaccinations-MPC Y12 (2014) Learning Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 14/10</td>
<td>BOS Written examinations commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 17/10</td>
<td>Y7 (2014) Information Session-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18/10</td>
<td>Y12 ROADwhyz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 22/10</td>
<td>Y7 PLG-LC-9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 23/10</td>
<td>Y11 Presentation Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 24/10</td>
<td>Y7 (2014) Information Session-LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 28/10</td>
<td>Y10 Blackout period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 29/10</td>
<td>Y8 PLG-LC-9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 31/10</td>
<td>Meet the Music 4-Opera House</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>November</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 4/11</td>
<td>Y10 Yearly exams commence-MPC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y7,8,9 Blackout period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 5/11</td>
<td>Y9 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<td>Y10 Yearly exams day 2/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 6/11</td>
<td>Y10 Yearly exams day 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 7/11</td>
<td>Y10 Yearly exams day 4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 8/11</td>
<td>BOS-HSC final assessment ranks available (via Students Online)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BOS-HSC written exams conclude no later than this date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11/11</td>
<td>Y7,8,9 Yearly exams conclude-MPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 12/11</td>
<td>Y10 PLG-LC-9am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 2/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 13/11</td>
<td>Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 3/5</td>
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<td>Thur 14/11</td>
<td>Y11 ROADwhyz</td>
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<td>Y7,8,9 Yearly exams day 4/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15/11</td>
<td>Y11 ROADwhyz</td>
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<td>Y7,8,9 Yearly exams conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 19/11</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting Library-7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22/11</td>
<td>Prefects’ Investiture-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 25/11</td>
<td>Support Unit Disco-MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 28/11</td>
<td>Sports Presentation Assembly-MPC</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>December</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4/12</td>
<td>Y7 (2014) Orientation Day</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>HSSA Blues Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 9/12</td>
<td>Y10 Science Forensics-LC-all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16/12</td>
<td>Y10 assembly-MPC-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y9 assembly-MPC-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17/12</td>
<td>Y8 assembly-MPC-11am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 assembly-MPC-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18/12</td>
<td>BOS HSC results released</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation Day-MPC-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 19/12</td>
<td>Staff Development Day-No Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20/12</td>
<td>Staff Development Day-No Students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Merewether High School Uniform Shop

Uniform Shop Opening Hours
Monday 8:00am-12:00pm
Thursday 1:00pm-3:30pm

The Uniform Shop can be contacted by during opening hours by:
Email: merewetherhigh@alinta.com.au
Mobile: 0401 725 885
Website: www.alintaapparel.com.au

Please Note—we encourage you to book an appointment, as you will be given timing priority over those who do not book ahead.

Payments may be made by Cash, Credit Card or Debit Credit Card. Garments can be placed on lay-by and will require a minimum deposit of 50% of the total order. These garments will be available for collection at the Uniform Shop.

Are you caring for a grandchild?

NEWCASTLE CITY GAPS
Grandparents as Parents (GAPS)

GAPS is a support group for grandparent carers in the Newcastle city and suburban areas working in partnership with Samaritans Foundation.

GAPS meet in School Terms on Mondays 11:00am-12:30pm
St Andrews Anglican hall
Church Street, Mayfield

You are welcome to join us
Phone: 4963 3616 or 0429 914 553 for further details.
Liveable City A. McGrath, AM
Phone: 4974 2667

The Principal
Merewether High School
Chatham Street
Broadmeadow NSW 2292

Dear Madam

**For inclusion in school bulletins/message boards**

FREE workshops for parents and supervisors of learner drivers

Parents and supervisors of learner drivers have a crucial role to play in making our roads safer. For this reason, The City of Newcastle in conjunction with the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) are offering free workshops to better support them.

The two hour workshops, Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers, will offer parents and supervisors hands-on advice on how to provide the most effective driving practice for learner drivers.

Various topics will be covered including new laws for learner and P-plate drivers, how to use the learner driver log book, and how to plan on-road driving lessons.

Upcoming Workshops:

Tuesday 12 March 2013 - 5.30 to 7.30pm

Tuesday 21 May 2013 - 5.30 to 7.30pm

Bookings are essential. Parents and supervisors are urged to phone (02) 49742667 or 0411 873 684 to reserve their places now.

Yours sincerely

Angela McGrath
Community Road Safety Officer
The City of Newcastle
Ph: (02) 49742667
Mob: 0411 873 684
Would you like to have an Overseas Adventure! Rotary International Youth Exchange Program offers students in Year 10, 11 and 12 the opportunity to experience a year of living in another country.

Are you ready to swim with Fin? Mix it with a Mexican? Take a plane to school?

Are you ready to become a Rotary Exchange Student in 2014?

Your family may like to host an Inbound Exchange Student.

Find out more from our website www.youthexchange.net.au 
Or contact deniseparkes39@gmail.com