



Noticeboard

The Weekly Newsletter from Merewether Heights Public School

Phone: 02 4963 3192 Fax: 02 4963 3714

Web: www.merewethht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au Email: merewethht-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Security Unit – 1300 880 021

Term 3 Week 1

Tuesday 18 July, 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to term 3. I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday period. This term will once again be a very busy one and before we know it the biennial school concert will have come and gone. Make sure you mark the concert date in your calendar – Wednesday 6 September!

I would like to welcome two new families to our school community. Grace C will be going into 3MC and Alina S into 2H. I am sure the students will settle in very quickly and enjoy the teaching and learning activities that the school has to offer.

I have attached an information sheet from the Department outlining your responsibilities with regards to student attendance. I would like to draw your attention to the following paragraph from this document – *“Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.”*

Please read the whole document carefully and if you have any questions then don’t hesitate to contact the school.

Enjoy your week

Principal

INTERRELATE FAMILY EVENING PROGRAM

Interrelate will be presenting a sexuality and relationship evening program on Tuesday 25 July (Week 2 Term 3) for parents and students in our school hall. Please see page 5 for more information and the booking and payment form.

CAMP DEPOSITS - YEARS 3-6

Camp deposits for students in Years 3 to 6 were due by the end of Term 2. Thank you to the parents who have paid the deposit by the due date. However, we have a large number of students with the deposit outstanding. As the school needs to finalise the number of students who will be attending the camps it would be appreciated if the payment of outstanding deposits could be made as soon as possible. If your child is not going to be attending the camp in Week 8 Term 4, would you please advise the school office as soon as possible.

Should payment of the deposit cause concern or financial hardship, please contact the Principal, or the School Administrative Manager, to make alternate arrangements.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROMOTION

Merewether Heights Public School will be taking part in the 2017 Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion. During previous campaigns, we were able to purchase some great resources with the points we earned, thanks to our parents, staff and the community.

From Wednesday 26 July until 19 September 2017, you can collect stickers at Woolworths that go towards Earn & Learn points. For every \$10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of tobacco, liquor and gift cards), you will receive a sticker. These stickers can then be given to your children to collect on a special sticker card. Once it is completed, they can simply bring it to the school office. Anyone from our school community – staff, parents, grandparents, neighbours and friends – who shop at Woolworths can collect stickers for our students. The more points we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 10,000 educational resources, including Mathematics and English resources, art & crafts materials and much, much more!

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at the school office.

AWARDS Congratulations to

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Early Stage 1 | Liam G, Parker Mc, Darcy P, Rhys J, Damon O'N, Taj R, Leila H |
| Stage 1 | Henry B, Ivy R, Jacob C, Izabella G, Dylan C, Cooper C, Riley B, William H, Ashley B, Lincoln C, Archie W, Harley K, Lucy H |
| Stage 2 | Robyn C, Keira M, Sofia W, Roy E, Sammy C, Corbin Y, Charlie T, Freya M, Ruby-Lou N, Leila B |
| Stage 3 | Tye W, Lucy E, Ayla L, Maddie B, Jasmine L, Lilah P, Jay Y, Grace B |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Elena H, Joel L, Lara I W, Gabriel B, Bailey B, Bodhi C, Angus O, Angelina E, James E, Anika R, Flynn D, Tully D, Ava B, Darcy P, Ashton M, Cameron H, Harley K, Chloe C, Felix A, Harrison F, Taj R



FROM THE TEACHERS

Follow us on Twitter @MerewetherHtsPS



SKOOLBAG APP

The MHPS Skoolbag App is a great way to stay in touch and up to date with the school. We send alerts and event information as well as the Noticeboard. You can also notify the school regarding absences.



PUBLIC SPEAKING - SCHOOL FINALISTS

Congratulations to all of our class representatives who presented their speeches in our School Public Speaking Finals last term. Our adjudicator Mrs Jan M found it very hard to come up with only two finalists for each stage group. Special mention needs to go to our school finalists who will represent our school at Zone in Week 4.

Early Stage 1 finalists were Archer C (KM) who presented an entertaining speech on 'I wish I could be an animal' and Darcy P (KG) who presented a humorous speech on 'Kids with no money'.

Stage 1 finalists were Halle S (2H) who informed us about 'The Dab' and Keira F (2H) who is petitioning to get more Long Weekends. A highly commended also went to Campbell M (1K) who can't keep up with the new fads and Harry Q (2N) who spoke enthusiastically about Usain Bolt.

Stage 2 finalists were Billie T (4M) who is sick of all the advertisements and Tobin S (4M) who thinks that the future has so much potential. Highly commended went to Charlie H (3H) who wishes he had unlimited wishes and Sammy C who has worms (of the garden variety)!

Stage 3 finalists were Alex M (5/6N) who came up with some very wacky inventions and Ashton M (6L) who wishes he was a super hero. Highly commended went to Nate H (6L) who described his worst moments of his life and Noah S (5D) who described an extraordinary day.

We wish them all the best of luck at the Zone Finals in Week 4.

Mrs Mc - Public Speaking Coordinator

Public Speaking - Zone Dates:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Early Stage 1 | Monday 7 August 11.40 am at Stockton Public School |
| Stage 1 | Friday 11 August 11.40 am at New Lambton South Public School |
| Stage 2 | Wednesday 9 August 12.00 noon at Carrington Public School |
| Stage 3 | Thursday 10 August 11.40 am at Stockton Public School |

Important Anaphylaxis Notice

We have students who are at risk of severe allergic reaction to some food items. **This condition is potentially life threatening.** Please do not send nut-based products to school with your child's recess or lunch. Products include peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seed, loose nuts, muesli, nut or chocolate bars.

CANTEEN ROSTER

| Wed 19/7 | Thurs 20/7 | Fri 21/7 | Mon 24/7 | Tues 25/7 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Volunteer required | Volunteer required | Volunteer required | Daryl S | Closed |
| Wed 26/7 | Thurs 27/7 | Fri 28/7 | Mon 31/7 | Tues 1/8 |
| Volunteer required | Volunteer required | Volunteer required | Daryl S | Closed |

The canteen is in urgent need of volunteers for Term 3. If you are able to provide any help at all, please see Kim in the Canteen.

CLOTHING POOL

**Clothing Pool is open every Tuesday morning
9 –9.30 am**

K/1E CUPCAKE DAY

K/1E will hold its Cup Cake Day on Tuesday 1 August, 2017. Donations of cakes, slices and other goodies can be left at K/1E's classroom. (No toffees or nuts please as we have students with peanut allergies.)

Don't forget – Cup cakes are now 50 cents each for a delicious treat. Helpers on the day would be most welcome and should come to the canteen at 10.45 am.



An invitation for students in Years 5 to 12 to attend the

CIRCUS CAMP - YEARS 5 TO 12

2017 Circus Arts Camp is currently being offered. The camp will be held at Dubbo College Delroy Campus from Wednesday 4 to Friday 6 October (school holidays). The cost of the camp is \$80.00. Nominations are due by 25 August. Payment must be completed by 29 August. If parents would like more information, please ask at the school office for more details.

BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 5

Book Club Issue 5 catalogues were sent home today. If you wish to order items from Book Club for your child please return the order and payment to the school before Friday 28 July.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Purchase your 2017/2018 Entertainment Book now and the school benefits from your support. The school receives \$13.00 from each sale.

To order your membership, you can either:
Order securely online at
<http://www.entbook.com.au/35r902> or
give the correct money (\$65) to the school office, however **please note payments cannot be made through the Parent Online Payment system.**

**ENTERTAINMENT
BOOKS
ARE AVAILABLE
AT THE OFFICE
\$65.00**



P&C FUNDRAISER

Sit back and let us do the driving

Join our shopping trip to
HOMEBUSH DFO & IKEA

on

Saturday 14 October 2017

Luxury coach departs from Merewether Heights
Public School bus stop, Scenic Drive, Merewether
Heights at

8 am and returns at 6.30 pm

Cost: \$55.00

Includes two shuttles between DFO & IKEA to tailor
your day to suit your shopping needs and enjoy a
movie on the way home.

Limited places available so don't delay your booking
For further information or to book your ticket please
visit <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/53638>
or phone Hollie Tuckerman on 0439 618184
All profits supporting the work of MHPS P&C



NOTICEBOARD BY EMAIL

I wish to receive the Noticeboard via Email. I understand that I will no longer receive a hard copy.

Name of eldest child and class *(please print clearly)*

Name:

Class:

Email address

(please print clearly)



ask Piggotts!

Local + caring + service



We've got you covered, with
5 Piggott's stores across
Newcastle.

Need a late-night Pharmacy?
Piggott's on Glebe Road
is open 8am-8pm
every day.

Need a more complex
prescription with individual
ingredients mixed together?

We have Compounding
available.



Get your Flu shot
in-store at Piggotts
Today

piggottsparmacy.com.au



BLACKBUTT

02 4957 2474
58 Orchardtown Rd,
New Lambton, NSW
2305

HAMILTON

02 4961 3179
83 Beaumont St,
Hamilton, NSW,
2303

HAMILTON SOUTH

02 4969 1978
400 Glebe Rd,
Hamilton South, NSW
2303

LAMBTON

02 4957 3630
117 Elder St,
Lambton, NSW
2299

BRANXTON

02 4938 1156
56 Maitland St,
Branxton, NSW
2335

Our advertisers support our school, but please be aware that advertisements appearing in Noticeboard are not an endorsement by the school.

When kids ask "the" questions... Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate's high-quality Sexuality and Relationship Education program is coming to your school! With over 90 years' experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today, over 40,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate School and Family programs each year. Many parents find it hard to discuss questions relating to sexuality education. *We know how to help break the ice.* Interrelate programs are interactive and family focused, and are conducted by highly trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics.

Session 1: Where did I come from? (1 hour session - Year 3-6)

This session educates children more about how their bodies work and the differences between males and females, including their understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: Preparing for puberty (1 hour session - Years 5-6; Years 3-4 at parent's discretion)

This session prepares children and parents/caregivers for the physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty, and addresses changing emotions and relationships with families and peers.

Interrelate School Services presents a special evening program

Family cost: 1 session \$30 per family | 2 sessions \$35 per family

Please note that this cost is GST inclusive

Where: MEREWETHER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

When: Tuesday, 25th July 2017

Time: Where did I come from? 6:00 pm SHARP Preparing for puberty 7:15pm

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night

----- Please complete and return to the school office, with payment in an envelope labelled with child's name and class -----

a special evening program

Name of family: _____

No. attending: ☐ Session 1: Where did I come from? ☐ Session 2: Preparing for puberty

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

I have made an online payment to my school. My receipt no. _____

OR ☐ Eftpos ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque (payable to the school) ☐ Credit card (if accepted by school)

Credit card number: _____/_____/_____/_____ Expiry date: _____

CCV (3 digits on the reverse of the card): _____ Amount: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____





Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/programs/attendance.php>

The school leaving age:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving-school/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

© February 2015

NSW Department of Education and Communities

DIARY DATES

| TERM 3 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|---|
| REMINDER, THE CANTEEN IS CLOSED ON TUESDAYS. STUDENT BANKING DAY IS WEDNESDAY. | | | | | |
| WEEK 1 | 17/7 Staff Development Day | 18/7 Students resume for Term 3 | 19/7 | 20/7 | 21/7 State Cross Country Basketball Gala |
| WEEK 2 | 24/7 P&C Meeting | 25/7 Interrelate Family Night Program | 26/7 Senior Dance Festival | 27/7 Junior Dance Festival | 28/7 |
| WEEK 3 | 31/7 | 1/8 ICAS English K1E Cupcake Day | 2/8 | 3/8 | 4/8 |
| WEEK 4 | 7/8 Zone Athletics | 8/8 Zone Athletics | 9/8 | 10/8 | 11/8 |
| WEEK 5 | 14/8 | 15/8 ICAS Maths 2N Cupcake Day | 16/8 | 17/8 | 18/8 |
| WEEK 6 | 21/8 P&C Meeting | 22/8 | 23/8 Yr 5 & Yr 6 NPBS Maths Competition | 24/8 | 25/8 |
| WEEK 7 | 28/8 | 29/8 4P Cupcake Day Yr 6 Interrelate | 30/8 Life Education Van | 31/8 Life Education Van | 1/9 Life Education Van |
| WEEK 8 | 4/9 Life Education Van | 5/9 Life Education Van Yr 6 Interrelate | 6/9 School Concert | 7/9 | 8/9 |
| WEEK 9 | 11/9 | 12/9 KG Cupcake Day Yr 6 Interrelate | 13/9 Kindy 2018 Orientation Day | 14/9 | 15/9 Hunter Water Safety Program K-6 |
| WEEK 10 | 18/9 | 19/9 Yr 6 Interrelate | 20/9 | 21/9 Disco | 22/9 |

PAYMENTS

Payments can be made quite easily on our POP (Parent Online Payment) system found on our webpage, www.merewethht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au , **Please Note; when making a payment online, only fill in the boxes with a green asterisk , no need for the student number.** Or correct money or cheque in an envelope to the office, or Eftpos at the office.