



Noticeboard

The Weekly Newsletter from Merewether Heights Public School

Phone: 02 4963 3192 Fax: 02 4963 3714

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School Security Unit – 1300 880 021

Term 1 Week 6 Tuesday 6 March 2018

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Dear Parents Canteen

The P&C have had a close look at the service our school canteen provides and its profitability. They have identified some changes that need to be made. Unfortunately there are not enough sales on a Monday and it has been difficult getting volunteers to keep it open so from the beginning of Term 2 the canteen will be closed on a Monday. If you want the canteen to remain open on this day you will need to show that it is viable by ordering on a Monday this term and by volunteering your time to assist. There will also be a price rise. A new price list is included in this Noticeboard and will also be available on the canteen Facebook page and the on-line canteen. These price rises will apply to orders from tomorrow – Wednesday 7 March. If you have any questions regarding the canteen please contact Mrs Claire Cremer via the school office.

Safe arrival and departure from school.

Getting our children safely to and from school is so important and we all have a part to play for this to be a smooth and safe procedure. I have attached information from the Newcastle City Council regarding the rules around the No Parking, No Stopping and Bus Zone signs. Please read this carefully! Compliance with these signs will be monitored by the school, the Council and the Police! Just remember the rules apply to all of us and if we follow them the process will run efficiently.

Please remember that you are not permitted to do a U-turn outside the school.

The school car parks are for staff and delivery vehicles ONLY! Remember, just because you are dropping off a child doesn't make you a delivery vehicle. This includes band, dance and OOSH drop-off/pick-up.

OOSH

Please make sure your child knows if he/she is going to OOSH in the afternoon. If, for some reason, you are not able to get to school in the afternoon and your child needs to go to OOSH please make sure you contact the school and OOSH!

Parent/Teacher Interviews

This year we will be having the parent/teacher interviews at the end of term 1, from Friday 6th April through to Thursday 12th April. This will be an opportunity to have a one-on-one meeting with your class teacher where you can discuss together the progress of your child and share any concerns. Bookings for time slots will once again be done on-line. Please keep a close eye out for the details that will be included in next week's Noticeboard.

Enjoy your week
Steve Egginton
Principal



Offences in school zones

- Stop on/near pedestrian crossing - School Zone
- Stop on/near marked foot crossing - School Zone
- Stop at/near bus stop - School Zone
- Double park - School Zone
- Stop in bus zone - School Zone
- Stop on/near childrens crossing - School Zone
- Disobey no parking sign - School Zone
- Disobey no stopping sign - School Zone
- Stop on path/strip in built-up area - School Zone
- Stop on/across driveway/other access to/from land - School Zone

Dement points apply

For enquiries please call 4974 2000.

For more information visit:
www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au



Kids look to you to keep them safe

No parking areas and/or kiss and ride zones have been installed at most schools to help parents and carers safely drop off and pick up children.

For these zones to work effectively, parents and carers need to:

- **Be timely.** If there is no indicated time on the No Parking sign, you are only permitted to stop for 2 minutes. If your child does not enter or exit the zone within that time, you are required to exit the zone and re-enter when the child is ready to board.
- **Not move more than three metres from your vehicle.** For example, a driver may get out of the car, open the boot and help children with their bags, but they must not move any further than 3 metres from their vehicle.
- **Stop their vehicle as close as possible to the head of the zone, this will allow other parents and carers easy access to the zone.**

For enquiries please call 4974 2000.

For more information visit:
www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au



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.

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Last Monday 28 students represented MHPS at the Newcastle City Zone Swimming Carnival. On an extremely cold and wet day the students displayed great sportsmanship and tenacity. Congratulations and good luck to Balin P, Lincoln C and Ben M who made it through to the Hunter Region Swimming Carnival that will be held on Tuesday 6th March at Maitland pool.



NEWCASTLE ZONE NETBALL TRIALS

Last Tuesday Annabel M, Sienna K, Lucia S, Charlotte H and Michelle N attended the trials for the Newcastle City Zone Netball team. Annabel was successful in making the Newcastle City Zone team and will go on to play at the Hunter Region Netball Gala Day on Friday 23rd March. Great job girls!

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 and check the canteen menu.



AUTHOR CAMERON STELZER WRITING WORKSHOPS

On Friday 6th April, we have a special visit from Author and Illustrator Dr Cameron Stelzer. Cameron is visiting Merewether Heights Public School to run workshops with our Year 2-6 students. Year 2 students will participate in a writing workshop focusing on idea formation and descriptive language. All Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 classes will be participating in a workshop to motivate and inspire students with their writing, and help prepare them for their own narrative and persuasive writing tasks. Students and teachers are looking forward to a fantastic day!

In conjunction with the Author visit, Merewether Heights Public School families have a special opportunity to purchase signed and personalised copies of Cameron's books at special prices. Individual items are \$15 each and there are also exclusive book sets available. Students will receive an order form on the day of the workshops. Forms and payment can be returned the following Monday, 9 April, to the school office. **Please note that payment needs to be by cash or cheque only. The school office will not be accepting this money so eftpos and POP cannot be used for the payment of Cameron Stelzer's books.**

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE 2018

The Premier's Reading Challenge has begun for 2018. The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. Students can log on to the PRC website by using their DEC usernames and passwords or they can complete a reading log which they will be issued with this week in library.

Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge. K-2 students need to read or listen to 30 books. In both the 3-4 and 5-6 challenges students are required to read 20 titles.

After reading each book please record the author, title and PRC identification number if available. The PRC identification number can be found on the PRC sticker which is on the front of the book. Booklists for the challenge are available in the library and on the PRC website <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>.

Please support your children as they undertake this challenge. Parents can help by ensuring that children; take their library bags to school, borrow, read and return books regularly, and record the titles read for the challenge on the PRC reading log. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me in the library.

Happy Reading
Mrs Lochrin

CROSS COUNTRY NEW DATE 16TH MARCH

Our MHPS Cross Country carnival is to be held on Friday 16th March 2018 at Myamblah Oval for students ages 8 and over.

We are calling for parent volunteers to assist on the morning, 9.00am–11.25am. If you can assist please contact the school.

Students must be at school by 8.45am to be ready in class lines for roll call under the primary COLA. We will be walking down in class groups.

Students should wear their sports uniform, runners. A hat is to be worn and a water bottle is to be taken and their asthma puffer (if required).

Parents are welcome to join us at Myamblah Oval to watch the races.

CLIMATE CAM

Our very first environmental project this year is to create 3D art works to be displayed around our school using milk bottle tops! To enable us to create artworks similar to the picture below, we ask if everyone could save their coloured milk bottle lids and bring them along to school. As you can see it will take many lids to accomplish this. We do ask if for the lids to be washed first. Milk bottle top lids can be given to either Mrs Hannah or Ms Mitchell.



WORKBOOKS AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Notes have gone home for Voluntary Contributions and Workbooks. These payments can be made online on the school's website page. Go to the Make a Payment tab and follow the prompts. Only fill in the boxes with Green Asterisks. You do not need the student registration number to complete this transaction. Payments can also be made with cash.

Thank you to all who have made these payments.

2018 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

Students at MHPS have the opportunity to enrol in the following University of NSW tests:

Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics.

These voluntary tests are for children in grades 3 – 6. The note and payment MUST BE handed in to the school office by Friday 16 March 2018. No applications will be accepted after this date. Entry forms are on page 5 of the Noticeboard. Please note the tests will be administered under the supervision of a staff member. The children not doing the tests will continue with their normal school routine.

400 WAYS TO BE KIND

Can you think of some ways to be kind? Can you think of 400 ways to be kind? MHPS students have set themselves a challenge to think of 400 ways to be kind!

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is on Friday 16th March and we are talking about being kind in the lead up to the day. Students, staff and visitors will be invited to write an idea about being kind on an orange ribbon that will be attached to our front fence to make an amazing display.

We will also be undertaking classroom discussions and running an anti-bullying poster competition to recognise the day.

Ribbons and pens are available in the office if you would like to contribute to our '400 ways to be kind' display.

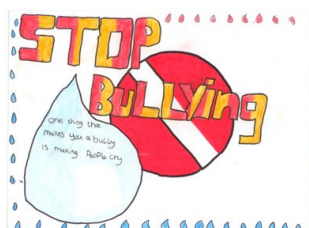
Mrs Hannah



ANTI-BULLYING POSTER COMPETITION

Students from K-6 have been invited to participate in the MHPS Anti-Bullying Poster Competition. Official entry forms have been given to classroom teachers and the poster may be completed at school or at home. All posters are due to Mrs Hannah by Wednesday 14th March 2018 and winners will be announced at Friday assembly on the 16th March 2018.

All posters will be displayed in the Primary COLA on Friday 16th March 2018. Spare entry forms are available from Mrs Hannah.



EASTER EGG DONATIONS

Time again for the Easter Bunny, Easter egg hunts and hot cross buns. Time again for us to dig deep to donate Easter Eggs for our elderly friends at Carpenter Court. It has become a tradition over the years to donate to this worthy cause.

We always have plenty of eggs donated and will have a raffle for the P & C. This raffle will be drawn on Thursday 29 March at our Easter Hat Parade.

So, we are asking if this week could be your time to buy that extra Easter Egg and send it along to school. Please have all donations to the school office by Friday 23 March, to allow time for wrapping all the prizes.

SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL TEST

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on 15 March 2018 from 9.00 am to 1.30 pm.

Unless parents have made special arrangements with the High Performing Students Unit to attend an individually allocated test centre candidates from this school have been sent to **Merewether High School, Chatham Road Broadmeadow.**

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test> to find:

- Test centre allocations by public school
- A map of test centre addresses under the heading 'The Test'
- The bulletin, Test information for parents and students. The bulletin contains very important information about the Test and should be read carefully.

FROM THE OFFICE

There have been quite a few notes go home to parents in recent weeks. Have you received?

Textbook payment request (green note) – all students K-6. Payment is due 16 March.

Voluntary School Contribution request (pink note) – all students K-6

Annual Student & Family Details update (white note) - all students K-6. Please return asap.

Cross Country permission note (yellow note) – Year 2, 8yr olds only. Return by 9 March.

Chocolate drive fundraiser (pink note) – Band, Choir and Starstruck families only.

Combined schools ANZAC ceremony (white note) – Year 6 only. Payment is due 6 April.

Yr 5 & 6 excursion to Sydney (blue note). Payment is due 19 March.

Dr Stelzer Writing Workshop (yellow note) - Yrs 2-6 only. Payment is due 6 April

Expression of Interest for Year 7 – Year 6 students only. Due 16 March.

If you have not received any of these notes, please ask at the school office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Stephanie Lao, Noah Schuberth, Grace Colburt, Andrew Cooper, Luke Macdonald, Thomas McGovern, Sibylla Williams.



CLOTHING POOL

Clothing Pool is open every Tuesday morning

9 –9.30 am

School hats are available at the office, \$12 each. Please assist us and have the correct money for purchasing.



AWARDS *Congratulations to*

Early
Stage
1

Stage 1 Kyuss W, Thomas B, Cruz C, Isla R, Zoey M, Ishaan R, Hamish F, Macy F, Darcy P.

Stage 2 Joshua M, Chloe M, Byron S, Calista C, Sienna W, Logan W, Robyn C, Erin M, Simone H, Jacob B.

Stage 3 Baxter C, Luca D.

ICAS TEST ENTRY FORM

Please tick the boxes against the tests you would like your child to do. Return the form **WITH** the money for the test/s by **FRIDAY 16 MARCH 2018**. **No applications will be accepted after this date**. The tests are for students in Years 3 to 6 only.

Student Name:

Class:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Digital Technologies | \$9.00 | Tuesday 8 May 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Science | \$9.00 | Tuesday 29 May 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Writing | \$18.00 | Thursday 14 June 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Spelling | \$12.00 | Wednesday 13 June 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | English | \$9.00 | Tuesday 31 July 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mathematics | \$9.00 | Tuesday 14 August 2018 |

I have enclosed \$..... for the nominated competitions above or

I have made a Parent Online Payment Receipt no.

Signed: (Parent/Carer)

COMMUNICATION AT MHPS

Our school is an exciting and very busy place to be. There is always so much happening both inside and outside of the classroom. With this in mind, we aim to keep you as informed and up to date as we can through various means which are outlined below.

Newsletter: Our newsletter is produced weekly each **Tuesday**. The newsletter with news and information is sent home via the school app, as a hardcopy or email and also placed onto our school website.

School App: The **Skoolbag** school app for your Smartphone can be downloaded for free via your Apple or Android smartphone. We send out key reminders, announcements and newsletters.

School Website: You can find our website at <http://www.merewethht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>. On our website you can access the school newsletter, school news, photo galleries and general information.

Facebook: Our school **Facebook** page will be used to celebrate student achievement and showcase many of the exciting things taking place at Merewether Heights Public School. We will also have a link to our current newsletter on the page. You can locate our page at

<https://www.facebook.com/merewetherheightspublicschool/>

If at any time you require clarification or further information, we encourage you to contact the school office on **49633192** between 9:00am – 3:30pm.



MHPS FACEBOOK PAGE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

In joining our community on Facebook, Merewether Heights Public School followers abide by both the DoE Code of Conduct and Facebook terms and conditions.

Students

Please note that the Facebook terms and conditions state that no one under the age of 13 years should have a Facebook profile. Therefore, any primary students who 'Like' or comment on the Merewether Heights Public School Facebook page will have their post deleted and profile reported immediately.

Posting, Tagging or Naming Student Photos

Photos of students are posted with reference to DoE publishing permission forms. For children's privacy and protection, please do not tag photos of children, and please do not name in your comments. On rare occasions and with parental permission, students may be named by the school Facebook administration team. Tagging of parents or friends within the comment box is permitted, with the understanding that all other rules of engagement are followed.

Comments Policy

Merewether Heights Public School encourages interaction from Facebook users but is not responsible for comments or wall postings made by visitors to the page. Comments posted also do not in any way reflect the opinions or policies of Merewether Heights Public School. Merewether Heights Public School asks that people making comments on the page show respect for their fellow users by ensuring the discussion remains civil. All comments must be respectful, with no swearing or personal criticisms. Comments are also subject to Facebook's Terms of Use and Code of Conduct. Remember that your name and photo will be seen next to your comment, visible to all visitors to the page. We reserve the right, but assume no obligation, to remove comments that are racist, sexist, abusive, profane, violent, obscene, spam, that advocate illegal activity, contain falsehoods or are wildly off-topic, or that libel, incite, threaten or make attacks on Merewether Heights Public School students, employees, guests or other individuals. We also do not permit unsolicited messages selling products or promoting commercial, political or other ventures. Facebook encourages all users to utilise the "Report" links when they find abusive content.

Friending Staff on Facebook

Please note that the Department of Education has this advice for teachers 'Friending' parents on Facebook: The line between your professional and personal life could become blurred making it difficult to manage your professional relationship with the parents when that becomes necessary. You also need to bear in mind that becoming a Facebook friend with a parent could result in their children getting access to your account as well. You also need to be mindful that you need to be careful what you say on Facebook if you have parents as friends as comments made online can be misunderstood and could result in parental complaints made to your principal. In short, please do not ask to friend a member of staff on Facebook as refusal often offends.

Administrators

Please remember that our Facebook administrators volunteer their personal time to keep our community updated on events, successes and school and community news. The Administration team is not responsible for decisions made at a School or P&C Association level. If you have an inquiry or concern about a P&C or school issue, email merewethht-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or call 02 49633192 and your message will be forwarded to the relevant contact. Inquiries relevant to our Merewether Heights Public School Facebook page can be messaged here, and will be responded to at Administration's earliest convenience.



Skoolbag 
Smartphone school to parent communication



Follow us on Twitter @MerewetherHtsPS

Coles Sports for Schools Vouchers

Coles has launched their 2018 Sports for Schools program and we are excited to announce that MHPS will be participating and collecting vouchers for additional sporting equipment. Every \$10 spent at Coles during the program, will earn a Coles Sports for Schools voucher. The more vouchers our school collects, the more equipment we could receive.



DIARY DATES

TERM 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
REMINDER, THE CANTEEN IS CLOSED ON TUESDAYS. STUDENT BANKING DAY IS WEDNESDAY.					
WEEK 6	5/3 P&C Annual General Meeting 7.00pm	6/3 5/6N Cupcake Day	7/3	8/3	9/3
WEEK 7	12/3	13/3	14/3	15/3 Selective High School Test	16/3 Cross Country
WEEK 8	19/3	20/3 2H Cupcake Day	21/3 Yr 5 Sydney Excursion	22/3 Yr 6 Sydney Excursion	23/3
WEEK 9	26/3	27/3	28/3	29/3 Easter Hat Parade	30/3 GOOD FRIDAY
WEEK 10	2/4 EASTER MONDAY	3/4 Music Camp	4/4 Music Camp	5/4 Music Camp	6/4 Cameron Stelzer Writing Workshop Yrs 2-6

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.

Merewether Heights Public School

Scenic Drive
Merewether Heights, 2291
Phone: (02)49633192

Home Our school Curriculum & activities Caring for students School years Uniform

NEWS NEWSLETTERS CALENDAR GALLERY CONTACT US \$ MAKE A PAYMENT Search site...



Merewether Heights Public School strives to provide a stimulating, comprehensive and relevant education for all our students through quality teaching and life-long learning practices in a positive and caring environment.

Make a Payment Tab



Canteen Renovation Menu

(5/3/2018 - updated prices to reflect increase of cost of supplies which have not been passed on for 2+ years)

RECESS ITEMS

Pikelets	40c
½ fruit cup (seasonal fruits)	\$1.30
Curly apple	\$1.30
Packet of chips (honey soy/plain)	\$1.60
Grainwaves	\$1.60
Pretzels	\$1.00
Popcorn	50c
Apple crumble (limited)	\$2.60

LUNCH ONLY ITEMS

Chicken, lettuce, mayo wrap	\$3.90
Chicken & cheese salad wrap	\$5.00
Chicken, lettuce & mayo burger	\$3.90
Beef & salad burger	\$5.00
Pie	\$3.00
Sausage roll	\$2.50
Sauce – Tomato or BBQ	\$0.30
Beef noodles	\$2.60
Fried rice	\$2.60

SANDWICHES AVAILABLE ALL DAY

(wholemeal bread or wrap)

Add 30c for toasting

Cheese	\$2.60
Cheese & ham	\$3.40
Cheese, ham & tomato	\$3.60
Cheese & vegemite	\$2.85
Chicken, lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Ham OR chicken salad	\$5.00
Ham OR chicken salad & cheese	\$5.80
Honey OR jam OR vegemite	\$2.00

DRINKS & ICE BLOCKS

Flavoured milk (strawberry/chocolate)	\$2.00
Juice (apple, apple/blackcurrant)	\$2.00
Water	\$1.30
Ice blocks	30c - \$2.00

Get ready for a Super Savers adventure with School Banking.

CAN

This year in School Banking, your child will join the Dollarmites on a Super Savers adventure, developing strong savings skills.

School Banking encourages children to learn the value of saving and rewards those who demonstrate a regular savings behaviour.

New Super Savers reward items.

Introducing an exciting new range of reward items with two released every term. Available in Term 1:

- Twister Power Handball
- Secret Scratch Notepad.

Your child can redeem one of these rewards, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.



Remember, with the CommBank Youth app, it's easy for your child to monitor the Dollarmites tokens they earn when making School Banking deposits and track their savings. Available to download from the App Store on any iOS9+ device.



A chance to win a family trip to Hawaii.



Students who truly are Super Savers will have the chance to win a family trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, staying 7 nights at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort, plus AU\$2,000 spending money.

To enter, students simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3 2018, and they will automatically enter the Super Savers Grand Prize Competition.

To find out more about School Banking, or explore fun activity sheets for your child, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things you should know: The 'Super Savers Grand Prize Competition' (Promotion) is conducted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (ABN 48 123 123 124) of Level 30, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. The Promotion starts at 9am AEST on 22/01/18 and closes at 11:59pm AEST on 28/09/18. Entry is open to Australian residents aged 4-13 years only who have made 15 separate School Banking deposits into their CommBank 'Youthsaver' account during the Promotion period. Eligible entrants will be automatically entered into the draw. Maximum 1 entry/person. The first eligible entry randomly drawn will win a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, USA for two adults and up to three children (aged 17 years and under), including 7 nights accommodation and \$2,000 AUD spending money valued at \$17,666 AUD. Terms and conditions apply. The draw will take place at 12pm AEST on 10/10/18 at the address above. The winner will be notified by telephone and email, and will be published online at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and in The Australian on 17/10/18. Winner must claim the prize by 5pm AEST on 15/01/19 or the prize will be redrawn. The prize will be awarded to the winner's nominated parent or guardian. Conditions apply to accepting the prize. Full terms and conditions available from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking Authorised under NSW Permit No: LTPS/17/18318, ACT Permit No: ACT TP 17/01/989 and SA Permit No: T17/1878.

KU Merewether Preschool Enrolling Now!

KU Merewether Preschool currently has vacancies for 3-5 year olds.

Did you know the NSW government are funding 4 year olds to attend 2 days of preschool?

4 year olds are eligible for subsidised Starting Strong fees, currently \$36 a day (for two days)

Our hours are 8.30am-4pm school terms.

We have individualised innovative programs including science, technology, visual arts, natural outdoor environments and a Japanese teacher three days a week.

Call Nicole or Mardi on 49631590 to enquire.