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.
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data
School Students with Disability

Information for Parents/Carers

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability.

The data collection is being introduced in stages over three years, and started in 2013. From 2016, this information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year.

All Australian governments have agreed to this.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. It should matter what the individual child’s circumstances are – every child should have the same opportunity to succeed at school.

The aim of this new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia.

Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

There is nothing new about schools collecting information about students with disability – in fact, schools have had to do this by law for some time. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory.

With the new data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect this information – that is, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO?

Every school in Australia is likely to have a student with disability at some point. Schools need to be able to support students with disability by removing any obstacles for them to participate in their education.

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the schools can do now and this won’t change.

The new data collection will record students who have been identified by a school team as meeting the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and provided with an adjustment.

WHAT IS AN ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (like ramps into classrooms), in the classroom and at an individual student level (like extra tuition for a student with a learning difficulty).
Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability – 2014

Our school is participating in the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability. We will be collecting information already available in the school about the support that is being provided to students with disability. Better data will help the Government plan for students with disability.

The data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process. The NSW Department of Education and Communities will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, we will ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all students.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government’s Privacy Policy can be found here: http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy. Information about the NSW Government’s privacy policies can be found here: http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection you must complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2014. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.


If you have any questions about your child being included in the data collection please contact the school.

If you need help with English to make an enquiry contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the number you provide and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Kind regards

Principal

S E

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection, please complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2014.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability – 2014

I/we __________________________________________________________

Name of parent/carer

**do not** wish my child ____________________________ to be counted

Name of child

for the purposes of the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

Parent/Carer signature: ____________________________ date: ________
From the Office...

HAVE YOU RECEIVED?

- Medical Information form – we just have a few students who have not returned this form. Another form was sent home with these students last week. Please complete this form and return to the school office to enable us to update medical information, family details, contact telephone numbers and emergency contact telephone numbers.
- Textbook account – all students: Payment for textbooks was due on Friday, 14 March. If you have not paid for textbooks please do so as soon as possible. An account for outstanding textbook money was sent home with the newsletter earlier this term.
- An orange note titled General Permission to Publish and Disclose Information for all students. This form was due by Friday 16 May, 2014. Please ensure this form is returned to school as soon as possible.
- A permission note for sports for terms 2 and 3 for students in Years 3 to 6. Please return this form as soon as possible.
- Green note requesting Voluntary School Contributions.
- Pink Term 2 payment schedule, with payments due in Term 2.

CUP CAKE DAY 1P

1P will hold its Cup Cake Day on Tuesday, 3 June 2014. Donations of cakes, slices and other goodies can be left at 1P’s classroom. (No toffees or nuts please as we have students with peanut allergies.)

Don’t forget – Cup cakes are 50 cents each for a delicious treat. Helpers on the day would be most welcome and should come to the canteen at 10.30 am.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photo Envelopes were sent home with every child recently. Family photo envelopes are available from the school office or may be ordered online. School Photos will be taken for the whole school on Wednesday, 28 May 2014. Full school winter uniform will be required on the day.

For the girls this includes red and grey tartan tunic and white long sleeve blouse with regular collar or charcoal grey bootleg pants and white long sleeve polo top with school emblem, white ankle socks or black tights and all black leather school shoes.

For the boys this includes grey ‘blocker’ longs, sky blue long sleeve polo top with school emblem, grey socks with red and white bands and all black leather school shoes (no canvas or skate shoes).

Please return these envelopes on photo day with the money enclosed. Please do not return if using the online ordering system.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club Issue 4 is being 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, 6 June 2014.
KINDER ORIENTATION

Kinder Orientation will be held on Thursday, 11 September 2014. Invitations will be sent to all the children who have indicated they will be enrolling here next year. Should you know of anyone who has a child to enrol next year, please ask them to do so as soon as possible so they will receive their invitation.

PICNICS IN THE PLAYGROUND

Do you have a child at MHPS and another child starting Kindergarten in 2015? You may be able to help! We are looking for a couple of parents to co-ordinate the Picnic in the Playground mornings for the 2015 kindergarten students. These days are held during Term 4. If you would like to be our co-ordinator please contact the school office for more information.

DONATIONS OF TISSUES

As the weather will soon be turning colder, we find students will be in need of tissues throughout the day. Donations of boxes of tissues for use in the classroom or sickbay would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left with the class teacher or at the school office.

NOTICEBOARD BY EMAIL

Would you like to receive the weekly newsletter by email? We have the option for parents to receive the newsletter each week direct by email. This will ensure that parents receive the newsletter and have the added benefit of reducing the amount of paper used in its production. We will not be providing a paper copy of the newsletter to families who have one emailed to them. For those families without internet access, a hard copy of the newsletter will be provided for you. If you would like to receive the weekly newsletter by email, would you either:

- Email the school and type “newsletter” in the subject line. We will then assume that you would like the newsletter emailed direct to you and we will also then have the email address to forward it to. All email address will be BCC when Noticeboard is sent, so you can be assured that we will not be sharing your email address with others. If your email address should change, it will be your responsibility to notify the school office.
- Complete the tear off slip located in this newsletter. Please ensure that your email address is complete.

ALL FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED THEIR NOTICEBOARD BY EMAIL LAST YEAR WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO FROM NEXT WEEK AND DO NOT HAVE TO SUBMIT A NEW FORM. ALL NEW FAMILIES WHO RETURN THE FORM WILL RECEIVE THEIR NOTICEBOARD BY EMAIL AS FROM NEXT WEEK.

From the Teachers...

Follow us on Twitter @MerewetherHtsPS
Interrelate will be offering the programs at our school on Thursday, 17 July.
Primary Session 1 – Years 3 - 6 – 6.00 pm
Primary Sessions 2 – Years 5 -6 – 7.15 pm.
Brochures will be sent home in Week 6.

DEBATING NEWS

Our Premier’s Team who debated last Wednesday at school were narrowly defeated by Merewether Public School with the topic “That Primary Schools should have separate schools for smarter kids”.

Yesterday one of our Train-on squads travelled to Hamilton South for their first debate and took the affirmative side with the topic “Children in Years 5 and 6 should do half an hour of chores daily”. There were successful in their case. Congratulations to the team which consisted of Brandon P, Caitlin P-D, Sophie B, Emma P with Abby R as the senior mentor.
From the Parents...

GIRLS WINTER SKIRTS NOW AVAILABLE AT LOWES, NEWCASTLE

Please be advised that winter skirts for primary girls only, years 3 to 6, can now be purchased from Lowes Newcastle for approximately $53.00. Year 3 have the option of the tunic or the skirt. The skirt is worn with a long sleeve winter blouse or the long sleeve white polo. Infant’s girls, Kindy to year 2, will remain in the winter tunic.

Thank you
Sharron S

CLOTHING POOL

If anyone would like to volunteer for the clothing pool, Tuesdays 9-9.30am, for term 3, please leave your name and number at the office or contact Sharron Studley. Mobile 0423331057 or email: sstudley3@bigpond.com

The Clothing Pool will be opened every Tuesday from 9.00 – 9.30 am. Alternatively, uniform order forms can be located at the office. Please complete and return with payment. The order will be filled on Tuesdays and sent home with your child.

Size 8 red jackets are now in stock. All jackets cost $40.00.

Please check that your child has the correct jacket as we have had a few new jackets with names in them go missing recently. Thanks for your co-operation.

Sharron S

CANTEEN ROSTER

Wednesday 28/5/14 Lisa S, Emma K
Thursday 29/5/14 Reanna S, Belinda H
Friday 30/5/14 Tony H, Sam B
Monday 2/6/14 Cheree Macd, Di MacN
TUESDAY 3/6/14 CANTEEN CLOSED

Wednesday 4/6/14 Kathryn N, Kristine McA 11-2.30
Thursday 5/6/14 Edwina M, Nikki N
Friday 6/6/14 Kristen G, Joanna T, Monique T
Monday 9/6/14 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
TUESDAY 10/6/14 CANTEEN CLOSED

Community Notices...

‘Little big Shots’ is an inspiring, meaningful and fun-filled film festival perfect for families and kids aged 5 – 15. It is showing at Event Cinemas, Glendale and features the best in local and international children’s shorts, animations, documentaries and amazingly, child-produced. The films screening in Little big Shots inspire discussion of world cultures, different languages, cultural diversity, emotional intelligence and human values. They will make kids laugh, think and create. It will be hosted by Screen Hunter on Saturday, 31 May from 2.00 pm. Tickets are available from www.screenhunter.com.au. Single tickets $8, Family $30 (family of 4).
Sids and Kids Red Nose Day is being held on Sunday, 8 June, 10 am – 2 pm at the Railway Sheds at Newcastle Foreshore. This will be a family fun day with entertainment by Ruby the Clown. Come and meet Carly and Tresne from MKR. Other activities will include magician, airbrush tattoos, reptile display, face painting, craft corner and a sausage sizzle. Entry is free. For more information call 49693171.

Supporting Our Sam Art Show will no longer be held on Sunday, 1 June. Another date is yet to be arranged. Apologies for any inconvenience to all students and families. Thank you to all for your support.

Ethics Classes at M.H.P.S
BECOME A VOLUNTEER ETHICS TEACHER

Join an active and growing community in Newcastle
Teach children how to think not what to think
Flexible working environment

An Ethics Teacher
✓ Engages children in learning about ethics
✓ Is a good listener with a genuine interest in helping young people
✓ Commits to teaching one class each week during school terms

Ethics Teachers undertake
✓ Police and Working with Children checks
✓ Full free training in Primary Ethics curriculum delivery
✓ Ongoing online training

Learn more and apply online www.primaryethics.com.au
or contact Louise Wills, Ethics Coordinator, at
e: wills.craiglouise@gmail.com or p: 0406 321 399
Hunter TAFE Newcastle Art School is holding an exhibition by Museum Practice students to celebrate stories, nostalgia, fun and games from 2 – 19 June 2014, with the official opening on Wednesday, 4 June from 5.30 pm at 590 Hunter Street, Newcastle West. Special guest: Big Dog 6.00 – 6.30 pm.

**Return Slips for Parents...**

**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)*

Parent Signature: ...............................................................  Telephone No ..................................
Our advertisers support our school but please be aware that advertisements appearing in Noticeboard are not an endorsement by the school.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT
Merewether Heights Public School
The School will accept VISA and MasterCard payments Only

Student Name: ___________________________ Class: ______________

Amount: __________________ For: ______________________________________

☐ MasterCard  ☐ VISA

Cardholders Name: ___________________________ Phone: ________________

Card Number: ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________

CCV Number: ___________ Expiry Date: ____________/__________

Signature of Cardholder: ___________________________ Date: ______________