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.

From the Principal...

Dear Parents

It has been a busy few weeks, with more to come, full of the business of learning and excitement we have come to expect here at Merewether Heights Public School. Last week’s school photos were a busy, but enjoyable day and it was wonderful to see all students being cooperative with the photography staff. Outstanding reports have also come in from the teachers working with our Star Struck performers who have been busy with rehearsals. I would like to thank Mrs D, Miss S and Mrs McC for the time they have spent, and continue to spend, in preparing the students for this popular annual event.

Last Thursday afternoon we held our annual Sorry Day Assembly. Many thanks to Mrs E for her organisation of this event and the passion she has for the teaching of Aboriginal Education within our school. It was a privilege to see the wonderful performance of the choir at the conclusion of the assembly. They have come so far in such a short time under the tutelage of Mrs D.

Early Stage One Awards:  Charlie H, Keira M, Sofia B, Sam R, Sienna W, Cooper H, Calista C


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Activity Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNSW Science Test</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, 4 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Star Struck Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Friday, 6 June</td>
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<td>K-6</td>
<td>Monday, 9 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Cyber Safety</td>
<td>Yrs 5&amp;6</td>
<td>Tuesday, 10 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Star Struck Dance Rehearsal</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Wednesday, 11 June</td>
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<td>Star Struck Dress Rehearsal – Dance &amp; Choir</td>
<td>Dance &amp; Choir</td>
<td>Thursday, 12 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Star Struck Performance</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fri, 13 June &amp; Sat, 14 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW Writing Test</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monday, 16 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW Spelling Test</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday, 17 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>KG Cup Cake Day</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Tuesday, 17 June</td>
<td>50c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naidoc Performance</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Thursday, 19 June</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>16 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Games Day</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Tuesday, 24 June</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>19 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disco</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Thursday, 26 June</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Happy Birthday to:  Madeleine S, Jasmine L, Aidan M, Dylan M, Jacob S, Delphi R, Roy E, Finnley McA

Enjoy your week!

Tim Harris
Relieving Principal

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 2015, 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 shouldn’t 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 – it 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 collector will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will also 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 their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the school can 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 school setting (for example, in classrooms), in the classroom, or at an individual student level (for example, 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. 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 Egginton

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 sport 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 KG

KG will hold its Cup Cake Day on Tuesday, 17 June 2014. Donations of cakes, slices and other goodies can be left at KG’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.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club Issue 4 was sent home last week. 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?

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.
When kids ask “the” questions...

Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate’s high quality sexuality and relationship education program is coming to your school! With more than 25 years’ experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today over 41,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate school and family programs each year.

Many parents find it hard to discuss or answer questions relating to sexuality education. We know how to help break the ice. Interrelate programs are interactive, fairly focused and presented in the context of caring relationships.

Our fully trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics, conduct the program.

Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?”
1 hour - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
In this session children are eager to learn about how their bodies worked and the differences between males and females. This session extends the understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”
1 hour - Years 5 & 6
This session helps to prepare children and parents/carers for the physical, social, and emotional changes associated with puberty. Changing emotions and relationships with families and peers are addressed. Information is also presented on menstruation and wet dreams.

You and your child will benefit from the information presented in this program. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive. What parents have said about us:

“The educator has a great way of putting things simply”
“Provided me with a solid foundation”
“Gave me confidence”
“Entertaining and informative”

Interrelate SCHOOL SERVICES presents
A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM

FAMILY COST: 1 session $25 per family – 2 sessions $30 per family

PLEASE NOTE: The Family Cost is GST inclusive. The GST is payable/claimable by the School/Organising Body.

Where: MEREWETHER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL
When: Thursday, 17th July 2014
Time: 6:00 pm SHARP (Where Did I Come From?) 7:15 pm (Preparing for Puberty)

Please note: Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.

Please complete and return to the school office with payment on or before the above date above

A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM

Name of Family:

No. attending: [ ] Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?” [ ] Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”

Amount enclosed: $ [ ] Cash; [ ] Cheque (please make payable to Interrelate)

Tel: (02) 9242 7575 • Fax: (02) 9242 7890 • schoolservices@interrelate.org.au • www.interrelate.org.au

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

COMMONWEALTH GAMES DAY

To celebrate the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland, this year our school will be holding our own Commonwealth Games at Myamblah Crescent Oval on Tuesday, 24 June 2014. All students will be walking to and from Myamblah Crescent Oval under teacher supervision, departing the school at 9.30 am. We will walk back to school at 2.00 pm.

To help our special event day run smoothly we will need the assistance of parent helpers. If you are able to assist on the day please fill in the note below and return it to your child’s teacher.

With thanks
Amanda M

| COMMONWEALTH GAMES DAY – PARENT HELPER |
| Tuesday, 24 June 2014 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name:</th>
<th>Class:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Type Student’s Name]</td>
<td>[Type Class]</td>
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<th>Parent’s Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Type Parent’s Name]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I am available to be a parent helper for the Commonwealth Games Day. I can help:

- [ ] All day
- [ ] From 10 am – 12 noon
- [ ] From 12 noon – 2 pm

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

We won a marquee for our school !!!

Yes we did it! We won a marquee for our school. Thank you to everyone who banked last term, each and every deposit made last term helped us to win this amazing prize. Look out for our new marquee at the next MHPS event.

A new and exciting competition for term 2

Simply make three or more deposits every Wednesday at school during Term 2 and you’ll be automatically entered into a new and exciting competition.

Major Prize :
- Five nights’ accommodation at the Sea World Resort & Water Park on the Gold Coast;
- VIP Passes for two adults and three kids to Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World and Wet ‘n’ Wild Gold Coast;
- A Dolphin Family Aqua Adventure; and
- A $3,000 travel gift card to get you there.

Runner up Prizes :
130 Toys “R” Us Gift Cards to the value of $250 each to spend on your favourite toys.

PLUS, a separate draw of $1,000 cash for one school in each state.


Wednesday is school banking day

Thank you for supporting the school banking program

Your school banking coordinator - Helen T (0425 207 923)
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 are being sent home today with students in Years 3 to 6.

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. Infants girls, Kindy to Year 2, will remain in the winter tunic.

Thank you
Sharron S
PIZZA DAY

Thursday, 19th June 2014

SPECIAL CANTEEN DAY BY SLICE PIZZA

Orders and money to canteen no later Monday, 16th June 2014

Name...........................................

Class......................

Cost $5.00 with drink of your choice or $3.50 pizza only

Please circle your choice of Pizza

HAWAIIAN / CHEESE / MEATLOVERS

Please choose a drink from our current canteen menu

Drink........................................

Thank You Kim
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 S. 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4/6/14</td>
<td>Kathryn N, Kristine McA 11-2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5/6/14</td>
<td>Edwina M, Nikki N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>6/6/14</td>
<td>Kristen G, Joanna T, Monique T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9/6/14</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>10/6/14</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11/6/14</td>
<td>Kelly T, Natalie W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12/6/14</td>
<td>Reanna S, Belinda H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13/6/14</td>
<td>Julie R, Kris O’D, Ruth D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16/6/14</td>
<td>Cheree Macd, Di MacN</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>17/6/14</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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Community Notices...

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.

Hunter Connect – Autism Spectrum Support – is holding a Freaky Family Fun night on Friday, 13 June, 6.30 – 8.30 pm at Lollipops, Unit 6/154 Park Avenue, Kotara. The cost is $10 per ticket. The theme (optional) is Freaky Friday/Black Friday. The children will have exclusive use of the playroom. The café will be running so the family can grab a bite to eat, or parents can enjoy a coffee together while the kids play. Sports are limited! To reserve your tickets inbox us or email wayne@hunterconnect.org.au.

Hunter Medical Research Institute is holding an Open Day on 4 July for some free school holiday fun. Discover the research that lies behind the HMRI Building’s doors. Take part in some kids science experiments, make edible ‘DNA’ models, touch’n’feel the live expo displays and enjoy a healthy kids training session! For mums and dads there’s also research information sessions on kids’ health and nutrition, asthma and much more…. For more information or to register online visit www.hmri.com.au. For more information please contact Ellie McNamara Ph: 40420588 or ellie.mcnamara@hmri.com.au
**Young Peoples Theatre** is presenting ‘Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat’ from Monday, 30 June to Saturday, 16 August. Tickets are $16.50 each ($20 on Opening Night). Group bookings are available for 15 or more at $15.90. Book early so you don’t miss out. YPT Box Office Hours: Friday – 4.00 – 6.00 pm and Saturday – 9.00 am – 1.00 pm. Phone 49615345

**The Tom Farrell Institute for the Environment** presents the Hunter Valley EV Festival 2014 on 16-17 August at the Newcastle Kart Raceway, Cameron Park Drive, Cameron Park. Entry is free. Gates open from 10 am – 4.00 pm. There will be loads of great exhibitors and you can come and try an electric bike. For more information go to www.hunterevestival.net.

‘**Greet Grug at Morpeth**’ – book signing with Ted Prior, author/Illustrator of Australian Children’s Book series “**Grug**” on Saturday & Sunday, 28 & 29 June 2014 at Morpeth Gallery, 5 Green Street, Morpeth. Entry is free and Ted is signing books from 11 am – 1 pm and 2 – 3 pm. Book signing offer: Spend $20 on Grug Books and receive a $5 Grug Book Free!

---

**Do you love using your imagination?**
**Do you love telling stories?**
**Do you love playing pretend?**

Come and play games, go on crazy adventures, become superheroes, princesses and much more... all you will need is a touch of imagination and a hint of courage.

*BlueKite Productions*’ drama workshops will give you a chance to explore the power of imagination, storytelling and the thrill of performing. It’s also fantastic for improving self-confidence, creative thinking and communication skills, as well as just being a whole lotta fun!

These are 9-week courses for children aged 7-12 with a performance for your family and friends in the last week. While the 9-week courses won’t be starting until Term 3, we are running a shorter 5 week ‘taster’ course from Friday 23rd May to Friday 27th June 4-5 pm (no class on June 13th).

**COST:** $15/hour or $65 for the full 5-weeks saving you $10!!

**LOCATION:** Back hall of The Salvation Army, 67 Cleary St Hamilton

To book your spot contact Caitlin Allen on 0421 411 814

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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

Coastal Valleys Region Girl Guides invite girls aged 7-18 years to come and try Guides at your local Georgetown District Girl Guide Unit. For information on the location and available meetings in your area please contact Georgetown District Leader, Sue Randall on 49611943 or Region Membership Advisor: helenEG2@live.com.au. Please access our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au to find out more about Guides.
Our advertisers support our school but please be aware that advertisements appearing in Noticeboard are not an endorsement by the school.
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 ......................

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: ______________