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

ANZAC Day Memorial – LAST OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT INFORMATION!
This year will be the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. This event is seen as one of the defining moments in the formation of our identity and is something that is remembered every year. I have been collecting memorabilia to create a permanent display at the school so that children will always be reminded of the courage and sacrifice of our soldiers and also that we should do all we can to make sure a war like this never happens again. To make this display relevant to our students I would like to include a list of family members who have lost their lives defending our country and also a list of members who fought in the wars. For each soldier I would like a name, photo and some brief details (war fought in, decorations, married, etc.). From this information I will create a mounted frame to go on display (probably A5 size). I need your help getting this information to me asap as 25th April is not far away now.

The school students, with the help of Mrs W have been working on the mural which will be ready for unveiling at our school ANZAC Day service to be held on Friday 24th April.


Stage Two Awards: Lucy E, Caio R, Lilah P, Michelle N, Madeleine B, Toby L, Jonah S, Charlotte S, Lucy A

Happy Birthday to: Jaymie K, Juliet M, Toby C, Emerson W

Enjoy your week.
Principal

From the Office...

HAVE YOU RECEIVED:

- A green note requesting payment of textbooks for your child (sent home Wednesday, 25 February). Payment is requested by Friday, 20 March 2015.
- An envelope containing a form/forms listing personal information for your child/children. Please return to school office as soon as possible.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: ANNUAL STUDENT & FAMILY DETAILS UPDATE OF INFORMATION

Thank you to those parents who have returned the form for their child to update personal information such as address details, parent contact details, emergency contact details, doctors contact details and medical information.

We are asking parents to please alter any information on the form and, even if there are no changes, return to the school office as soon as possible.

Please note: It is a parent’s responsibility to notify the school of any changes in their child’s medical condition.

TEXTBOOKS

Students recently bought home to parents a letter requesting payment for the textbooks they have been issued with and are currently using in classrooms. Prompt payment for textbooks would be appreciated. Payment for textbooks can be made at the school office by cash, cheque or visa/mastercard. Payment is requested by Friday, 20 March 2015.

2015 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

There is the opportunity for you to enrol your child 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 later in this Noticeboard and money MUST BE handed in to the school office by Wednesday, 1 April. No applications will be accepted after this date.

Please note the tests will be administered in the Art Studio, supervised by a staff member. The children not doing the tests will continue with their normal school routine.
SCHOOL DISCO

Our Term 1 Disco will be held on Thursday, 26 March.

Our infants disco for Kindies, Years 1 and 2 is on from 5.30 - 6.45 pm. The primary disco for students in Years 3 - 6 starts at 7.00 pm and finishes at 8.30 pm. To cover costs, the entry fee is $5.00 per student. Each student receives a packet of chips and a drink as part of the $5.00 cost.

The disco is for our school children only - please no pre-schoolers, high school students or parents in the hall. We have a safety barrier to clearly show and restrict the movement of the children. We do this for safety reasons and this has worked well in the past.

Food that is purchased must be eaten before entering the disco.

Food for sale on the night will be:
Sausage Sandwich $2.50
Drinks $1.50

HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL - 2016

Hunter Sports High School has finalised its Talented Sports Program for 2016, formulated its enrolment procedures and downloaded all the information on its website. In 2016, 14 sports will be offered to students. Year 6 students who may be interested in the Talented Sports Program need to complete an application form. All details and forms are available from their website. Applications closed for 2016 on 1 May 2015.

Please contact our school office for more information including trail dates, venues and times.

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 FROM THE FOLLOWING TUESDAY.
**VOLUNTEER ETHICS TEACHER NEEDED FOR KINDERGARTEN**

Ethics classes have now commenced for those children whose families have made that selection in Stage 1, 2 and 3. We currently have two excellent volunteers at our school delivering these classes but we need another volunteer to cover the Kindergarten children. The classes for Kindergarten run on Wednesday afternoons at 2.55pm for half an hour. All training is provided by Primary Ethics, which is the organisation approved by the Department of Education and Communities to deliver the syllabus for these classes. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for this role you can find more information regarding what is involved on the website: [primaryethics.com.au](http://primaryethics.com.au) as soon as possible please.

Until we have found and trained another volunteer, those children who have selected ethics in Kindergarten will complete a 'values booklet' provided by the school during SRE time.

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**From the Teachers…**

Follow us on Twitter [@MerewetherHtsPS](https://twitter.com/MerewetherHtsPS)

**RUNNING CLUB**

Training will continue for those students who are running at the Zone Cross Country Carnival on Friday, 27 March. Students should be ready to start at the **new starting time of 8.35 am**.

Thank you

**3MC CUP CAKE DAY**

3MC will hold its Cup Cake Day on Tuesday, 24 March 2015. Donations of cakes, slices and other goodies can be left at 3MC’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 10.30 am.

**NSW SCHOOLS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION SURVEY 2015**

Some parents may have heard about the Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPANS) which involves over 100 schools in NSW. I am delighted to announce that our school has been invited to participate. This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in helping health professionals better understand children’s lifestyles such as their physical activity, fitness, food habits and movements skills. A team of specially trained teachers will collect the information on almost 8,000 students from Years K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The survey is being managed by a research team from the University of Sydney.

Children in some classes in Years K, 2, 4 and 6 will bring home information about the study and a consent form. If you receive this package, please read carefully the information statement. **If you agree to allow your child to participate, please complete the consent form and send it back to school (using the envelope provided) as soon as possible.** The survey will take place at our school on **Thursday, 19 March 2015**.
STARSTRUCK

Dear MHPS families,

To offer our students the wonderful opportunity of Star Struck we are doing a Chocolate Fundraising Drive. If you think you could help our Star Struck students by selling a box of chocolates, please indicate below before we place the Chocolate Box order.

Starstruck Coordinators

-------------------------------------------------------------

Family Name: ________________________________  Child’s class:____________________

I would like to sell _____ boxes of chocolates.

Parent Signature: _______________________

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE 2015

The Premiers Reading Challenge has begun for 2015.

The Premiers 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 were issued with recently 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://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/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 L

From the Parents...

LOWES Sale

We have been advised that Lowes will be having a one day only 20% off storewide sale (including school wear) this Thursday, 19 March. Please note that Lowes in the Hunter Street Mall is the stockist for this school’s uniforms.

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

We are in need to more Easter Eggs to enable us to donate Easter Eggs to our elderly friends at Carpenter Court and have a great raffle at our Easter hat parade.

Please 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. The old people look forward to it, along with our singing at Christmas.

We are hoping to have a great raffle for the P & C. This raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 2 April at our Easter Hat Parade.

Raffle tickets were sent home last week. They are being sold for $1.00 each and will also be available for sale on the day. The tickets and money need to be returned to the office prior to the event. We are also asking for all unsold tickets to be returned as well as they will be sold on the day.

So, we are asking if this week could be your time to buy that extra Easter egg and send it along to school.

EASTER HAT PARADE MORNING TEA

The Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday, 2 April, 2015 from 10.30 am to 12 noon. Hot cross buns and coffee will be sold on the morning of the Easter Hat parade.

A mobile coffee cart will be situated in the top teachers’ carpark. Coffee will be sold from 9.30 am.

PIZZA DAY

The canteen is running a special Pizza Day on Thursday, 2 April 2015. Please see the order form at the end of this newsletter.

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18/3/15</td>
<td>Casey Lee P, Jasmin H, Kerry B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19/3/15</td>
<td>Edwina M, Nikki N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20/3/15</td>
<td>Kristen G, Brodie S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23/3/15</td>
<td>Kathryn N, Volunteer required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>24/3/15</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>25/3/15</td>
<td>Lisa S, Colleen L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26/3/15</td>
<td>Reanna S, Tracee S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27/3/15</td>
<td>Ruth P, Tony H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>30/3/15</td>
<td>Meg S, Volunteer required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>31/3/15</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COULD ALL VOLUNTEERS PLEASE PAY THEIR $2.00 FEE TO COVER INSURANCE FEES NEXT TIME YOU ARE WORKING IN THE CANTEEN. Thanks.
CANTEEN ROSTER VACANCIES  2015   TERM 1

Below is a list of days where help is needed in the Canteen. If you are able to help out on any of these days please contact Kim in the Canteen. Any help you can give would be appreciated.
Thanks.

Week 9: Monday 23/3/15 9.30 am – 2.15 pm
Week 10: Monday 30/3/15 9.30 am – 2.15 pm

CLOTHING POOL

The clothing pool is opened every Tuesday from 9am - 9.30am. The clothing pool does not carry a float so correct money is appreciated. Cash or cheque is accepted. Cheques should be made payable to MHPS P & C. Sorry we do not have EFTPOS facilities.

The roster for the clothing pool is as follows:

Term 1:
24 March: Michelle
31 March: Toni

Term 2:
21 April: Toni 28 April: Sharron
5 May: Kerri 12 May: Caseylee
19 May: Dora 26 May: Julie
2 June: Caseylee 9 June: Kris
16 June: Michelle 23 June: Caseylee

If there are any problems or changes that need to be made, please contact the school office.

Please note: Winter jackets are now in stock in all sizes. All pre-orders have been filled and sent home with students. If we do sell out of any sizes, another order should be received in mid-March.

SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE

Please fill in your bank books
There are a lot of books received each week with blank deposit slips. We often have 100+ deposits every week at our school so filling in those slips adds to an already fairly long processing time. We are only mere mortal parent volunteers with no special powers or magic wands so please, please, please help us by completing your deposit slips every week. Thank you!

Win a holiday to Disneyland!
Every student who makes 25 or more deposits at our school this year will be automatically entered into a national competition to win an amazing holiday to Disneyland. Prize includes five nights at a Disneyland hotel, three day pass to Disneyland and $2,000 in spending money.

Thank you for supporting the school banking program.
From the Community...

**Young People’s Theatre Newcastle Inc.** present “Beauty and the Beast” at The Young People’s Theatre, cnr Lindsay and Lawson Streets, Hamilton from 6 April – 23 May 2015. Tickets are $17.50 each ($20 for opening night, Wednesday, 8 April). Discounts available for group bookings. YPT box Office House: Saturday 9 am – 1 pm. Phone: 49615345. Fax: 49610340. Email: ypt@ypt.org.au

**Blackbutt Reserve** is running a Junior Ranger Fun day on Thursday 16 April 2015 from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon at Richley Reserve, Freyberg Street New Lambton. For more information contact 49043344 or blackbuttadmin@ncc.nsw.gov.au

**Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre** are running an Adventurer Camp from 13 to 17 April for children aged between 7 to 12 years. For more information contact 49733301 or 49731262.

**Sport and Recreation Holiday Camps:** Sport and Recreation has some great holiday options for kids and families this Easter, with camps for kids aged between 7 and 16 years and all-inclusive family camps. For more information please see dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps and dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps or phone 131302.

This year **French Friday movie nights** return to bring you the chance to see five of the most critically acclaimed French films of 2014. Come along early (from 6.30pm) on Friday 20 March to enjoy the atmosphere of the little French market and sample some of the fantastic offerings from our stallholders. French Fridays will take place at Tower Cinemas, King Street, Newcastle. Tickets for each movie will be $10 per adult and $7 for concessions. Tickets can be purchased at the door or prepaid via the cinema’s website.

**Samba -Comedy Drama-** (2014). From the directors of ‘The Intouchables’, with Omar Sy and Charlotte Gainsbourg. **Synopsis:** Samba is a Senegalese immigrant who is desperately trying to legalise his immigration status. Alice is a high-flying businesswoman who has burnt out. As they both struggle to get their lives back on track, their paths cross.

**Newcastle Youth Orchestra – Kids Classics:** On Saturday 28 March the Newcastle Youth Orchestra will hold its first concert for the 2015 season at the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music. This concert is “Kids Classics: Introduction to the Orchestra”, where the orchestra will perform engaging music and provide entertainment with life-sized puppets, dancers and storytelling. For more information please contact Laura Dawson on 0402368338 or laura@nyo.com.au

**Hunter Wetlands Centre** is holding an Easter Fun Day on Saturday, 4 April from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm; and is running school holiday activities. Bookings are essential. For more information phone 49516466.
PIZZA DAY

Thursday, 2nd April 2015

SPECIAL CANTEEN DAY BY SLICE PIZZA

Orders and money to canteen no later
Monday, 30th March 2015

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

****Please use a separate order form for each Child****
Our advertisers support our school but please be aware that advertisements appearing in Noticeboard are not an endorsement by the school.
The simplest way…

...to make a healthy afternoon tea.

Try these simple ideas for making snacks that will satisfy even the fussiest eater…

- **Home made hot chips**
  Slice potatoes into thin discs, and arrange on a baking tray sprayed lightly with olive oil. Grill until golden, and serve with a small amount of tomato sauce.

- **Bite sized fruit with yoghurt**
  It’s a fact—kids are more likely to eat fruit when it is cut up into small pieces. Try serving some diced fruit with some reduced-fat yoghurt. It’s a winner.

- **Veggie sticks**
  These are so easy to prepare and make a super healthy afternoon tea. Try cutting up some carrot or celery sticks and serving them with hummus.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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

**BECOME A FOSTER CARER**

As a foster carer you’ll receive a fortnightly allowance, 24/7 support and ongoing training opportunities. If you’ve been thinking about fostering and you have a spare bedroom, talk to us today and start a journey you’ll never forget.

1800 WE CARE
iwanttofoster.com.au

**Positive Parenting**

This is a three-hour interactive seminar on positive communication and parenting techniques.

Parents will learn:
- how to acknowledge each child as an individual
- about the power of focusing on what children are doing well
- to help their children have better relationships with themselves and others

**Friday, 20 March 2015**
10:00am – 1:00pm
Cost: $25 (Concession $15)
Venue: Intermate Newcastle
493, Hunter Street NWS 2300

Bookings essential - Phone 4316 0566

**Starlet Dance Studios**

The Perfect Place for your Dancer to Shine!

Beautiful dance lessons for 5 - 13 year olds taught by our Specialist Teachers

Office 1300 369 509
Email info@starletdancestudios.com.au
Website www.starletdancestudios.com.au

Studios now open in New Lambton and Wallisend
Return Slips for Parents...

UNSW 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 WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date.

Student Name: .............................................................................................. Class: ........

☐ Digital Technologies $8.00 19 May 2015
☐ Science $8.00 3 June 2015
☐ Writing $17.00 15-19 June 2015
☐ Spelling $11.00 16 June 2015
☐ English $8.00 28 July 2015
☐ Mathematics $8.00 11 August 2015

I have enclosed $.................. for the nominated competitions above.
Signed: ........................................... (Parent/Carer)

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: ____________

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