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.
A number of jobs around the school started during the holidays.

- New landscaping work and turf laid at the Scenic Drive entrance of the school.
- The Jenny’s Corner project has commenced! I would like to send a special thanks to Mr V and his team of helpers who got the initial work started and he will be now looking for as many volunteers as possible to continue the work. He will be outlining the next steps at our P&C meeting to be held on Monday 1 August.
- Plans and quotes are coming in to get our new playground equipment started.

I would like to thank Mr Jonathan C for the fantastic athletics carnival photographs that are now on the screen in the office!

It is going to be a busy term ahead!

Enjoy your week.

Principal

Early Stage One Awards: Lucas S, Tobias H, Henry K, Archer L, Ophelie B, Riley B.


From the Office...

OFFICE NEWS

The school office is fully functional with the new financial and student systems introduced during Term 2. The office staff are still learning and we are asking for your continued patience and understanding over the coming weeks.

From today, an online payment system is now available for parents. Payments to the school office can now be made by cash, cheque, Eftpos using Visa/Mastercard and POP (Parent Online Payment). Please see the detailed note in this newsletter. **Please note:** Payments for clothing pool, canteen, band etc. CAN NOT be made using Online Payment. Please contact the school office if you are unsure what payments can be made online.

Our advertisers support our school but please be aware that advertisements appearing in Noticeboard are not an endorsement by the school.
It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a VISA or MASTERCARD credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting $Make a payment$.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, workbooks, performances, excursions. There is also a category called Other this to cover items not covered in the previous headings. Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice. Please note payments for clothing pool, canteen, band etc. CAN NOT be made using Online Payment.

When you access the $Make a payment$ you must enter:

- The students name, class and reference number OR
- The students name and date of birth.

These details are to be entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the school office on 4963 3192.
From the Teachers...

Follow us on Twitter @MerewetherHtsPS

4S CUP CAKE DAY

4S will hold its Cup Cake Day on Tuesday 26 July, 2016. Donations of cakes, slices and other goodies can be left at 4S’s classroom. (No toffees or nuts please as we have students with peanut allergies.)

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

PUBLIC SPEAKING SCHOOL FINALISTS

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

❖ Early Stage 1 finalists were Tobias H (K/1E) who presented an informative speech on Space and Grace C (KG) who presented beautifully on Cheetahs.

❖ Stage 1 finalists were Maeva O’N (2N) who spoke on yummy Chocolate and Felix B (2/3MC) romanticised Valentine’s Day. A highly commended also went to Keira F (1M) who spoke about wanting to become a Vet and Sammy C (2H) who we hope to one day see in the Olympics.

❖ Stage 2 finalists were Nicholas H (4S) who entertained us with his humorous speech on his invented remote and Tobin S (3L) was on a path to finding happiness.

❖ Stage 3 finalists were Tzipporah T (5/6G) who was very expressive and was trying to find a speech topic and Holly V (5/6G) who reminded us that what is on the inside counts.

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

Libby McC
Public Speaking Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Start time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8th August</td>
<td>Early Stage 1</td>
<td>Stockton Public School</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10th August</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Adamstown Public School</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th August</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Belair Public School</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th August</td>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>Belair Public School</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 this week. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.

Further information about the data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education website:

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

Kind regards

Principal

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 this week.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability – 2016

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: __________
Have you received –
- Voluntary School Contribution note (K-6) from Term 1.
- Textbooks note from Term 1.
- Stage 3 Excursion note to Newcastle Local Council Chambers.
- Note to Years 5 & 6 requesting Canberra excursion deposit
- Note to Years 3 & 4 requesting Great Aussie Bush camp deposit

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

**BOOK CLUB**

Book Club 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 29 July, 2016**.

**WARNING TO PARENTS**

The school office has been advised today that one of our students was diagnosed with Scarlet Fever during the first week of the school holidays, and would have been contagious during the last week of term 2. Should your child be unwell with a sore throat, fever, vomiting and has a rash, please seek medical attention.

**SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE**

Calling for a volunteer – we need your help!

We need a volunteer to join the team and help facilitate School Banking at our school.

This only takes a small amount of time one day a week.

Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they develop vital saving skills and also help our school with fundraising.

If you are interested in volunteering for this great program, and are free on Thursday mornings, please contact Marianne A on 0402 747 712 or leave your details at the office.

The school office would like to thank Helen T for the tremendous job she has done promoting and processing student banking over the last 5 days.

**From the Parents.....**

**CLOTHING POOL ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>19/7</th>
<th>Toni</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>26/7</th>
<th>Alex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>2/8</td>
<td>Toni</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>Dora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>16/8</td>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>23/8</td>
<td>Alex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>30/8</td>
<td>Dora</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>6/9</td>
<td>Julie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>13/9</td>
<td>Toni</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>20/9</td>
<td>Dora</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The school clothing pool is open each Tuesday morning from 9.00 to 9.30 am.
P&C FUNDRAISER

CASINO ROYALE GALA NIGHT

With 30% of tickets already sold you need to get in fast to secure your ticket to the 2016 Gala Night on Friday 23 September. Grab yours today at stickytickets.com.au/37232

IT’S TIME TO HELP OUT:

We need 250 prizes for our balloon raffle to a guaranteed $5,000 for the school.

If every MHPS family donates or sources at least 1 prize valued over $25 the massive job of sourcing prizes is made easy. Here’s some easy ideas:

- If you own a business donate a product or voucher
- Ask you workplace to donate a product or voucher
- Ask a friend who works or owns a business to donate
- Buy a voucher or product from a local business and donate
- Ask a business that you regularly spend money at to donate

From the Community ....

2016 Hunter Rescue Ball, in support of the Hunter Rescue Helicopter, is being held on Friday 16 September 2016 at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre from 6.30 pm to midnight. For more information please contact kylie.farrugia @rescuehelicopter.com.au

A free Autism Workshop for families will be held in Newcastle on 2 and 3 August for parents/carers of school aged students on the autism spectrum. The 2 day workshop will be held at Noahs on the Beach from 9.15 am to 3.00 pm. For more details please contact Positive Partnerships Infoline on 1300881971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au.

Northern NSW Futsal and other Futsal clubs will be starting their new summer competitions during September for all ages under 6 to youth, senior men, women and mixed groups at the following venues: Howzat Newcastle, Broadmeadow Hockey fields, Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium and well as other locations in the Maitland and Lake Macquarie areas. For more information, please contact sec@nnswfutsal.com.au or telephone 49461891