Dear Parents and Carers,

Passion, Persistence, Team Work – Lead to Success

**Celebrating Success**

Celebrate SAS Staff Recognition Week 31 August 2015 – 4 September 2015

On behalf of the students, staff, parents and the community we say ‘thank you’ and acknowledge the vital role that our SASS (School Administrative and Support Staff) have at our school. Members employed in public schools across NSW form one of the Public Service Association’s biggest group of members, with about 6,400 School Administrative and Support Staff (nearly all women) and 400 General Assistants (mostly men).

The theme for SASS Recognition Week is ‘Our Jobs, Your Children, Their Future’ and in the ever changing world of Education our SAS Staff play a very important part of our school’s successes. At Hamilton South Public School our SAS Staff are greatly valued members of the school team and their contributions are significant in supporting the students, staff, parents and members of the school community.
Robotics
Congratulations to our Robotics students for their great achievements at the State RoboCup competition. It is a wonderful experience to compete at such a high level of competition and the students did a wonderful job. The girls’ team came 2nd in their competition. What a fantastic achievement and well done Abby J, Abby T, Maddie D, Sophie B, Grace F and their coach and mentor Jacquie F. Thank you Mr Flood and Mr McCann for all their hard work with our robotics program.

Hunter Regional Athletics
Well done to our athletes who ran and jumped at the Hunter regional athletics carnival last week. From this competition we have Charlie W who will be competing at the PSSA State Athletics carnival. Charlie W came 2nd in high jump and will now be competing at the PSSA State carnival in Sydney. Well done Charlie, what a great effort and achievement!!

Basketball
Good news stories can come from both school and from outside of school. A good news story from basketball is that Kelsey C and Ashley C who play for the Hunters basketball team have been undefeated throughout the competition and have won all their games in their under 12 competition. The girls’ team played in the state competition over the weekend where the team made it to the grand final. After a close game, Manly won the comp, making the Hunters the runners up in NSW. What a great achievement for the girls and their team!
Canberra Excursion
Our Year 6 students have returned from four great days in Canberra and at the snow. The Canberra excursion provides wonderful opportunities for students to visit many important Australian icons and key attractions. Ms Ecroyd, Mrs Pettit, Ms Wakeman and Mr Flood support of the students is greatly appreciated.

Father’s Day Stall
The Father’s Day stall run by The Friends of Hamilton South will be held this Wednesday 2 September. Thank you to Fiona Frangos who has been co-ordinating the stall and to everyone who has taken the gifts home to wrap. There will be lots of fun and useful things to buy that ‘special’ person for Father’s Day.

Hamilton South International is an original show featuring the skills and talents of the amazing students of Hamilton South Public School. To ensure this year’s show is extra special we are performing off-site in a professional venue. This year there will only be one performance at 6pm, Thursday 8th October at the Newcastle Panthers Club.

**Tickets go on sale this Wednesday from 8:30-8:55am under the COLA in the middle playground.**

You can purchase tickets in 2 ways:

1. At school from 8:30-8:55am **each morning** under the COLA in the middle playground.

Or

2. You can post your ticket money, name and the number of tickets required in the school office. Your tickets will be processed with other school monies and your tickets sent home with your child by the end of that week. You will be given the next best available seats. You **cannot** purchase tickets using the school Parent Online Payment System.

**Ticket prices:**
- $15
- $5 for children under 5yrs requiring a seat
Student Safety

We have recently been reinforcing messages about safety around the school in terms of parking and crossing the roads. Another very important message around safety outside of school is the Safe People Safe Places message.

Protection strategies include:

- Making sure parents or another adult always knows where their children are at all times.
- Children should be instructed to always walk straight home or to the place they are walking to, walk near busier roads and streets or use paths where there are lots of other people.
- Point out to children where safe places are, such as a shop, service station, police station, library or school. If children are concerned in any way they should go to one of these places and ask them to call the police.
- Teach children about safe adults to look for and talk to if help is needed - police officers, teachers at school, adults they know and trust.
- Don't talk to people they don't know and never get into a car with a stranger.
- If a car stops on the side of the road and person inside is unknown, do not stop.

Working Bee – Sunday 13 September

On Sunday 13 September in the afternoon we will be having a working bee at the school. Our school grounds committee hold working bees twice a year where parents (and families) spend time attending to the school grounds and having a general tidy up. Jobs for this working bee include weeding, new planting, refreshing the mulch, pond maintenance, fertilising the native plants etc, etc. It would be great to see a good role up of parents at school helping out. More information will be in next week’s Noticeboard.

Tell Them From Me Parent Survey

Research indicates that partnerships between home and school improve student learning outcomes. We invite all families to take part in completing the Tell Them From Me Survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous and information gained will be used to make informed decisions about our schools future directions. Clicking on the link below will take you directly to the survey. If the survey opens to a login page, please copy and paste the link into your internet browser. This will ensure the survey launches directly to page one of the survey.


Sue Estens
Principal
We’re all still excited because the flights are booked, the bags are being packed and the passports are ready for our school concert!

This year our concert will be held at the Newcastle Panthers Club in King Street Newcastle. Tickets will only be sold AT SCHOOL and will be on sale soon. A note will come home to every student with all the details.

There will only be ONE show this year at 6pm on Thursday 8th October. If you know your child will not be available at that time please let your class teacher know as soon as possible.

Costume notes should be coming home as class teachers finalise all their requirements.

We still need;

* Calling all hairdressers……we need a hostess style trolley to use as a prop in the show and thought maybe a salon trolley may work. Please let the office know if you could lend us one on the day.

* We are also still looking to borrow a bank of connected, plastic moulded chairs – similar to those found in a medical waiting room, etc. Please let the office know if you can help.

Amy Kelly
KC ASSEMBLY ITEM.
KC will be presenting a brief item at tomorrow’s whole school assembly on Tuesday 1st September starting at 2:05pm. All parents are invited to attend.

HUNTER ZOO THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER
Thank you to those that expressed an interest in attending the Year 2 excursion to the Hunter Zoo at Cessnock. We only require the assistance of one additional adult and Mrs Cox’s name was drawn out to fulfil this role. We hope the children all have a great time and learn lots about living things.

Year 2 Teachers

WETLANDS EXCURSION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our excursion to the Wetlands is on Thursday 3rd September. Below is a list of items that will make the day more enjoyable and successful.

● Be at school by 9.00am at the latest, as the bus needs to depart by 9.15am.
● Ensure that your child brings their lunch, recess, drinks and fruit in a clearly labelled lunch box.
● Apply sunscreen before school and make sure your child brings a hat.
● Pack a raincoat in their small backpack (hopefully this is not needed but you never know.)
● Sports uniform is to be worn.
● Bring a non-aerosol insect repellent.
● Please don’t send money, as we will not have time to visit the kiosk.

We plan to return by 2.45pm.

Thank you for your help in this matter and we look forward to having a great day.

Regards,

Stage 1 & SR Class Teachers

MOVIE NIGHT – WHAT A SUCCESS!
The boys and girls of Hamilton South Public School that attended Movie Night had a great time. All students enjoyed munching on their movie pack and wearing their pyjamas or casual clothes to school. The night would not have been such a great success without the help of the Year 6 parents. We had more parents than ever out shopping, ordering, packing bags, cooking, handing out movie packs and cleaning up. Year 6 along with Mrs Pettit and Ms Ecroyd would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the parents that helped out and also to Barry our amazing BBQ cook who always offers to lend a hand every time. We raised over $2000 dollars from Movie Night and this money will go towards the Year 6 Farewell.

Year 6 Teachers
SPORTS NEWS

Regional Athletics News
Six Hamilton South students competed at the Hunter Regional Athletics carnival last Friday 28th August. It was a glorious day to compete against the region’s best athletes and our guys did really well. Congratulations to Charles Walker who was our only student to qualify for the State Athletics Carnival with a 2nd placing in the high jump event. Way to go!

Mr. True (Sports Coordinator)
The August P&C meeting was held last Wednesday 19 August. Thank you to all parents who attended. Key items discussed were:

- The P&C has drafted a fundraising framework which outlines how fundraising should be conducted at HSPS. School staff will now review the framework.
- The HSPS uniform is now fully stocked at Lowes.
- P&C will fund the installation of blinds in some classrooms. These blinds have the benefit of reducing glare on smart boards in classrooms as well as heating/cooling benefits.
- Some reorganisation of P&C information on the school website will occur to make it easier to access.

The P&C has sent out a survey to help identify parents who have skills that could support the P&C to contribute to the school. This survey will close shortly and we would appreciate 5 minutes of your time to complete it.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2DQCQVB
FATHER'S DAY WRAPPING
● Thank you to everyone who has taken a box of Father's Day gifts to wrap. Please return your box to the staffroom by this afternoon.
● The Father's Day Stall is this Wednesday 2nd September. There will be plenty of gifts to choose from ranging in price from $4 to $10.
● Remember to send some money (and a bag to hide the gift in)
● If you are able to help on the stall meet us in the hall from 9am, Wednesday 2nd Sept.

Fiona
Friends of Hamilton South

YEAR FOUR PARENTS GET TOGETHER
Join us for the Year 4 Parents 'Superbowl' – Thursday 3 September at Strike Charlestown.
Enjoy a game of ten-pin bowling and lane side pizza.
Kick off at 6:30pm for drinks, bowling and pizza from 7pm.
For those keen to stick around after bowling, we can try laser tag and karaoke.
The cost for pizza and ten-pin is $22 a head.
To confirm please get in touch ASAP, payment is required to secure your spot.
Cheers, Kylie – ky_owen@tpg.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS:

Canteen Roster: 07.09.15 –11.09.15

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If you are unable to work, please arrange a swap. In an emergency, phone Mary on 0412 451 226 or email m.alford@idl.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS

Fresh 4 Kids
Students are loving the NEW Fresh choices. We already have 40 entries for the major draw.
Some really great fresh options:
● Banana Smoothies $2
● Floating Fruit Jellies $1
● Frozen Fruit 50c
● Stix N Dip $1

Volunteering
Can you please note the days that you are on. If you cannot make your day can you please organise a swap. As you all know we have a very busy canteen and we really do rely upon our Great Volunteers that give their time.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN - 15TH JULY – 8TH SEPTEMBER
Woolworths Earn & Learn has started, please place sticker sheets in the box in the office foyer.

The Canteen Committee
Spring Market Day at Henry Street Preschool
Saturday 12th September from 9 am til 12 noon
Plant Stall, Clothes stall (both Children’s and Adult), Cake/Slice/Jam Stall, Toys/Books Puzzles, Sausage Sizzle, Face Painting and Jumping Castle, Come and support our little Preschool Tracey
Henry Street Community Preschool
Henry Street
Merewether NSW 2291
(office hours 8.30 til 12.30)

GEORGETOWN GIRL GUIDES

ANNUAL TRASH & TREASURE

Saturday 5th September 2015
7am – 1pm
Cnr. Young Street & Lake Road
GEORGETOWN

DONATIONS OF GOODS WELCOME
FOR COLLECTION OR DONATIONS

CALL: SUE 4961 1943
CAN’T GET ENOUGH CRICKET?
Join Your Mates And Satisfy Your Appetite For Cricket These Holidays!

ULTIMATE CRICKET SCHOOL - HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE
★ Get Ready For Pace, Swing and Spin Bowling Sessions!
★ Put Your Helmet On and Pad Up For Attacking and Defensive Batting!
★ Show Off Your Short Catching and Outfielding Skills!
★ Wicketkeepers – Brace Yourself For Catches and Stumpings!
★ Take Your Place In Modified Cricket Games, Net Sessions And The T20 Cup!
★ Become Team Mates With Players Your Age (6-15 Year Olds)
★ Qualified Coaches To Help You Become The Best Cricketer Possible!

21-23 September 9am-3pm
Empire Park
Bar Beach

Book By 11 September To Score Early Bird Booking Rates
AND Go Into The Draw To Win FREE Big Bash League Tickets

Players That Register In Groups Are Set
To Receive BONUS Prizes!

“Jack really enjoyed his time at this cricket clinic. He was given clear guidance from all coaches that helped him develop his cricketing skills. Jack made friends with players of various ages and abilities. It was a great learning experience for him. See you at the next edition of the Ultimate Cricket School next holidays.”
Mark Kenman - Father of Jack

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Email: hwca@wetlands.org.au Web: www.wetlands.org.au

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER HOLIDAY PROGRAM
AT THE HUNTER WETLANDS CENTRE

Program for Vacation Care Centres

Vacation Care Centre Directors are invited to bring groups of 12 or more to the Hunter Wetlands Centre for one of our special school holiday programs. Staff from the Hunter Wetlands Centre will guide your students on a fun day of outdoor adventure and learning. For the School Holidays we can again offer a choice of:

1. Bush Adventure Day
   - Cost: $14 per child
   This program may include:
   • Preparing and eating a damper (cooked in a BBQ)
   • Short talk on bush survival skills
   • Shelter building using sticks, branches, logs and other material
   • A guided walk around the Bush Tucker Garden or the Sensory Trail
   • Knot tying and rope skills
   • Interactive reptile talk

2. Wetlands Explorers
   - Cost: $14 per child
   This program may include:
   • Introduction to birds of the wetlands
   • Questioning and identifying pond-life
   • Guided walk noting bird trails, augment tower, brush duck enclosure
   • Bush crafts
   • Interactive reptile talk

3. Self Guided Program
   - Cost: $5 per child
   Your staff can bring children to the wetlands and use the self-guided tour notes to explore the site. Entry includes the use of binoculars and attendance at an interactive reptile talk.
   Bookings essential

If you would like to discuss developing a program tailored to meet the needs of your students please phone Val or Michelle on 4951 4466 or email: valu@tpg.com.au

Facilities
• Undercover picnic tables and shelters
• Discovery Playground
• Grassy area suitable for games and picnics
• BBQ Hire
• Cafe – meals, chips, iced...
VACATION CARE 4 – 12yrs
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2015

Come & Join Us These School Holidays, We Will Have You Reaching New Heights
Participating In Programs Such As:

- obstacle courses
- craft
- gymnastic skills
- cooking
- acro
- trampolining
- science
- tumbling
- athletics ... just to name a few

VACATION CARE IS AVAILABLE FROM
MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER - TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER
7.30AM-6PM, MEALS INCLUDED

The Hunter Sports Centre also runs gymnastics holiday programs and skills clinics each day. For further information visit our website www.hsc.org.au

SIGN UP TO A Kid Coders Holiday Camp
THESE SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Want to learn to create computer games these holidays instead of playing them?

WHERE: MEREWEATHER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL
WHEN: SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
AGES: 7 - 12

REGISTER AT WWW.KIDCODERS.COM.AU NOW TO SECURE YOUR SPOT. LIMITED PLACES.

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2015
HMRI OPEN DAY
KID'S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES
FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

The Research Expo will run from 10am-4pm throughout all levels of the HMRI Building.

'Things that go Pop, Fizz and Bang!' - every 30 minutes, Kid's Area, Level 1
'What grows more bugs?' - every 30 minutes, Kid's Area, Level 1

10am: Healthy Kids Football Clinic with Mark Hughes and friends from the Newcastle Knights - Kid's Area, Level 1

11am: School Science Session: 'How did we get here? Stories about working at a medical research institute' - Caves Theatre, Level 4

12pm: Kid’s physical activity workshop - Kid’s Area, Level 1

1pm: Healthy Kids Football Clinic with Mark Hughes and friends from the Newcastle Knights - Kid’s Area, Level 1

2pm: 'The Genetics of Rare Abilities, Real Life X-Men' - Caves Theatre, Level 4

3pm: Become an editor: Help write a science kid's book with author Susan Whelan - Kid's Area, Level 1

School Science Session: 'How did we get here? Stories about working at a medical research institute' - Caves Theatre, Level 4

4pm: Special Lecture: 'The Science behind Zombies' - Caves Theatre, Level 4

In partnership with our Community:

HMRI
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
Health Hunter New England Local Health District

2015
HMRI OPEN DAY
SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES
FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

The Research Expo will run from 10am-4pm throughout all levels of the HMRI Building.

Key:
- Research and Discovery Sessions
- Kid's Activity Sessions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Caves Theatre, Level 4</th>
<th>Moss Room, Level 4</th>
<th>Kid’s Area, Level 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Healthy Ageing</td>
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<td>The Genetics of Rare Abilities, Real Life X-Men</td>
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<td>School Science Session: 'How did we get here? Stories about working at a medical research institute'</td>
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<td>Women’s Health</td>
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EXTRA ACTIVITIES:

'Things that go Pop, Fizz and Bang!' - every 30 minutes, Kid’s Area, Level 1
'What grows more bugs?' - every 30 minutes, Kid’s Area, Level 1
Respiratory and Science Lab Tours - every 30 minutes, Level 2
Cancer and Mothers and Babies Lab Tours - every 30 minutes, Level 3
About HMRI - 1pm, Cameron Room, Level 4

In partnership with our Community:

HMRI
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
Health Hunter New England Local Health District
Hunter Academy of Sport
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

WHY CHOOSE US? WHEN YOU CAN PLAY 9!
The Hunter Academy of Sport is now offering a unique sports camp for boys and girls, ages 6-15. During the HAS School Holiday Program, athletes will participate in 9 different sports, learn basic skills and get a feel for a number of athletic activities from nationally certified coaches.

1, 2 and 3 day options available. For more information visit
WWW.HUNTERACADEMY.ORG.AU/EVENTS

SEPT 29, 30, OCT 1
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Merewether High School

We need your Help!!

Between the 25th - 27th Sept. this year (the upcoming school holidays) we are conducting a monster Bookfair as a fundraiser for upcoming programs. During these three days the School Hall will be transformed into a HUGE!!! second hand book shop where over 25,000 books will be on sale to the community.

Donations of unwanted books required!

If you have any old books laying around the House that may be cluttering up important storage space then we are happy to take them off your hands. Any books donated must be brought into school by Sept. 11 to allow time for processing. Just leave them at the office and we will take it from there.

We appreciate your Help!!