



## Principal's Message

Thank you for all the **Easter Raffle donations!** Keep them coming and we will have some great prizes to draw in Week 10.

Please consider becoming a member of the **Friends committee**. The committee currently meets at 8:15am on Thursday morning here at school once per term as nearly all members are staff. Meeting times are negotiable and the prime goal of the committee is fundraising organisation.

This term is moving along very quickly and the last day of term will be Thursday 2nd April as Friday the 3rd April is Good Friday. Term 2 resumes for students on Tuesday 21st April.

Please have a look at the leaflets attached from our Senior School regarding an exciting work experience / business opportunity they have embarked upon called CHANCES. They are hand making a variety of products for sale. Pass onto your friends and neighbours as well.

Thank you for supporting our young people!

**Regards**

**Belinda Ryan**  
**Principal**

## Friends News

### Easter Egg Raffle

Thank you to our families and staff who have donated some beautiful eggs for our raffle.

We would like to make the hampers up in the last week of term so that we can raffle off before the Easter break.

If you are able to send in some loose eggs or anything Easter related, we would be so grateful as this has been a great fundraiser now for several years generating money to purchase school resources.

### Golf Day

**Save the Date** - Friday 6th November 2015 at Merewether Golf Club - details soon!!!

### Bunnings BBQ (Kotara)

Thank you to our families who have offered to help out at the BBQ in May!

### Membership

If any families would like to join the Friends committee please contact school and talk to Jenny Lewis.

Thanks again for your ongoing support.

**Friends Committee**

## Diary Dates - Term 1

### Week 9

Friday, March 27th	Harmony Day - Wear Orange
	Swag of Instruments
	Performance

### Week 10

Thursday, April 2nd	Rooms 1, 2 and 3 Excursion
<b>Thursday, April 2nd</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 1</b>
Friday, April 3rd	Good Friday

## Diary Dates - Term 2

### Week 1

Monday, April 20th	<b>Staff Development Day</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 21st</b>	<b>Students Return</b>

## Message from our Lead Principal - Mr Ian Hughes

Dear Parents and Carers

With term one quickly drawing to a close I would like to thank everyone for their warm wishes and welcome to the Newcastle School. Term one has provided me with opportunities to spend time in each of our wonderful schools, meeting staff, students and parents. I look forward to continuing this next term, hopefully being able to spend more time in the Junior and Middle schools.

For the Principal Leadership Team, term one has been all about setting strategic directions for 2015 - 2017. Thank you to all parents and community members who provided us with important data and feedback last year as this information was taken into consideration when developing the plan.

After approval by the Director, the Three Year Strategic Plan will be uploaded to the website and become a public document. The second part of the plan is a "working" document with milestones and implementation strategies to be updated every five weeks. This document is for school teams and project leaders within the schools.

Our three Strategic areas for 2015 - 2017 are as follows;

### **Excellence in Educational Practice**

*To promote, build and sustain the professional learning of all staff members, by creating systems for all teachers and leaders to learn from each other through the provision of targeted professional learning and the provision of quality feedback systems in order to enhance student outcomes and staff performance.*

Projects Include:

- Building a performance and development framework for staff.
- Developing learning continuums appropriate for all students.
- Strategic implementation of the Aboriginal Education Plan.

### **Enhancing Student Wellbeing**

*To actively engage all students in meaningful and challenging learning experiences through personalised and differentiated curriculum access creating safe, respectful, and caring learners.*

Projects Include:

- Building the capacity for staff to respond to incidents ensuring a safe working environment for all.
- Improving school attendance in line with new policy and procedures.
- Improve curriculum access and engagement for students through the provision of innovative accessible technology.
- Increased access to augmentative communication systems for all students.

### **Fostering Community Engagement and Building Partnerships**

*To provide a learning environment which is purposeful, challenging, and engaging, catering for the learning needs and transition points for all students and community members.*

Projects include:

- Improving community relationships and building partnerships.
- Building the school "identity" in the community.
- Refine and improve transition processes within the community of schools and post school.

I look forward to meeting with you to "unwrap" the plan early next term.

We are planning another Easter Egg Hamper Raffle again this year!

This has been a great fundraiser for several years now due to the generosity of student families and staff with over 30 hampers usually to raffle.

Please look out for your Friends News Flyer that will go home with students this week letting families know what our fundraising plans are for 2015.

We are so grateful to our families for their ongoing support and are looking forward to another year of fundraising to help fund valuable resources to purchase for our students and school.

**Regards**

**Ian Hughes**

**Lead School Principal**

## Harmony Day

At Newcastle Middle School will be celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 27th March 2015 - a day for cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.



It is an out of uniform day and we would like all students to dress up in the colour orange if possible.

To celebrate this day we have organised a performance by "A Swag Full of Instruments".

This is a performance where children experience music from diverse backgrounds and a variety of cultures through instruments from the Middle East, Australia, Ireland, America, Spain, Britain, Africa, Japan, Italy, China and the universal kitchen through dance songs and movement.

The cost of is \$5.00 and there isn't a cost for students not wearing their school uniforms on this day.

Please ensure that all monies are sent in by Tuesday 24th March 2015 if you have not already paid for your child.

*Pratibha Harriram*

## **NEW** Senior School Initiative - CHANCES

**CHANCES** is a work skills program that was developed to promote learning, independence, develop skills, encourage friendships and team work and ready Newcastle Senior School students for life after school.

Students hand make products, with each student playing a vital role in the production, design process, packaging and distribution of their products.

Please find attached an order form for the handcrafted products our hard working Newcastle Senior School students in Room 7 have produced.



Keep in mind Mothers' Day is fast approaching!

*Sarah Turnbull*

*Room 7 - Assistant Principal  
Newcastle Senior School*



### Order Form

Product	Description	Price	Quantity
	<b>Brown Sugar, Honey &amp; Coconut oil Body Scrub</b> Hand made body scrub made with all natural ingredients. Great for dry skin. 250ml	\$15.00	
	<b>Mint &amp; Cucumber Sugar Foot Scrub</b> Hand made foot and leg scrub made with all natural ingredients and essential oils. 250ml	\$15.00	
	<b>Sweet Orange Raw Sugar Body Scrub</b> Hand made body scrub made with all natural ingredients and essential oils. 250ml	\$15.00	
	<b>Lemon &amp; Grapefruit Sea Salt Body Scrub</b> Hand made body scrub made with all natural ingredients and essential oils. 250ml	\$15.00	
	<b>Hand made Pegs</b> Decorative pegs to keep your home and office in order. Packet contains 5 handcrafted pegs with either your choice of magnets for use on your fridge or drawing pins for the home or office pin board.	Magnets \$4.50	
		Drawing Pins \$4.00	
	<b>Hand made Pegs</b> Decorative pegs to keep your home and office in order. Packet contains 5 handcrafted pegs with either your choice of magnets for use on your fridge or drawing pins for the home or office pin board.	Magnets \$4.50	
		Drawing Pins \$4.00	
	<b>Hand made Gift Card with envelope</b> Beautiful handcrafted cards with envelope, blank, so you can add your personal touch for someone special.	Textured \$3.50ea	
		Water Colour \$3.50ea	
<b>COMING SOON</b>	<b>Sensory necklace</b> Beautiful, unique handcrafted silicone bead necklace for the trendy young person with sensory needs or the Mum with a teething child.	\$10.00	
<b>Total:</b>			

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment Method

Please attach order form with payment and return to your school office. CASH or CHEQUE accepted. **Payable:** Newcastle Senior School

Contact: Sarah Turnbull  
Newcastle Senior School  
Ph: 4985 3122

