Dear Parents and Carers

This will be our last official newsletter for the 2014 school year. As many of you would already know I will not be returning to Hunter River Community School next year as I have accepted the position as Principal of Newcastle School, which is made up of three special schools, Newcastle Junior School at Glendon, Newcastle Middle School, formerly Cameron Park and Newcastle Senior School, formerly Hunter Orthopaedic School. I first became involved with South Street School in 1995 and have watched the school grow into what it is today. Whilst we have seen many changes, especially in location the one thing that remains the same is the wonderful, inspiring students and their families. I have made many true friends whilst on my journey with the school and will sadly miss the day to day contact with staff, students and parents.

Tracey Rapson has been asked to be Relieving Principal during Term One next year, whilst the process of selecting a new Principal for the school gets underway.

I wish the school and its new leadership team great success in the future and trust that the name of Hunter River Community School continues to be held in high esteem throughout the community.

From my family to your family I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

FAREWELL!

Presentation Day 2014

Thank you to all our families and friends who joined us for our first Presentation Day in our new school. What a wonderful day it was, providing us with an opportunity to join together to celebrate the success of students throughout the year.

Congratulations to all the award winners for their fine efforts. A special congratulations to our School Leadership Team, Courtney Simmons and Luke Barrett, School Captains and Prefects, Laura Scrace, Scott York, Dylan Ford and Nicholas Sutherland. What a wonderful team they will make!

Assisted School Travel

All students currently receiving a service from Assisted School Travel have been “rolled over” and will continue to receive a service in 2015. Please be advised that the “runs” are developed by personnel in Wollongong using the current information they have available to them. Whilst I do not anticipate any great changes to the structures of runs, there may be some minor changes needed. All parents and carers should hear from Assisted School Travel regarding arrangements for 2015 BEFORE school commences.

Please also take the opportunity to read any information included in this letter, especially around parent responsibility in ensuring their child is buckled in securely each morning and that parents are there to remove their child from the vehicle each afternoon. I would also like to remind parents that contractors are only required to wait for three minutes at any child’s home, so please try to be on time to avoid any problems.

Classes for 2015

We are in the final stages of organising classes for 2015. We do realise that this is an anxious time for parents and carers, however PLEASE be assured that when putting the classes together the needs of the student are paramount in our decision making. Please be assured that as a school all staff have a good working knowledge of all the children in the school, and we have good procedures in place to support information transfer from one teacher to another. Please give your child a few weeks to settle into his/her new class before becoming overly concerned. Of course if after a period of time you still have concerns, please bring this to the attention of the class teacher and executive.

STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM ONE

WEDNESDAY 28TH
IOTAS Disco
Senior students and staff had a wonderful time at the IOTAS disco held at Merewether High School. The theme was red and green and everyone who dressed up looked fabulous, with Emma being awarded “Best Dressed Student”.
Karaoke was very popular with all students, and Emma and Katie singing “Nut bush” and a Taylor Swift song.

Work Experience
Work placement has been a very important part of some senior student’s school week this year and we would like to thank the businesses that have been so very supportive of our programs.
Laura has been working at Thornton Coles for the several months. She has become very skilled, packing shelves, facing produce and assisting customers. The staff at Thornton Coles has been exceptional and their support is greatly appreciated.
Courtney has been working at Thornton McDonalds each Friday this term. She has been “working the floor”, clearing tables, stacking the condiment boxes, washing windows and managing the rubbish. The staff have been extremely welcoming to Courtney and made her fell like “one of the team”.
SAILING
The sailing term has come to another close for the year. Although we haven’t been very fortunate with consistent weather, the days that we were able to take sail have been fabulous! Congratulations to Nicholas Sutherland for taking out the Sailing award on Presentation Day. The sailing crew have enjoyed their time at Grahamstown and we thank all the volunteers, Anne and Ross Howard, Josh Killen, and all the guys at Sailability. We could not have done it without your valuable assistance!
Room 7

In Term 4 the Room 7 Art Unit has been focusing on Christmas Art and craft. We have been very busy little elves! Room 7 is very proud of our sparkling Christmas tree (circles cut for the tree by Billy and Jorja), drinking straw tree and Reindeer hand print faces. We had lots of fun.

Merry Christmas everyone!!

Some of Room 6’s Favourite moments in 2014 !!!!
2014 Senior Formal

Oh what a night! The 2014 school formal was held at Hunter River Community School on Thursday 27 November.

With a RED theme, the school courtyard looked amazing, bathed in sparkling fairy lights.

Our Year 10, 11 and 12 students looked sensational in their finery and had a wonderful time dancing the night away..

A big thank you to the staff and in particular Natasha Brown who was responsible for ensuring the night came together.

We can’t wait until 2015!!
Canteen Program

The senior Food technology program is concluding for the year, and this week was the last Tuesday canteen for the year.

The canteen crew would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their generous support over the past 12 months. We have enjoyed bringing you exciting menu choices, and the addition of milkshakes has been very popular.

Thank you again and we look forward to your continued support in 2015.