Mahboba’s Promise: an inspiration to our students

Principal’s report: Jane Ferris

The prefects are to be congratulated on an inspiring Spirit Day that not only achieved its purpose of raising school spirit but also raising much needed funds for Mahboba’s Promise.

Mahboba’s Promise supports the women and children of Afghanistan who have been widowed and orphaned during the years of conflict in their country. This charity offers support through orphanages, schools and work skill development. Mahboba herself began her life in Kabul, and was forced to leave Afghanistan following a student demonstration after Russia’s invasion in 1984. She walked for 10 days to avoid the threat of being imprisoned. As a teenager, Mahboba spent two years living in a refugee camp in Pakistan and then moved to Australia. After suffering the loss of her own child in 1992, Mahboba made the decision to dedicate her life to raising awareness and money in Australia, for women and children in Afghanistan by setting up her own organisation – Mahboba’s Promise.

On a special assembly on Spirit Day organised by senior prefects Rosalind (social justice) and Joey (student well-being), we were privileged to have Mahboba speak to the whole school. I was so incredibly touched by the genuine attentiveness and interest of our students who listened spellbound to her story. It is a great reflection of our student body when they demonstrate such respect and compassion for such a worthwhile cause. The clapping was so enthusiastic and long lasting that Mahboba commented to me that she felt like a celebrity!

Other activities on the day included the search for the Spirit Stick and student musical performances: The teacher vs student sport game has been postponed to when the weather is dry. Money was generated through a gold coin donation for the mufti day theme of ‘Around the World’, selling of food including high teas, sausage sandwiches, cans, milk shakes and fairy floss. With this money raised through these activities and other donations aimed to match the students’ contributions, an amazing $4,500 has been raised for Mahboba’s Promise. Prefects and students, I am so incredibly proud of you all for your hard work and commitment to support those less fortunate than yourselves.

### CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4 March 5:15pm</td>
<td>Hall—Open Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 March 4pm</td>
<td>Years 11 and 12 Parent/Teacher Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 March</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congratulations to all of our students for the way they have conducted themselves over the past two weeks. We have had a number of events and variations to our usual routine (year 7 camp, swimming carnival, photo day and spirit day) and I am proud to say that all students were engaged in the activities and at all times were responsible and respectful. It was a highlight on photo day seeing our junior girls in a sea of blue. Thank you to parents and students for coming on board and supporting the wearing of the correct uniform in 2014.

I had the privilege of attending the Year 7 camp for a day and meeting our students. I was amazed at how resilient and courageous many of them were when faced with the group challenges. The Pittwater and Sport and Recreation staff commented that this was one of the best groups they had seen go through in a long time. Congratulations to all of the Year 7 students and thank you to all the staff who attended and Miss Mamone for her outstanding organisation.

We are continuing to remind our students of the importance of being safe online. Here are a few useful hints and reminders for parents and students:

**The Easy Guide to Socialising Online**

**Australian Government & Department of Communications**

Below is a checklist of important things to do when helping children to navigate social networking sites, search engines or online games safely.

- Look after each other online – talk with your family and friends about how to be cybersafe.
- Download the Government’s Cybersafety Help Button. The Help Button provides internet users, particularly children, with easy online access to cybersafety information and assistance available in Australia.
- Think before you post! Posting personal information – including photos – may seem harmless but could put people at risk. Once it’s online, it’s really hard to take down.
- Keep your passwords secret. To make your password really hard to hack make sure it includes numbers and symbols, and change it often. Visit Stay Smart Online for more information.
- Smartphones can pinpoint your exact location and publish this online. Think carefully before you check in and tell the world where you are. Learn more at Cybersmart’s Geolocaters page.
- Check if the site has an age limit or rating. Some have age limits to protect you from inappropriate content. Parents can check out Cybersmart’s infographic for handy tips on pre-teens that want to join social networking sites.
- Use the Cybersafety Help Button to report cyberbullying and inappropriate content directly to social media sites, the ACMA or the Australian Federal Police.
- Use the privacy settings to control who can see your personal information. You can also use a site’s settings to block users who make you feel uncomfortable.
- There is no such thing as safe sexting. You could be breaking the law if you send, receive or forward these types of pictures. Learn more at Cybersmart’s Sexting page.
- Tribute pages dedicated to the memory of a friend or loved one need to be carefully monitored – it can be very upsetting if people make disrespectful or offensive comments on these pages. Carefully manage your page permissions to control who can access and post to the page.

**Have a good week, looking forward to Open Night on Tuesday night!**
Year 7 Camp—Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre

Our Year 7 students swapped desks and computers for fresh air and adventure last month when they visited Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre.

The group of 165 students attended as part of their program.

The 3-day active outdoor learning program included raft building, kayaking, archery, swimming, hiking, outdoor cooking, high ropes, rock climbing and a variety of evening activities such as trivia, talent demonstrations (including some bad twirking and jaw dropping singing!) and laughter.

The adventurous activities were certainly a lot of fun, but they also provided a significant educational advantage. The program was a great opportunity for the students to challenge their abilities and practice initiative, teamwork and communication.

Thank you Year 7 and volunteering staff for an awesome 3 days!

Miss Mamone — Year 7 Advisor.
**AGE CHAMPIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>44</td>
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<td>Kai VK</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Jessica D</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Michael D</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 years</td>
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<td>Jasmine L</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Christian G</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1st</td>
<td>Ellena H</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Flynn R</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Lily C</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Jasen W</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Isabella C</td>
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<td>Matthew S</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Liam D</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Jazmine M</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Damian E</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Millie K</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Harry H</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Lucy McL</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Nick S</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 &amp; Over</td>
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<td>Darienne A</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Tyler A</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Neesha W</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Lachlan G</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RECORD BREAKERS**

**JASEN W**

1. Boys 14 years 50m Freestyle 27.73  
   Previous Record: 27.80 (D. Paton, 1982)

2. Boys 14 years 50m Butterfly 29.97  
   Previous Record: 32.80 (P. Dawson, 1981)

3. Boys 14 years 100m Freestyle 1:02:91  
   Previous Record: 1:03:50 (D. Paton, 1982)

**LIAM D**

1. Boys 15 years 50m Freestyle 27.77  

**HOUSE POINTS**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Barrenjoey</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lion</td>
<td>384</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PHS ZONE SWIMMING TEAM 2014**

12yrs Boys: Kai VK, Jarrah S, Michael, Ethan G


14yrs Boys: Jasen W, Kelly N, Matthew S, Cale T

15yrs Boys: Liam D, Edward S, Damien E, Joe A

16yrs Boys: Harry H, Caelan L, Nicholas S, Harrison D

17yrs Boys: Tyler A, Jack L, Lachlan G, Alessandro L

12yrs Girls: Sharon N, Jessica D, Alisa VDK, Alice W

13yrs Girls: Jasmin C, Ellena H, Jasmine ZL, Sidney N, Sarah N

14yrs Girls: Lily C, Isabella C, Grace H, Natasha R-H


16yrs Girls: Claire S, Millie K, Ella T, Tara D, Lucy McL

17yrs Girls: Neesha W, Darienne A, Madeleine H, Jasmine H, Chloe P

**ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL:**
**WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH AT WARRINGAH AQUATIC CENTRE**

All PHS zone representatives must obtain a permission note from Mr Dailhou ASAP.

Event allocation and program will be posted on noticeboards at school

**NSW State Age 13-18 year old Swimming Championships 2014**

Jasen W of Year 8 recently competed in 6 individual events and two relay finals at NSW State 13-18 Age Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park.

The events took place for a week in the holidays from 20-26 January with heats in the morning and finals at night. Jasen won a State Silver Medal in 100m Butterfly with the top 3 placegetters beating the titleholders record.

He also won a Silver Medal in the 13/14years 4X50m Freestyle Relay and reached the finals in the 200m Butterfly with an 8th place.

Jasen has also qualified for the National Age Swimming Championships in four individual events to take place in the upcoming school holidays, April 14-20 April.
Year 9/10 Engineering
Mousetrap Car...The Race!

The year 9, now year 10 engineering class had the summer holidays to create the most successful mousetrap powered car. The students learnt about key engineering principles such as forces and motion whilst developing a number of practical, design and problem-solving skills. They were a variety of design solutions with considerations such as weight distribution, friction, axle rotation the need for a perfectly symmetrical frame. The car that travelled the longest distance was constructed by Harry Hall and Jesse Cooper travelling a huge 54m!

Miss Mamone—Classroom Teacher
Year 12 Biology have been working hard on a genetics assignment and mastering the structure of DNA as part of their topic, "Blueprint of Life". So to demonstrate their understanding, as well as take the edge off a stressful few weeks, they built models of DNA using lollies and toothpicks. The students did an excellent job, ensuring that all the important aspects of the double helix polynucleotide were included.

Miss Bethan Gregory—Classroom Teacher
Throughout the year all senior students will be participating in Study Skills sessions during their study periods. The sessions have been designed to provide students with the necessary skills and information to prepare and perform at their best during mid-course, Preliminary and Higher School Certificate examinations.

We began integrated sessions in week four for year 12 students and week five for year 11 students. There will be two compulsory sessions in term one, the second session will occur in week seven for year 12 students and week eight for year 11 students. All sessions have and will be taught by teachers, head teachers, Deputy Principals and the Principal.

The first study skills session focused on:

- The most important factor for success
- Organisation skills: How to organise your folder and integrate your notes, homework and work sheets to reflect topics and the syllabus
- Setting goals and identifying barriers (road blocks)

I would like to commend all students on their positive attitudes and approach throughout their first session. I welcome any student who wishes to suggest a topic or issue they would like to have covered and discussed during these sessions; please send an email to Ms Cesta.

I would also like to thank all members of staff who taught sessions in weeks 4 and 5.

Vanessa Cesta, HT Teaching & Learning

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Tax File Number (TFN) Applications: The first batch of Tax File Numbers is about to be processed for the year. I will do a batch in the middle of each term. It is much easier for students to apply for a TFN through school and everyone needs one sooner than later!

**Year 12** - Anyone interested in a career in a medical field needs to register for the UMAT exam, see me for further details.

**Year 11** - If you are unable to attend TAFE for any reason, you must inform me.

**Year 10** - Careers lessons this term during English lessons, (roughly once a fortnight). We are discussing Work Experience and investigating interests and talents and talents as indicators of possible work choices.

For more general careers information, look at our Careers website by checking out [www.careersworks.com](http://www.careersworks.com) (the password was emailed earlier to students and parents but please email me if you don’t have it). I would love some feedback on the above websites; please email me on jocelyn.bates@det.nsw.edu.au

Please log onto “My High School Careers” website. PHS subscribes to this website which advertises current careers events. To log in: use “parent” or “student” then password “14cairns”. You can also register for email alerts! The “Calendar” is great info!

Jocelyn Bates, Careers Teacher
Towards the end of last year the Construction students took great pride in completing their Step Ladders. This was a framing task that was chosen by the students in order to demonstrate the competency “Handle Carpentry Tools and Equipment.” The group project of a Picnic Table was a different sort of challenge where the students had to work in a team, problem solve and complete calculations. Below you will see that the students enjoyed testing their projects for functionality.
CONGRATULATIONS
Harley J – Sydney North Blue for Football

Mrs Ferris and I had the pleasure of joining Harley and her family at the Sydney North Awards evening to celebrate those students who were recognised in their chosen sports and receiving a Sydney North “Blue”.

The Sydney North “Blue” is the highest individual sporting award bestowed by the region. A recipient can only be awarded one “Blue” in a particular sport.

Harley was recognised for her contribution to school sport and her dedication and commitment to Football (Soccer). Below are some of Harley’s achievements for this year – school-based and external:

**LAS VEGAS PRESIDENTS CUP – USA College Tournament**

**CHS State Championships**

Selected for *All Schools Tournament A Team* – Miranda Stadium shadow player National Championships

**Zone athletics** – 3rd overall, 1st 800m, 3rd Shot Put, Discus and Long Jump

**Regional athletics** – 17 Years relay (6 consecutive years)

**Girls Open Touch**

**Girls Open Soccer**

Manly United Premier Women’s League Reserve Grade: Premier winners and grand final winners

Congratulations Harley – you are an inspiration to many.
Your commitment to school life and sport is admirable. Pittwater is proud of you!
**MUSIC NEWS**

**Term 1 Week 6**

**PERFORMANCE & MEETING DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 1—REHEARSALS/MEETINGS</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>TIME/PLACE</th>
<th>ENSEMBLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 March 2014*</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>everyone in black Ensemble Uniform Please</td>
<td>School Hall Strings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See Information below</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30-6pm</td>
<td>Symphonic Both Stage Bands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:45-6:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm Start (outside)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 April 2014—an evening with Primary Schools</td>
<td>Monday—Please note date change</td>
<td>7pm School Hall</td>
<td>Concert &amp; Symphonic only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*4 March: Senior strings need to be ready to play outside the hall by 5.30pm. Finish by 6pm. Symphonic Band needs to be in place by 5.45pm for a 6pm piece. Finish by 6.30pm. Senior Stage Band must arrive at School by 6pm (if you are not in a preceding ensemble and ready to play on the outside stage in the main playground by 6.30pm. Finish by 7pm. Junior Stage band to be ready at the outside stage by 6.45pm to play at 7pm. Finish by 7.30pm. (Wet weather situation TBA). Everyone to wear Black Ensemble Uniform.

7 April 2014 Concert with Primary Schools: We will be holding a canteen in the hall for this concert. But we have *lost our Canteen Helper* … careless! Could anyone help? It is not onerous and we can tell you now its done, but really really need someone to step up to this please. Also, as mentioned previously, we need cakes/biscuits baked and help manning the canteen during the concert intervals. Thanks.

Please note that any musician not continuing in an Ensemble this year should please inform firstly the relevant Ensemble Director and secondly, the Secretary so that their name can be removed from our lists.

**News of Former PHS Ensemble Members:** Lachlan Hamilton has been accepted into the Sydney Conservatorium (University) of Music’s very competitive 3-year jazz course. He has, though, deferred until next year and is now at Adelaide University’s 1 year jazz diploma course held in Mt Gambier. Will and Harry Morrison are also studying at the Adelaide diploma course – in fact the three boys are sharing a house, (pity the neighbours …)! George Mauridis and Sasha Stocken start this year at the Sydney Conservatorium – George studying Classical Voice, Sasha studying Classical Flute. A fine record for PHS Students. Regarding other recent leavers, Georgina Gwatkin–Higson remains at the Conservatorium High & is due to perform in concerts in Ryde in March & Burwood in April.


**CONTACTS:**

Secretary: Joanne Gwatkin-Williams: joanne@thevastydeep.com or 0437 408 801
Treasurer: Rick Elliot: icycold@outlook.com or 0400 461 941
Uniform: Geri Bergstein: geribergstein@hotmail.com or 0407 602 795
Canteen: Kim Jefferys: kimjefferys@optusnet.com.au or 0422 002 519
Ensemble parents: Concert: Elizabeth Gardner elizgard@tpg.com.au or 0414 704 812
Symphonic: Anne Connors bcmcycles@bigpond.com or 0415 255 498
Strings: Grace marshall grace.marshall@ioof.com.au or 0408 811 066
Junior Stage: Julie Rodgers jl.rogers@bigpond.com or 0438 635 048
Senior Stage: Allison Meadows meadows2@iinet.net.au or 0412 564 674
Orchestra: Caroline Cady cascade@outlook.com or 0425 221 582
Band Captains: Patricia Gwatkin–Higson and Yannick Barford
# PITWATER HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP ORDER FORM

**DATE** __________________

**Student’s Name** ____________________________________________

**Roll Call:** __________

**Contact Phone No’s (Home):** ________________________________

**Order Details**

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<th>Item</th>
<th>Sizes</th>
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<th>Size</th>
<th>Qty</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Tartan Tunic – Summer</td>
<td>6-22</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Tartan Skirt – Summer</td>
<td>6-22</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Tartan Skirt – all year round</td>
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<td>Junior Blue Short-Sleeved, Pintucked Blouse</td>
<td>10-22</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior &amp; Senior Long Black Pants – Winter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior White Short-Sleeved Blouse with Maroon Piping, PHS Embroidered</td>
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<td>Senior Grey, Front Pleated Skirt – Summer and Winter</td>
<td>8-22</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Maroon Polo Shirts with PHS Emblem</td>
<td>10-26</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior &amp; Senior Grey Surf Style Shorts</td>
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<td>Junior Midford Grey Elastic Waist Shorts</td>
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<td>Senior White Collar Short-Sleeved Button Shirt</td>
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<td>Senior Maroon School Tie with PHS Embroidery</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unisex</strong></td>
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<td>Maroon Fleecy Zippered (Hoodie) with PHS Embroidery</td>
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<td>Junior Maroon Sweatshirt (Sloppy Joe) PHS Embroidery</td>
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<td>Junior Grey Woolen “V” Neck Jumper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maroon Microfibre Shorts PHS Logo</td>
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<td>Maroon Knit Short PHS Logo</td>
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<td>White Polo Shirt with PHS Emblem</td>
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<td>Navy Microfibre Tracksuit Pants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Winter Stockings – Girls</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7 book pack (inc. scientific calculator)</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8 book pack</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td><strong>Total Amount to Pay</strong></td>
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**Name of Cardholder:** ____________________________________________

**Card No:**  

**Expiry:**  

**CCV No:**  

**Total Amount $**  

**Signature:** ____________________________________________  

**Date:** __________________

Please CIRCLE method of payment  

- CASH  
- CHEQUE  
- EFTPOS  
- Credit Card – **MASTERCARD** / **VISA**

1. EFTPOS facilities available - 1% surcharge on credit card purchases
2. Cheques are to be made payable to “Pittwater High School Uniform Shop” and have a 5 day clearance hold on items purchased.
3. All orders must be accompanied with payment and put in an envelope, clearly marked “Uniform Order”, and placed in the Red Box in A Block or given to a supervisor in the canteen. Collect uniforms during opening times.
4. A selection of second hand uniforms are available for purchase at reduced prices.
5. The Uniform Shop is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 8.15am to 11.15am, and located at the far end of the Canteen – enquiries 9979 6968 or contact the Uniform Shop manager Kim Gobbe.
SCHOOL LOCKER AVAILABILITY

We still have one locker available for this year’s hire.

$40 for the year, with a completed and signed contract

We have also opened a WAITING LIST, for students wishing to hire a locker but have missed out! If and when a locker becomes available throughout the year, we will make an offer to those on the waiting list.

For more information, or for hiring a locker, please see the School Uniform Shop, open Tuesday’s & Thursday’s from 8.15am till 11.15am
Alana Mares, Lynne Fricke, Claire O’Brien, Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

Sharryn Brown, Diane Del Pozo, Kate Bryant, Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

Debbie Havenstein, Sue Nicol, Susan Crosse, Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

Melissa Livingstone, Matt or Alison Trapnell Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

Leoni Olivari, Deb Vandersaag, Michelle LeCreuer, Anne Clayton

Melissa Trbojevic, Mandy Daher, Mel Marshall, Linda Newman, Di Brian

Keryn Gallagher, Sarah Jones, Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

Rhonda Scotter, Sunny Van Raad, Lisa Haworth, Rachael Pinner

Deb Bertock, Roger Springthorpe, Christine Bratkovic, Karen Lambert

Sue Stevens, Kim Jefferys, Wendy McLean Helpers needed—please call canteen to confirm

If you are unable to make your rostered day please try to arrange a swap or advise canteen managers Lisa/Katrina (ph 9999 4035).

With the new 2014 year we have the following days available: 4 Mondays; 5 Tuesdays; 2 Wednesdays; 3 Fridays

If any parents, friends, family or grandparents to the school are able to assist on any of these days please let me know.

A full day is 9am to 2:30/3pm; a half day is 3 hours

Penny Winterbottom; Canteen roster co-ordinator;
Pennywinterbottom@hotmail.com; 0432 679977