Calendar Events

Week 8

Monday March 16  P&C Meeting – 6:30pm
AGM-Year 7 Parents

Tuesday March 17  School Photographs
(catch up)

Week 10

Monday March 30  Year 10 STW Focus Week

Thursday April 2  LAST DAY OF TERM

Week 1 – TERM 2

Monday April 20  Staff Development Day

Tuesday April 21  Students first day

Wednesday April 22  Year 7 Camp

Thursday April 23  Year 7 Camp

Friday April 24  Year 7 Camp
Anzac Day Service-periods 3&4

Recipient’s of PBL Raffle Prize Draw

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Wk/Term</th>
<th>PRIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hemesha Hettiarachchige</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Week 3/</td>
<td>$30 JB HiFi Voucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Dy</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Week 4/</td>
<td>$15 Canteen Voucher</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Riley May</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Week 5/</td>
<td>$15 Canteen Voucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Bharath</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Week 6/</td>
<td>$30 Movie Voucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charmaine Batulan</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Week 7/</td>
<td>$15 Canteen Voucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

From the Principal

It is well known amongst our community that students of Macquarie Fields High School have access to quality learning programs delivered by quality teachers and last Monday 9 March, this was confirmed when we hosted a stop on the inaugural Innovation Tour. Over 60 teachers from schools across the Sydney area to as far away as Finley HS in the Riverina visited our school to experience a day in the life of Macquarie Fields HS. The visiting teachers were greeted by our student leaders and after an orientation in our TLS (lecture theatre), participated in a series of short workshops, lessons and/or demonstrations in classrooms across the school. Our Future Teachers escorted them as they moved around the school and used the time between the workshops to point out areas of interest, talk about our programs and give a students’ point of view.

It is testament to the professionalism of our staff and the enthusiasm of our students that we were able to present workshops across all areas of the school and that we had an extremely well turned out group of student leaders and future teachers to support our event. I would like to thank all students involved as
well as the teachers who hosted the visitors in their classrooms, presented a workshop, demonstrated an innovative feature or prepared and served the lunch. It was a marvellous way to showcase our school and as expected, our students and staff shone on the day!

Student Leaders ready to greet visitors on the Innovation Tour

Investigating a “crime scene” in English

Future Teachers discuss the program with visiting Teachers

MacFit Program

Concert Band
Meeting with Mr Badri Younes from NASA
I was fortunate enough to be able to accompany a group of students to meet Mr Badri Younes, Deputy Associate Director Administrator and Program Manager for NASA's Space Communication and Navigation (SCAN). The students had all participated in the Space Camp program run by NASA and were very keen to hear Mr Younes and catch up with students from other schools whom they'd met on the camp. Mr Younes spoke very eloquently about SCAN and encouraged the students to aim high and reach for the stars! We were able to speak personally with Mr Younes and managed to also have a photo taken with him! I am certain that the students enjoyed the event as much as I did and we will all wear our NASA badges with pride!

Swapnil Shinde, Pooja Salimath, Radha Jagtap, Mr Badri Younes from NASA, Alekhya Subramanya, Brandon Shum, Pranith Senatilaka and Rosemary Bastian

Poetfest and Year 7 Progress Reports
Year 7 and their English teachers are all set for Poetfest 2015, which will be held on Monday 16 March. Prior to the commencement of the Poetfest event, parents of students in Year 7 will be able to collect their child’s progress report and chat with the Year Adviser, Miss Sullivan or Miss Tran, the Assistant Adviser. There will also be a range of student artworks on display and it is a wonderful opportunity for parents, especially those new to the school to meet some of their child’s teachers, as well as see and hear of the work the students are doing in English and Visual Arts. The evening commences at 4.30pm in the Hall, when progress reports will be available for collection, with Poetfest following at 5.00pm. Thanks to Mr Wilkie and the team for this wonderful initiative.

P&C Meeting
Straight after Poetfest is the P&C Annual General Meeting, commencing at 6.30pm in the Library. Please come along and hear about the wonderful learning experiences planned for 2015 and have a say! All parents are welcome to this and any other P&C meeting.

Celebrating our Students’ Successes!
Congratulations to the following students in Year 11 who have been successful in gaining selection into 2 significant and prestigious programs:

- Laura Tien has been invited to attend the UBS Young Women’s Leadership Academy which will be held at the University of Sydney in April.
- Dilki Senanayake, Jerard Tungcab and Jackson Tallon who have all been selected to participate in the Max Potential Program which is sponsored by Campbelltown Catholic Club. These students commence their leadership and Mentoring Program this month.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
This program will be fully underway at the start of Term 2 which means all students from Years 7 – 10 will need to have their own laptop. I have attached the device specifications to this newsletter for your information and we will be holding an information evening early next term. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Mr Matchett, Head Teacher Science.

Changes to Attendance/Leave Requirements for Extended Absences
As I have advised previously, there are changes to the requirements for those parents wishing to take their child out of school for extended periods during the school term. School holidays are gazetted several years in advance and can be accessed on the department’s website. Extended leave in term time is not in the best interests of the child, educationally.
speaking, and family holidays should be taken during the
designated school holiday breaks. Taking extended
leave does have implications for a child’s
progress, in that they may miss assessment tasks or
other important programs, as well as the required
teaching and learning program for their year level.
For seniors, in particular, this may impact on the
child’s results if they miss a task without an
acceptable reason.

In any case of extended leave, an application must
be lodged with supporting documentation as to the
reason for the travel and copies of plane tickets and
other relevant information should be attached. The
application should be lodged at the school no later
than two weeks prior to the proposed date of travel.

All students in Years 10 – 12 have been issued with
assessment booklets and these have also been
placed on our website – follow the links: Curriculum
and Activities > Assessment and Reporting, and you
will find copies of the booklets. These assessment
booklets contain the dates for tasks.

Applications for Extended Leave – Travel are
available from the front office.

Please note: We are currently finalising our school
policy with regard to procedures for Extended Leave,
following the Guidelines issued by the Department of
Education and Communities. Once finalised, this
policy will be tabled at a P&C meeting next term. I
encourage parents interested in this issue to attend
the first P&C meeting of Term 2 if they wish to have a
say in the school processes in this area. This
meeting will be held on May 18th at 7:30pm in the
School Library.

End of Term 1
As the end of the term draws near, I would like to
take this opportunity to wish you all a pleasant break
and hope that you use the time to reconnect with your
children and hear about all the wonderful things they
are learning at school!

Mrs Jan Dolstra
Principal

ENGLISH FACULTY

2015 is a significant new beginning for the English Faculty. This year we will be
implementing the English syllabus for the
Australian Curriculum, for all years, 7-10. A lot of
hard work has gone into preparing engaging
units of work that properly align with curriculum
requirements. These units and programs will be
evaluated during the year. We would like to
remind parents that the assessment schedules
for each year should be pasted into each
student’s workbook. Parents will notice that the
portfolio is a core aspect of the faculty’s
commitment to formative assessment. Formative
assessment is assessment for learning, where
assessment is not confined to testing but
embraces all learning activities. Formative
assessment focuses on what the student is
learning as tasks are negotiated and undertaken.
The portfolio is a selection of the student’s best
work that has undergone a process of editing
and drafting by both students and teachers. Our
students take great pride in the outstanding
portfolios they produce. The Engagement
component of our assessment schedules is
another aspect of formative assessment in that it
broadens assessment to include student
participation in class discussion, the ability to
lead group work and complete all tasks.

A school priority is to embrace “21st Century
learning models” that seek to redefine traditional
teacher centred pedagogy and the four walled
classroom. The English faculty has submitted
ideas that would create “pod “ styled and multi
directional communication learning spaces in two
existing spaces. We look forward to these
exciting plans being realized.

The following advice has been offered regularly.
The English Faculty would again remind parents
that successful English students are invariably
keen readers. All students should be strongly
encouraged to read widely from a range of texts.

Mr J Wilkie
Head Teacher English
Poetry Club
Poetry Club has started at MFHS. There is a small, but dedicated team of students who are passionate about writing and reading poetry meeting with Ms Hall every Monday to celebrate verse.

We have met twice so far. In our first meeting we decided on the structure of our club. We will be selecting a theme every couple of weeks to frame the kinds of poetry that we are reading and writing. Our first theme is science.

Another goal of our club is to share the excellent poems that we find with the whole school. We are currently working with the science faculty to disseminate the science poems we are reading.

When we are more confident with the poems that we are writing, we will begin to enter writing competitions and one poem a term, by a poetry club member, will be published in this space.

Excerpt from ‘To be a Seed’ by Emily Ballou

Late at night he imagined the dispersal of seeds across seas, could imagine the distances in the instances of finches strewn by wind and wing but how did those fragile seeds swim? Were they carried in the guts of ducks or trapped like bubbles in an ice floe floating until slow snow melt released them?

Miss R Hall
English

Debating and Public Speaking
As I write this I sit surrounded by over 100 pieces of paper, each one with a student’s name and a list of pro's and con's for why I should choose them over the other students. The process began at the end of last year and continued in the first weeks of this year, I have auditioned many talented students for the 2015 Debating and Public Speaking teams, but there are only 30 or so positions available. It is not an easy choice to make because so many of these students have the potential oratory skills to succeed in competitions and in engaging an audience in general.

2015 is shaping up to be an amazing year for our Debating and Public Speaking. As a new Co-ordinator I am looking to raise the profile of this extracurricular activity and repeat our great successes of the past. I have already discussed some of our new ideas with Mrs. Dolstra and been given encouragement to explore these opportunities. We are going to be really getting the rest of the school involved this year, bringing the debates to the general student body rather than just one or two classes at a time.
It is important to choose the right students for the job, if we are to make this a successful year for Debating at Macquarie Fields High School. I am already in talks planning some special Exhibition Debates with other schools, including Macquarie Fields Public School and a special Teacher v. Student event for later in the year. Our applications to join the Competition season have already been accepted. The first rounds for Years 11 and 12 are quickly approaching.

As I finalise the list of successful students I realise that to co-ordinate debating at Macquarie Fields is to feel proud knowing that you are surrounded by a passionate, talented and supportive team. I am confident that the students who have been chosen this year will be dedicated and do our school proud. Congratulations to all those who tried out. It takes a great amount of courage to even get that far. My decisions have not been easy because our student body is very talented. I look forward to working with those successful students in the coming months to continue to make Debating and Public Speaking a more prominent part of Macquarie Fields High School.

Mr R Hicks
English

MFHS Swimming Carnival 2015
The annual school swimming carnival was held at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre on Friday 27 February this year. It was a fantastic day and we were blessed with great weather! It was great to see that a huge number of students were competing in the various races. Flintstones were the overall winning house, with the most points!

A special mention and congratulations to the following students, who broke student records at this swimming carnival:-

Andrew Lam:- broke the Boys’ 50 metres Butterfly, Breaststroke, Backstroke and the 100 metres Freestyle.
Megan Lam:- broke the Girls’ 50 Metres Freestyle, Butterfly, Breaststroke, Backstroke and the 100 metres Freestyle.

What a fantastic effort!!

We wish all the swimmers competing in the Hume Zone Carnival at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre on Thursday 12 March, all the best and hope they are successful in entering the Regional Swimming Carnival held on Monday 16 March.

Mrs Maria Ninopoulos
Head Teacher PDHPE/Sport Supervisor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Josephine Le</td>
<td>Vaibhav Mandayam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Jasmine Dabestani</td>
<td>Ankith Ray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Years</td>
<td>Megan Lam</td>
<td>Dylan Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nathaniel Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Years</td>
<td>Brooke Tipping</td>
<td>Andrew Lam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Years</td>
<td>Talara Austin</td>
<td>Leo Zhang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Year 11 U-Turn the Wheel Program
As part of the teaching and learning program at Macquarie Fields High School, all students in Year 11 undertook the driver Education Program, U-Turn the Wheel to Stay Alive.

The U-Turn the Wheel to Stay Alive program was implemented within the Campbelltown Local Government Area in 2004. The program was run by Police from Campbelltown and Macquarie Fields Commands, together with Campbelltown City Council, the Rotary Club of Campbelltown, and various volunteers from our local community.

This program was held at our school on Tuesday 3 March this year. Students were provided with interactive activities and were given the privilege to sit in a truck and see how difficult it would be to see a car as a truck driver. The student feedback was most positive!!

Mrs Maria Ninopoulos
Head Teacher PDHPE

The U-Turn the Wheel to Stay Alive program is a student driver education program to educate participants in different areas related to driver safety.
Bring Your Own Device Program
Device Specifications

Hardware Specifications

The BYO device must meet all the following requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device Type</th>
<th>Laptop; netbook or convertible laptop/tablet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended Screen Size</td>
<td>Screen size of 12 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System RAM installed</td>
<td>4GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports</td>
<td>USB 2.0 or USB 3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating System</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 7, Microsoft Windows 8, Apple Mac OS X (Snow Leopard, Lion or Mountain Lion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Compatibility</td>
<td>Device MUST have 5 GHz wireless capability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Life</td>
<td>Minimum battery life of 6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Browser</td>
<td>HTML5 web browser installed e.g.: Chrome 22 or later, Internet Explorer 9 or later, Safari 5.1.7 or later, Firefox 16 or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antivirus</td>
<td>Up to date antivirus installed (see below)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Device examples

Windows operating system laptop examples

Minimum performance example:
- Intel Core i3 1.80 GHz processor; 4GB RAM memory; 500GB Hard Disk, 15.6” display; Wi-Fi 802.11n compatible

Higher performance examples:
- Intel Core i5 2.6 GHz Processor; 4GB RAM memory; 750GB Hard Drive; 15” display; Wi-Fi 802.11n compatible
- Intel Core i7 1.8GHz Processor; 8GB RAM memory; 750GB Hard Drive; 15” display; Wi-Fi 802.11n compatible

Apple Mac operating system laptop example

- Macbook Air: Intel Core i5 1.3GHz Processor; 4GB RAM memory; Mountain Lion operating system; 128GB Flash Hard Drive; 11.6 Inch Screen; Wi-Fi 802.11n compatible
- Macbook Pro: Intel Core i5 Dual Core 2.5GHz Processor; 4GB RAM; Apple OS X Lion operating system; 500GB Hard Drive; 13” screen; Wi-Fi 802.11n compatible

Possible device vendors

It is recommended that you carefully research the price of a device between different vendors before making a purchase. Listed below are a sample of well-known device vendors.

Macquarie Fields High School does not endorse any specific vendor.

Online purchasing and physical stores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online purchasing only:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lenovo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The security program needs to detect viruses, spyware, malware and phishing/scam emails

Educational software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Processor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple Pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenOffice Writer (free software)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spreadsheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spreadsheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft Excel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple Numbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenOffice Calc (free software)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Presentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft PowerPoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple Keynote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenOffice Impress (free software)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Security software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Security software</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kaspersky Internet Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norton 360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trend Micro Titanium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avast Anti-Virus (free software)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples
### School Zone Traffic Offences

**As at 1 July 2014**

**SCHOOL ZONE**
8 – 9 AM
2:30 – 4 PM
SCHOOL DAYS

40

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**SPEEDING OFFENCES**
School Zone speeding offences attract higher fine and demerit points than other speeding offences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Penalty</th>
<th>$3,702</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ 7 Demerit Points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**MOBILE PHONE USE**
Drive using a hand-held mobile phone in a School Zone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>$415</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 Demerit Points</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**CHILDREN’S CROSSINGS**
Disobey hand-held stop sign at Children’s Crossing or approach Children’s Crossing too quickly to stop safely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>$519</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 Demerit Points</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**U-TURNS**
Make a U-Turn without giving way to pedestrian or vehicle in a School Zone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>$415</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 Demerit Points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a full list of all new penalties and offences, please visit:
www.rms.nsw.gov.au or phone the RMS on: 13 22 13

*Please Note:* fines subject to change without notice.

These penalties apply to offences in schools zones only while the zone is active.

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**Campbelltown City Council**

**NSW Police Force**
SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Current as at 1 July 2014

Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

Maximum Penalty
$415
+ 2 Demerit Points

Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

Penalty
$173
+ 2 Demerit Points

Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

Penalty
$311
+ 2 Demerit Points

DOUBLE PARKING

You are NOT PERMITTED to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

Penalty
$311
+ 2 Demerit Points

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: $311 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing (within 20m on approach & 10m on departure side of crossing): $415 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: $173 + 2 Demerit Points

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice. These penalties apply to offences in school zones only while the zone is active.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior BOXING (12 yrs &amp; up)</td>
<td>Mon, Wed, Thurs</td>
<td>5.30pm – 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zumba</td>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>6.45pm – 7.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxing for Fitness</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>6pm – 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taekwondo</td>
<td>Tue and Thur</td>
<td>5.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery</td>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>5.00pm – 6.00pm (Beginners)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.00 – 7.00pm (Advanced)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip Hop</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>5.30pm – 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth BOOT CAMP</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4.30pm – 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safer Driver Program for L Platers</td>
<td>See website for dates</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pcycnsw.org/saferdrivers">www.pcycnsw.org/saferdrivers</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plenty more activities for Kids and Adults including Group Fitness Classes – please check our website for more details.
The Mother’s Day Classic – 10 May 2015

Parramatta Park or The Domain

Get ready to celebrate a classic Mother’s Day!

Registration opened in December 2014 for Australia’s biggest breast cancer research event, the annual Women in Super Mother’s Day Classic.

Every Mother’s Day for the past 17 years, Australians have walked or run to fund research and honour those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

At the 2014 Mother’s Day Classic more than 135,000 participants in 97 events around the nation and on overseas military bases raised $4.5 million, bringing the overall total raised to $24.3 million.


This year’s event is being held on Sunday 10 May 2015, and is open to all ages and fitness levels, so there is something for everyone, whether you want to participate or simply come along and support.

More than a quarter of a million people have participated in past Mother’s Day Classic events, and you can too this year by registering at www.mothersdayclassic.com.au

The Mother’s Day Classic was established in 1998 by Women in Super.

Women in Super continue to organise the event. Since Women in Super initiated the event in 1998, survival rates for women diagnosed with breast cancer have increased to 85%.

ME Bank has proudly supported the Mother’s Day Classic as the major sponsor since 2005.