

SCHOOL HOUSE BADGES

KEIRA

The badge chosen to represent Keira House is a mountain. This was quite aptly selected, as Mt Keira is one of the principal mountains in the Escarpment that encircles Albion Park, and the Illawarra. Due to its sheer size, it represents stoicism, strength and fortitude, qualities needed in any competitive organisation.

KEMBLA

In a more poetical allusion, a phoenix was chosen to represent Kembla House. In myth, it is believed that this phantasmagorical bird is born out of fire and ash. Therefore, a phoenix could fittingly symbolize Kembla, as it is said that the Illawarra was born out of the flames of the Port Kembla Steelworks and the ash of Mt. Kembla Coal Mines.

MACQUARIE

Macquarie House proved a challenge to symbolize. In the end, the crest of Governor Lachlan Macquarie was chosen, as a symbol of Australia's grand past and fighting strength (i.e. a sword raised for battle). Nearby Macquarie Pass and Macquarie Rivulet, from which the school house was named, took their titles from this illustrious settler, who is inextricably bound into the history of New South Wales. In 1822, Governor Macquarie toured the Illawarra area, visiting the local grazier tracts.

The Rivulet was named after him, and the entire Albion Park District was known as "The Macquarie" throughout the nineteenth century.

MARSHALL

A stallion was chosen to allude to Marshall House. The reasoning behind this may seem obscure, but appropriate. Marshall Mount, from which the school house derives its name, was originally owned by an Irish grazier, who named his property after his wife's family. Here, herds of cattle roamed the fields, and a trusty steed was needed to maintain rule, order and rally the stock.

MURPHY

Murphy House was named after the founding Principal of our school, Brother Murphy, 'the Irish Priest'. Consequently, a shamrock, the icon of Eire, was selected to symbolise Murphy House. Also, after the legend of St Patrick, the shamrock has come to represent the Holy Trinity, on whose philosophies our faith and school are built.

WARRIGAL

Finally, a dingo was chosen to embody Warrigal House in the local Dharawal language, 'warrigal' is roughly translated as 'wild dog' or 'dingo'. Local legends held the dingo in high esteem, as faithful hunters, helping tribes survive. The dingo then came to signify loyalty, vigour and ardent survival through many situations, characteristics needed to compete and win in all aspects of life.