

## Principal's Report

Welcome back to all of our returning families for 2010, and a big welcome to new families who have joined the School community this year. The beginning of a new school year is always filled with anticipation and excitement and I know that this particularly applies to students experiencing the transition to high school and those joining a new school. This year we welcome approximately 150 new Year 7 students, over 70 new Year 11 students and a small number starting in each of the other years. We look forward to working with them and you, their parents over the coming months and years.

### 2009 Higher School Certificate Results

Our HSC class of 2009 has once again continued the outstanding improvement in HSC results seen at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts over recent years. Our 2008 cohort set the bar very high, and I am delighted that those achievements have been bettered by last year's Year 12. Congratulations to the students, teachers and families whose achievements include:

- Students of Ancient History achieved 4 marks greater than the state mean
- 95% of students in Business Studies achieved 70 or more, compared to 60% state-wide.
- 100% of Chemistry students achieved 70 or more, up from 50% in 2008.
- In Dance, our students achieved results 10 marks above state average, 31% received 90 plus (band 6) and 85% in the top 2 bands (up from 71% in 2008, and 35% state-wide)
- With an average score of 87 (9 over the NSW mean), 43% of Drama students achieved marks over 90 (3.5 times the state rate) and 85% gained marks in the top 2 bands up from 83% in 2008 and 63% in 2007.
- 57% of our Economics students gained marks in the top 2 bands (80+) compared to 46% state-wide.
- English Advanced results were also up with 98% achieving results of 70 or more, and 54% over 80 marks compared with 41% in 2008 and 30% in 2007
- With an average mark of 44/50 (up 5 from 2008) our Extension 1 English results were exceptional with all students receiving marks in the top 2 bands and 67% in the top band compared to 22% state-wide.
- Extension 2 English results were equally impressive with 41% of students in the top band (up from 13% in 2008), compared to 28% state-wide
- 50% of our Geography students gained marks of 80 or more compared to 39% of the state.
- With an average mark almost 5 above the state, 66% of Legal Studies students achieved 80+ marks compared to 42% of the state
- General Maths showed great improvement in 2009 with 7% achieving 90+ (over the state average and up from 0 in 2008) and a more than two fold increase in the percentage of students in the top 2 bands, 27% (compared to 24% of the state).
- In 2 unit Maths we saw a three-fold increase in band 6 and 84% of students received marks of over 70 compared to 70% state-wide. To further highlight our improving Maths results, this year 40% of students were placed in the top 2 bands, up from 25% in 2008 and 14% in 2007.
- Extension 1 Maths again saw a three-fold increase in the percentage of students in the top band as well as having 64% of students in the top 2 bands (up from 37% last year)
- 67% of our Extension 2 Maths students achieved marks in the top 2 bands, compared to 25% in 2008.
- With an average score of 80, 56% of Modern History students received higher than this average compared to 40% of the state and up from 46% in 2008
- 80% of History Extension students received marks in the top 2 bands, up from 50% in 2008
- With an average score 83, 70% our Music 1 students gained marks over 80 compared to 55% state-wide and 57% in 2008
- 95% of our Music 2 students achieved marks in the top 2 bands, up from 86% in 2008 and compared to 80% of the state. Their average score was 85.
- Music Extension results were again outstanding with an average of 44/50 and 72% in the top band compared to 52% of the state.

- Our Physics results were considerably up on previous years with 19% of students achieving 90 or more. This compares to 11% state-wide.
- With an average of 83.5, 75% of our Visual Arts students gained marks in the top 2 bands compared to 54% state-wide.

So, it can be argued that our 2009 Year 12 achieved our greatest ever HSC results. This is further evidence by the following successes:

- Jennifer Andrews was placed 2nd in NSW for Dance
- Mischa Vickas was placed 18th in Biology
- 4 students (the highest number in our history) will receive a Premier's Award for gaining marks of 90+ in over 10 units. These outstanding students are Tai Mitsuji, Kate Ridgway, Mischa Vickas and Elise Wood
- 63 students (up from 55 in 2008 and representing 38% of the cohort) were placed on the NSW Distinguished Achievers list for receiving 90+ in at least one course.
- An incredible 37 students achieved marks of 80 or more in 10 or more units. This represents 23% of the cohort and compares to 20% in 2008 and 9% in 2007

The staff, while very happy with the results will continue to analyse the 2009 results with the view to continue to assist students achieve their very best.

### **School Certificate**

Congratulations also to our Year 10 students of 2009 who also received very pleasing School Certificate results. Particular congratulations go to the following top performers:

English literacy:	Cerridwen Jennings, Darcy Morgan and Georgia Munro-Cook
Mathematics:	Georgia Munro-Cook, Winston Nguyen, Callum Sandercock and Roman Inwald
Science:	Georgia Munro-Cook, Callum Sandercock, Darcy Morgan and Cerridwen Jennings
Australian History:	Georgia Munro-Cook, Holly Doyle, Sarah Judd and Darcy Morgan
Australian Geography:	Georgia Munro-Cook, Cerridwen Jennings and Elizabeth Peniazeva
Computing Skills:	Darcy Morgan and Sam Schoneveld

### **Student Achievements**

Throughout the year I would like to use this newsletter to celebrate student successes.

Please let me know of any outstanding achievements, both inside and outside school, so that your child can be acknowledged in future newsletters.

Finally, having returned from a terms leave, I can say that not only am I feeling refreshed and excited to be back as Principal at such a wonderful school, but I am also very grateful to Betty Romeo for the outstanding job she did as Relieving Principal in absence.

I look forward to another great year where we continue to work together in achieving outstanding outcomes for our students.

Steve Gray  
Principal

## Deputy Principal's Report

Welcome back to the 2010 school year and a very special welcome to all who are new to our school this year. I hope the school will offer a rewarding and enjoyable educational experience.

The year has started very smoothly at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. The students began their first day in form meetings where timetables, diaries assessment booklets and calendars and administrative forms were issued. These documents define the expectations of the various courses undertaken by our students. Students must read this information carefully and prepare effectively for the tasks specified to ensure they are completed by the deadline. The acknowledgement form stipulating that the assessment booklets and calendars have been received and read must be signed by student and parent and returned to the Year Advisers.

The Student Year Advisers for 2010 are:

<b>Year 7</b>	Ms Cassandra Ellis and Mr Jeremy Atkinson
<b>Year 8</b>	Mr Branimir Lazendic and Ms Laura Bivona
<b>Year 9</b>	Mr David Cole and Ms Jenifa Dwyer
<b>Year 10</b>	Mr Christopher Taylor and Ms Jane Garnsey
<b>Year 11</b>	Ms Nilaufer Rajwar and Ms Deborah McGowan
<b>Year 12</b>	Mr Tim Sloane and Ms Belinda Scanlan

Many thanks go to these teachers for the tremendous work they do with our students in this most rewarding, yet demanding of jobs.

I would again like to extend a special welcome to our Year 7 students and their parents/carers. I hope the transition to high school has been exciting and enjoyable for them. If, however there are issues your child has raised with you, there are many people in the school to contact if you require advice or support. Do not hesitate to talk with the teachers, the Year 7 Advisers, Head Teacher Welfare Nicki Wilkinson, Counsellor Anne-Marie England, or members of the senior executive.

The Peer Support program begins this month. Year 7 will be introduced to their Year 10 Peer Support Leaders who will assist them with the transition. They will all attend the Peer Support Camp at Vision Valley from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March with

supervision by members of the Welfare team including executive.

I would like to extend another special welcome to our new Year 11 students and their parents/carers. Year 11 have settled well and are already two weeks into their Preliminary courses. This month, Year 11 will complete the mandatory Crossroads program. On 11<sup>th</sup> February they will be addressed in a special form meeting by a guest speaker Brent Saunders. From 22<sup>nd</sup> until 24<sup>th</sup> February, the rest of the program will be delivered to Year 11 at a three day camp at The Tops at Stanwell Tops. Crossroads is coordinated by Year Advisers, Nilaufer Rajwar and Deborah McGowan. These are the people to contact if you require advice or support for your child. Supervision of this event will be by members of staff including executive.

There have been some students requesting changes to their course pattern of study for 2010. Any requests for changes to courses or electives studied by Years 8, 9, 11 for 2010 should be made in writing by February 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be no further changes after this date unless circumstances are deemed exceptional. This will ensure students have plenty of class time to meet outcomes and perform to their potential.

As you are aware we are a uniform school. All students must be wearing our school uniform which can be purchased from the Uniform Shop in F-block on Thursdays from 8.30am. I look forward to your support to ensure students arrive at school in uniform with the appropriate footwear, black enclosed leather shoes.

If you have any concerns about your child's welfare, particularly for Years 8, 10 and 12, please do not hesitate to call.

Peter Shields  
Deputy Principal

## Deputy Principal's Report

Welcome to the 2010 school year. I hope you all had a relaxing break and are looking forward to another busy and exciting year at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. I would like to offer a very warm welcome to our new parents and students who have joined the Newtown community for the first time in 2010.

All students were issued with the **Assessment Booklets and Assessment Calendars** on their first day back at school. These documents outline the nature of all assessment tasks scheduled over the year, along with the dates when each task will be

held. Students were also issued with their 2010 school diary. Can I encourage all students and parents to familiarise themselves with these documents and start entering important dates into their student diaries. It is important to start the new academic year organised and prepared and it is hoped that these documents will assist students plan for key assessment tasks. These documents have also been uploaded on the school's website to ensure that all members of our community can access these important documents and dates.

The **Senior Assessment Policy** and Procedures for Illness/Misadventure are outlined in the Year 11 and 12 booklets. The school has a very clear policy in relation to assessment and it is important that all senior students and their parents familiarise themselves with the procedures in place. All students in the senior school have been informed about these procedures during their first Year meetings, however if there are any further questions regarding the policy I would encourage students and parents to contact me for further clarification. In 2010 we are also implementing the new assessment procedures for Years 7-9 and Year 10 have important procedures also outlined in their assessment booklets.

The school is also implementing its revised **Behaviour Management Policy** in 2010. As mentioned in my previous correspondence in 2009 the Behaviour management team was asked to investigate current theoretical models, evaluate the structure previously in place and make recommendations for change based on input from students, staff and the community. I am very pleased to report that the new policy has been written and ready for implementation. All students were issued with a copy of the new behaviour management policy during their first Year meeting and the new process was explained to them. The policy is written based on the restorative model and seeks to ensure that students take responsibility for their own behaviour and seek to repair the damage or hurt that their actions may have generated. A copy of this policy has been placed on the school website to allow parents to read through it and become familiar with the new procedures.

The performing arts calendar has commenced with the semester one **company and ensemble auditions**. I would like to encourage all our students to embrace the opportunities that are available as part of our co-curricula program and participate. For Years 7 and 11 auditioned students starting this year, I would particularly like to encourage you to audition and participate in all aspects of school life. My only advice at this stage is to engage with this vibrant performing and academic community. Do not allow the next few years to pass by without taking advantage of what opportunities this unique school provides.

The **Swimming Carnival** will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February at Drummoyne Swimming Centre. All students have been informed of their House groupings for 2010 and House meetings were held last Thursday to communicate key information to students. We are anticipating a beautiful day for the carnival however, in the case of extreme wet weather and electrical activity please check the school website where it will be communicated if the carnival is going ahead or not. If parents are unable to access the Internet from home, please call the school from 7:30am for confirmation. I would like to thank our sport organiser Mrs Laura Bivona, who has made all the necessary arrangements to ensure our carnival is a successful and enjoyable day.

The **Year 11 Crossroads Camp** is soon approaching in Week 5 and will this year be held at the "The Tops" from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. The program being delivered throughout the camp is mandatory for all Year 11 students in NSW; however the opportunity to go out on camp is also designed to support the transition of our new Year 11 students into this Year group. I would like to thank the Year 11 Year Advisers Mrs Rajwar and Mrs McGowan for their organisation of this wonderful opportunity and to all the staff who have volunteered their time to attend the camp. I will also be attending the camp for its duration and am looking forward to getting to know our new students and engaging with the Crossroads content with the students.

Following the Crossroads Camp in Week 6 will be the **Year 7 Peer Support Camp**. This camp will run over three days from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March to Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and is designed to further support the students transition into high school. Each year this is a highly successful camp which meets all of its intended outcomes and the students always thoroughly enjoy their experience. Thank you to Mrs Wilkinson and the Year 7 Year Advisers Ms Ellis and Mr Atkinson for all their work to date in supporting the students with their transition into high school and for organising the camp. I am looking forward to another successful peer support camp and I thank all the teachers who have again volunteered to attend the camp over the three days.

I will be the **Deputy in charge of Years 7, 9 and 11** this year and will be working closely with the Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers for each of these cohorts. If there are any queries or welfare concerns relating to these Year groups please do not hesitate to contact me at school. Again, I welcome you all back to the 2010 school year and am looking forward to working with the school community to ensure that this year at Newtown High School of the performing Arts is again, a highly creative and academic one.

Betty Romeo  
Deputy Principal

## P&C News

Welcome new parents - and welcome back to those already part of our school community. The P&C has a busy term lined up with the following dates for your diary.

### **World Earth Festival - Fri March 5th from 3.10 pm**

Don't miss this afternoon of fun. After the success of our inaugural festival held last year, this bigger and better event will feature various sustainability, multicultural and food stalls and workshops, along with high quality drama and music performances. The theme of the day will be 'Simple Steps to Sustainability'. Students will be involved all afternoon with parents and community members invited to attend from 3:10pm. **Please purchase tickets (\$5 each) from the front office prior to the day. (No tickets will be sold on the day for school security reasons.)**

More volunteers needed....A big thank you to those who have already offered to help on the day. We welcome more volunteers. If you can help contact Yvette Vamos at [yvamos@bcsccoach.com.au](mailto:yvamos@bcsccoach.com.au)

### **Welcome BBQ for new families - Fri March 5th, 5-7pm**

New parents - after attending World Earth Festival, why not meet some of the other families joining the school this year at our BBQ held outside the Studio Theatre? Cost: Family \$25, Adult \$10, Child \$5. Tickets available on the day. **Helpers are needed for this event!** If you are able to help with the BBQ and would like to participate in making new parents welcome to the school, contact Edi Condack at [econdack@iinet.net.au](mailto:econdack@iinet.net.au) or Jacqui Fine at [jaqui@planetfinetime.com](mailto:jaqui@planetfinetime.com)

### **First P&C meeting of the new decade! Tue Feb 9, 6pm, in the Studio Theatre**

The P&C executive would like to specially invite new families to attend this meeting. Come along and get involved in the parent community which works hard to support this extraordinary school. Returning parents, this is an opportunity to be among the first to sit in the new re-vamped Studio Theatre - with new seats! And remember, perhaps the most important P&C meeting to attend during the year, our AGM, will be held on Tues 9th March at 6pm. This is your chance to elect your representatives to the P&C executive.

### **New address to subscribe to our parent email network**

We encourage all parents to sign onto our parent email network. This is a great way to receive information from the P&C and stay in touch with other parents (including getting your questions answered and sharing information).

**Please note there is a new address for subscribing to the network. The address sent out with information to new parents is unfortunately incorrect. To subscribe send a blank email to: [nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com)**

### **Check out the new, improved nhspa website**

The school's website has been upgraded and is now easier to navigate and has more information. Visit [www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au](http://www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au) for the latest on Newtown's outstanding performance in last year's HSC results, more information on World Earth day and much, much more.

## **BBQ to welcome new families**

Come, bring your kids and meet other parents new to the school and find out more about the activities of the P&C.

Last year over 180 people attended.

BBQ and salads, coffee, tea, soft drinks will be available.

**DATE:** Friday 5 March 2010  
**TIME:** 5.00-7.00pm  
**PLACE:** Studio Theatre, NHSPA  
**COST:** Family (2 adults 2 children) \$25;  
Adult \$10; Child \$5.  
(Pay on the day)

**Everyone receives a sausage on a roll and a drink.**

Bookings ESSENTIAL.

Contact Edi Condack (Year 11 parent):

[econdack@iinet.net.au](mailto:econdack@iinet.net.au)

Mob 0407 244 126 or 8012 5369

Or

Jacqui Fine (Year 9 parent):

[jacqui@planetfinetime.com](mailto:jacqui@planetfinetime.com)

Mob 0415 767 583

This event is organised by NHSPA P&C.

Any parent who is able to assist on the day, please contact Edi or Jacqui.

## **From the Head Teacher Welfare**

Welcome back to the new school year everyone, especially new students and parents.

### **PD/H/PE:**

The school **swimming carnival** will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February at Drummoyne swimming pool. Buses will be departing from school at 8.45am and the carnival will run from 9-2.30pm, with a return to school by 3pm. The theme for the day is *Valentine's Day* and it will be a fundraising event for Haiti. Students are encouraged to attend and participate in as many events as possible. Please bring hats and sunscreen as well, along with plenty of food and water.

**Sport for Term 1:** Year 7 will be focussing on volleyball and softball. They will need to bring their PE/Sports uniform to each lesson, along with appropriate footwear and a hat. Year 8 Sport is on Friday afternoon and Years 9 & 10 on Tuesday afternoons. There are still outstanding permission notes from many students. These need to be returned to Ms Bivona (Sports Organiser) asap.

Welcome to Mr Lazendic, who has joined the PD/H/PE Faculty fulltime and we are very glad to have him onboard!

### **Learning Support:**

Mr Benson is currently trailing on-line applications for Special Provisions. He will inform students who wish to apply in the next few weeks.

Naplan results will be analysed during this term to identify students with gaps in their Literacy and Numeracy skills.

Ms Waldock-Bassett will be assisting junior students with their literacy on Wednesday and Thursdays. She will be liaising with classroom teachers to determine the students who will be scheduled for assistance this term.

### **Welfare:**

The annual *Year 7 Peer Support Camp* will be held Week 6, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at Vision Valley Arcadia. Students are to assemble at the school (outside Administration block) by 8.30am on Monday and will return by 3pm Wednesday. Permission notes will be issued soon.

### **From Mr Sloane, Peer Support Coordinator:-**

The transition from primary to secondary school is often a stressful and anxious time for both our new Year 7 students and their parents/caregivers. To ensure a smooth and enjoyable transition, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts holds an annual camp at which a variety of organised activities are offered with the overall goal being to strengthen relationships between the Year 7 cohort and between the Year 7 students and their Year 10 Peer Support leaders. The Year 10 Peer Support leaders undertook a rigorous training and selection process in Term 4 of 2009 preparing them for their role in 2010.

Additionally the camp offers students the opportunity to familiarise themselves with many of the key teaching staff who will be in attendance at the camp.

The hope is that the lessons learnt and relationships formed at camp will inspire the current Year 7 students to themselves participate in the programme come their time in Year 9/Year 10 where they will be given the opportunity to apply for the role of Peer Support Leader.

**Ms N Wilkinson**

## Mathematics News

The Mathematics faculty would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all Mathematics students for 2010. We are looking forward to a very productive year.

At this time of the year I like to remind students, parents and carers of the special nature of mathematics as a subject. Mathematics is not a subject that you can succeed at by simply sitting, listening and watching. It is a doing subject. It requires students to work and practice their mathematical skills both in class and at home on a regular basis. I cannot stress the importance and value of a regular and consistent approach to study enough.

Regular homework is necessary for students to develop confidence in their understanding of the concepts taught in class. As a guide we would expect our students in years 7 to 10 to do two hours of homework each week. This works out at less than 20 minutes per day. Homework includes the completion of class work, revision and study and other tasks. You can expect your child to receive homework each lesson, and for this homework to be checked regularly.

The Mathematics faculty would ask for your support by reminding your child about their responsibilities and encouraging them to seek assistance from their teacher when the need arises. The Mathematics faculty are available for assistance before and after school, recess and lunch.

### Textbooks

Textbooks are a vital tool in all Mathematics classes. We are currently in the process of issuing each student with a textbook. To facilitate this, could you please remind your child to return all books, covers and folders from last year and have them checked off in the Mathematics staffroom.

### Year 7 Accelerated Learning Program

In 2009, the Mathematics faculty ran a successful Accelerated Learning Program. The program is designed to allow students to work through the mathematical syllabus at a faster rate. This is achieved through a process of pre-testing students in topic areas and creating personalised learning contracts.

It must be highlighted, that for students to participate in this program they will need to demonstrate not only a fine knowledge and understanding of the mathematical content, but also a high degree of motivation. Students in the program need to be self-directed and independent learners.

Students in Year 7 will soon be completing a diagnostic test. This test has been designed as a tool for analysing both class and individual areas of strength and weakness in Mathematics. It will also be used as one of our guides for selecting students to participate in the Accelerated Learning Program.

### Mathematics Technology

The Mathematics faculty has three main ways of using technology to support learning.

#### Moodle

Moodle is an online content delivery system. Moodle can be used to access content information, do online exams and quizzes, participate in discussion groups and much more. Students may access Moodle both at school and at home. It can be accessed by following the link below.  
<http://www.newtown-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/moodle/>.

#### Mathletics

Mathletics is an online mathematics learning resource, which provides students with tutorials, practice questions, quizzes and other resources. The content covered in Mathletics includes the entire NSW Mathematics Syllabus up to and including the HSC Mathematics Advanced course. All students at NHSPA currently have access to Mathletics. The mathematics faculty are currently in the process of updating user names and passwords for 2010.

#### MathsOnline

MathsOnline is a Mathematics learning resource, which provides online activities and tutorials. A key feature to note are the tutorial lessons, where students can view fully worked examples by an experienced teacher. Student user names and passwords are currently being updated.

### Numeracy Support

The Mathematics faculty appreciates that students at NHSPA are often very busy, with major time commitments in various areas of the performing arts. This is especially the case during busy times of the year such as Showcase season. We have found that this can often be a time when students fall behind with their maths work and sometimes struggle to get back on track. In 2010 we will be introducing a program of Numeracy Support. It is designed to provide advice, assistance and informal tutoring for students in need. If you feel that your child needs a bit of extra help please contact the Mathematics Faculty.

Gavin Parker

**Head Teacher Mathematics**

Important Dates			
Year 7		Year 8	
7P & 7S	9 Mar	All Classes	12 Mar
7N & 7A	11 Mar		
7H	12 Mar		
Year 9		Year 10	
All Classes	8 Mar	All Classes	11 Mar
Year 11		Year 12	
Advanced	26 Feb	Half-Yearly	Wk 10
General	8 Mar		
Extension 1	9 Mar		

# SCIENCE

## School Certificate Results

The science faculty has been continually reviewing and updating its teaching/learning programs, its resources and its use of technology in the classroom. The focus for the last few years has been in junior science to produce a curriculum that is relevant, engaging and challenging for the diverse range of students that attend NHSPA. A relatively stable (talented and hardworking) staff has also been of benefit. These factors, designed to tap into the natural talent of NHSPA students, have resulted in the Year 10 class of 2009 producing the best results in the School Certificate Science for NHSPA ever. Their results, on average, were almost five percentage points above the State average. 55% of these students achieved Band 5 or 6 (the top two standards) in the School Certificate. Congratulations to these students. Great effort! We are looking for equally great results in the 2011 HSC.

## HSC Results

Highlights of 2009 HSC science include: Mischa Vickas achieving 18th place in the state in Biology; Almost 20% of Physics students achieved in the top band (90+%); All chemistry students were placed in the top three bands of achievement (70+%).

## Dot point science

All senior students are required to purchase a "Dot-Point" homework book for each of their areas of study. This is included in the fee structure for Year 11. These homework books are designed to provide students with a structured revision program that systematically covers the syllabus outcomes. Students will be expected to complete each section as instructed by their teachers.

## STELR Program

NHSPA has been successful in being selected to participate in the national STELR program. The STELR Project is a national secondary school science education initiative of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). The STELR Project was developed to enable students to realise that Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics are highly relevant to their future lives. It achieves this by focusing on one of the key issues of our time, an issue that most students are very concerned about - that of global warming and climate change – and showing them that these sciences and mathematics are crucial to solving this issue.

The project involves a practical exploration of renewable energy sources. Students perform many fun hands-on experiments, including student-designed investigations, using solar cells and miniature wind turbines. They have opportunities to solve challenging problems, such as designing their own wind turbines, to develop and share expertise in a particular aspect of one of the energy sources, and to use a variety of technologies. This provides a very meaningful context in which to learn some of the key concepts in the new National Science and Mathematics Curricula.

The students also have an opportunity to learn about the huge range of careers available in the renewable energy industry and to ask experts in the field various questions. Mr Stone and Ms Rajwar will lead the science faculty in this project. More information can be found on the STELR ...<http://stelr.org.au/>

## Subject Discourse Study

The science faculty is this year, again involved in university research. Mr Sloane will be participating in a Sydney University study regarding the way that concepts in science are built up using language over a period of time. The language of science is distinctly different from that of other subject disciplines. It is not just the words that are different, but the way in which they are habitually placed together that allows science to construct its special knowledge. Sydney Uni hopes to learn a thing or two from Mr Sloane and his Year 8 and Year 11 classes. Permission notes to participate in the study and more information will be forthcoming soon.

## Year 9 & 10 Laptops

The science faculty is committed to developing students' capacity to use the DER laptops effectively in the classroom. The science teachers are developing cutting edge uses for these machines that will help prepare students for 21st century life. These include, student wikis and blogs. Moodle, our web-based learning management system is becoming more crucial as an access point to learning in science. These machines will be used most lessons and as such are required equipment to bring to class. The science faculty has just purchased five pcs to power the data projectors in each laboratory. The pcs have the same software as the student laptops (unlike the apples) so that teachers can better demonstrate to students the use of crucial software like "onenote".

## Changes in staff

Mr Tomacek has joined the staff. He replaces Mr Lazendic, who is now working full-time in the PDHPE faculty. In Languages, Mr Gummer retired at the end of last year. He was an inspiration and will be sadly missed. Mr Scipione replaces Mr Gummer. Mr Scipione comes highly recommended from the International Grammar School. Mr Sturgiss will be deployed one-day-a-week to the Macquarie Innovations Centre at Macquarie University (<http://web1.macquarieict.schools.nsw.edu.au/>). He will be video-conferencing with his Preliminary Chemistry class during this time. Mr Stone will be acting up on those days that Mr Sturgiss is off premises in real space-time.

Mr J. Sturgiss

**Head Teacher Science**

## ENGLISH ....

1. The English Faculty warmly welcomes all students to 2010 and in particular those students new to this school. We trust your time here will be rewarding and life changing.
2. Hopefully all students, Years 7-12, have settled into the routine of school and have themselves properly organised for English. All classes have started their first module of work and received information about their assessments.
3. Year 12 Advanced classes recently had the opportunity to view their set film *Blade Runner* on the big screen in the library. This is obviously the best way to see a film and it should enhance their appreciation of this cult film.
4. Debating and Public Speaking opportunities will surface shortly and all students should listen for details.
5. As mentioned elsewhere in this publication, last year's English HSC results were very pleasing and we congratulate all students and their teachers on these sound results.
6. A reminder that any enquiries or issues regarding English can be directed to the English Head Teacher.

Michael Fischer  
Head Teacher English

### After School Study Centre

Dear Parents,

A reminder that the After School Study Centre (ASSC) has commenced again for 2010 (Term 1 - Week 2). Sessions are held every Monday afternoon from 3.15pm - 4.45pm in the School Library.

The Centre is run by Mr Tim Sloane the current Year 12 Student Adviser. Mr Sloane specialises in Science and helping students with study timetables and time and stress management across all KLAs.

The ASSC is primarily aimed at senior students, providing them with an allocated time where clear focus can be given to school work and other school based initiatives. Should any junior students wish to express interest in attending, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Sloane in the Science Faculty.

### DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

#### TERM 1 FEBRUARY

##### Week 3

Wed. 10 School Photograph Day

##### Week 4

Mon. 15 Swimming Carnival,  
Drummoyne Pool  
Wed. 17 Year 7 Vaccinations Hep B/  
HPV

##### Week 5

(Mon. 22 - Year 11 Crossroad Camp  
(Wed. 24

#### Disclaimer

The school accepts no responsibility with regard to advertisements placed in the Newsletter

## DRAMA DEPARTMENT

And we hit the ground running!

The Drama Faculty wish firstly to congratulate our 2009 HSC cohort who achieved outstanding results last year - indeed our best ever. 55 of our 65 students (84.6%) gained marks of 80% or above. 43.07% achieved above 90. Special mention should be made of our top students who achieved marks of 95% and above: Natascha Flowers, Tamara Saffir, Lucy Ray, Olivia Crowl, Lillian Silk and Elise Wood.

By the time of this publication, the Drama Company auditions will have been completed for this semester and Company lists would have started to be compiled. We were all very impressed with the diversity and general preparedness of all our students right through the years. As there are limited spaces in Companies, it makes our decision-making most difficult. Those students unsuccessful this semester are encouraged to re-audition in the beginning of Term 3.

A reminder that those students successful in gaining membership of Showcase Companies are required to pay a \$60 fee to cover the rising production costs of these performances.

Lastly, our world premiere musical extravaganza - "Bugs!!" opens at the Studio Theatre on Monday March 15 for a week of performances. Tickets are available now at the school's front office and on its website. Based on a play written in 1923, the musical will feature dozens of actors and singers and a live band with over 20 original songs. Don't miss the dung beetles, Mr and Mrs Cricket, the butterflies, the moths, the parasitic wasp and much much more!

**Drama Department**

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**The Opening of the Academic School Year.** This Sydney Region event will take place in the City Recital Hall on **Thursday 18th February (Week 4)**. It will involve our **choir and orchestra**. Both these ensembles have started rehearsing in preparation for this. An extra rehearsal will be held at school on **Tuesday 16th February** during the day.

**Music Auditions** continue until Tuesday 9th February. All students are required to audition. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Orchestra and Choir have started rehearsing already. All the large ensembles will be finalised and all rehearsing by Week 5:

- Concert Band
- Symphonic Wind Ensemble\*
- Stage Band
- Senior Choir\*
- Junior Choir
- Orchestra\*
- String Ensemble

This is, of course, an expectation that our Year 12 students continue their support of the ensemble program until the end of Semester 1.

**2010 China Tour:** It seems that the China Tour will go ahead this year in Term 3 Week 10 to end of first week of October holidays. We are looking forward to planning for this unique event involving Choir and Orchestra. The cost for students should be around \$2600.

**The Music Staff**

**CALLING ALL LAWYERS: Would you like to spend some time working with a solicitor?**

- Go to court cases at the Downing Centre?
- Assist a solicitor in court?
- Sit in on client interviews?
- Liaise with court staff and police prosecutors?

Work Experience is on the **First Friday** of each month 8.00am to 4.30pm - so you won't miss a week of school.

**See Mr Bouchier, Careers Adviser, for details re an Application**

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**CULTURAL CARE AU PAIR - Information Meeting**

Cultural Care Au Pair is holding a free information meeting for all 17-26 year olds who love kids, have some child care experience (babysitting, tutoring, child care centre work) and want to TRAVEL TO THE USA!

**Au Pair Week Meeting:**

**WHEN:** Monday 22 February

**TIME:** 6pm - 8pm

**WHERE:** EF International School, 5 Young Street, Circular Quay

Prices: \$395 flight to the USA

\$295 Program Fee

\$395 deposit (returned to you in the form of a flight home if you successfully complete the program)

\$200 discount available at this meeting

**Contact:** 1800 677 373 or register on our website [www.culturalcare.com.au](http://www.culturalcare.com.au) to reserve your seat.

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**ANTIPODEANS ABROAD - GAP YEAR INFORMATION NIGHTS**

- Find out about the exciting destinations available for your gap year
- Antipodeans Abroad staff and ex-student volunteers will answer your questions

**Wednesday 24 February and Wednesday 31 March 2010 at 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

Suite 303A, 282 Victoria Avenue, Chatswood

Bookings on 9413.1522

More details at [www.antipodeans.com.au](http://www.antipodeans.com.au)

**AMBULANCE SERVICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
SCHOOL EXCURSION PROGRAM "LEARN & LIVE"**

Dear Parents/Students,

Over the years many students have been interested in a Career in the Ambulance Service but have been unable to obtain work experience because of the nature of the work involved. To overcome this program the Ambulance Service of NSW has devised a one day excursion program aimed at providing students with an overall Ambulance experience with particular concentration on career paths within Ambulance, life skills and relevant health topics. The program will run over a 2 week period from **May 3-14, 2010** and will accept up to 90 students per day, making for a total student placement of 900.

**Program Content:** 9.15am start - 2.15pm finish; 4 x 45 minute lectures; 15 minute tea and 30 minute lunch; combined 60 minute combined group lecture ending at 2.15pm. Lectures will be conducted on the following topic areas.

**Careers within Ambulance:** Entry levels and certification required for on-road positions; interview [process; working conditions

**Inappropriate Calls & the Triple Zero (000) Process:** Classification of Calls; Emergency Number; Triple Zero (000) Call Process; Do's, Don'ts and consequences

**Alcohol, Drugs & Mental Health:** Common Conditions & Causes of; Effects of: Symptoms; Treatments & Getting Help; Case Studies

**Road Safety:** Causes of Collisions; Areas of Impact & Consequences; Extrication Process practical demo.

**Cost/Location:** \$10 per student (includes morning tea and lunch) at Ambulance State headquarters, Balmain Road, Rozelle

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**STUDENT APPLICATION/PAYMENT:  
Complete section below and return with \$10 to Front Office**

Dear Mr Bouchier,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I wish to attend the one day Ambulance excursion "Learn & Live". My \$10 payment has been made to the Front Office and my receipt is attached. **(CLOSING DATE IS MARCH 5th 2010)**

***INVITATION TO YR 12 PARENTS/STUDENTS***  
***Sydney Morning Herald HSC and Careers Expo 2010***  
***Friday 4 June 10.a.m-4.p.m***  
***Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 June 10a.m.-5.p.m.***

The Sydney Morning Herald HSC and Careers Expo provides a unique opportunity for students and parents to obtain HSC, tertiary course, career information and resources from exhibitors including Australia's leading universities. The seminar program features 70 presentations on HSC subjects, course, career and study advice.

A discounted admission of \$5 per student(valid for the 3 days) for groups of 5 or more is available on Friday 4 June.

To take advantage of this offer **complete the form below and return** it to Newtown HSPA **School Office** with your payment of \$5

**Graeme Bouchier**  
**Careers Adviser**

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***School Group Booking***  
***Sydney Morning Herald HSC & Careers Expo 2010***  
***Friday June 4 2010.***

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Payment Required: **\$5.00 per person**

**Cut-off Date= Friday 5 March**

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<b>Friday 4 June 2010</b>			
	<b>Seminar Room 1 - The Board Room</b>	<b>Seminar Room 2</b>	<b>Seminar Room 3</b>
10.15	HSC Biology Board of Studies NSW	Career decision making for HSC students: choosing your pathway <b>PACE Career Development</b>	Discover the world as a WEP exchange student <b>World Education Program (WEP) Australia</b>
11.00	HSC exams and assessments Board of Studies NSW	Demystifying the ATAR and understanding the UAC process <b>Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)</b>	Our students spill the beans - what uni is really like <b>University of Newcastle</b>
11.45	HSC English Area of Study - Belonging Board of Studies NSW	How <u>not</u> to write a resume <b>Career Development Association of Australia</b>	Alternative entry at ACU - access ACU and the Early Achievers program <b>Australian Catholic University</b>
12.30	HSC Business Studies Board of Studies NSW	Demystifying the ATAR and understanding the UAC process <b>Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)</b>	Career decision making for HSC students: choosing your pathway <b>PACE Career Development</b>
1.15	HSC English Area of Study - Belonging Board of Studies NSW	HSC Chemistry <b>Matrix Education</b>	Defence Force careers - protecting your future <b>Defence Force Recruiting</b>
2.00	HSC General Mathematics Board of Studies NSW	HSC 2 Unit Mathematics Board of Studies NSW	How not to write a resume <b>Career Development Association of Australia</b>
2.45	Getting into TAFE <b>TAFE NSW</b>	How to succeed in HSC English <b>Interactive English</b>	Life at UNSW <b>The University of New South Wales (UNSW)</b>
3.30	HSC major works and major projects Board of Studies NSW	Advantages of going to a private college <b>Darnell Shiner - Macleay College</b>	Going to university in Sydney? Live at Sancta Sophia College <b>Sancta Sophia College</b>
<b>Saturday 5 June 2010</b>			
	<b>Seminar Room 1 - The Board Room</b>	<b>Seminar Room 2</b>	<b>Seminar Room 3</b>
10.15	HSC exams and assessments Board of Studies NSW	Careers from the Liberal Arts <b>Campion College Australia</b>	Career decision making for HSC students: choosing your pathway <b>PACE Career Development</b>
11.00	HSC English An overview and advice on extended responses Board of Studies NSW	Volunteer and teach English overseas <b>i-to-i Australia</b>	Study overseas with CSU <b>Charles Sturt University</b>
11.45	HSC Biology Board of Studies NSW	Shakespeare - what you need to know <b>Aidan Coleman, Insight Publications</b>	Acting in film, television and theatre - how to start your career <b>The Actors Studio Australia</b>
12.30	Demystifying the ATAR and understanding the UAC process <b>Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)</b>	Study Marine Biology at JCU <b>James Cook University, QLD</b>	How <u>not</u> to write a resume <b>Career Development Association of Australia</b>
1.15	HSC Chemistry Board of Studies NSW	How to succeed in HSC English <b>Interactive English</b>	Making your move: study options at UQ <b>The University of Queensland</b>
2.00	Defence Force careers - protecting your future <b>Defence Force Recruiting</b>	HSC Physics <b>Matrix Education</b>	Tips and hints on how to write a resume and job application <b>PricewaterhouseCoopers</b>
2.45	HSC 2 Unit Mathematics Board of Studies NSW	Volunteer overseas with Projects Abroad <b>Projects Abroad</b>	A career in business and accounting <b>The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia</b>
3.30	HSC Legal Studies Board of Studies NSW	Studying for HSC English Area of Study - Belonging <b>Pascal Press</b>	The Monash passport <b>Monash University</b>
<b>Sunday 6 June 2010</b>			
	<b>Seminar Room 1 - The Board Room</b>	<b>Seminar Room 2</b>	<b>Seminar Room 3</b>
10.15	HSC exams and assessments Board of Studies NSW	Diploma in law: a pathway to becoming a lawyer <b>Legal Profession Admission Board / Law Extension Committee</b>	How <u>not</u> to write a resume <b>Career Development Association of Australia</b>
11.00	HSC Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Board of Studies NSW	How to succeed in HSC English <b>Interactive English</b>	How to get that competitive edge in a sustainable industry <b>Australian International Hotel School &amp; Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School</b>
11.45	HSC Ancient History Board of Studies NSW	Medical entry <b>MedEntry</b>	Defence Force careers - protecting your future <b>Defence Force Recruiting</b>
12.30	Demystifying the ATAR and understanding the UAC process <b>Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)</b>	Gap year options with Lattitude Global Volunteering <b>Lattitude Global Volunteering</b>	Prepare for a career in the real world: study at Australia's capital university <b>University of Canberra</b>
1.15	HSC Business Studies Board of Studies NSW	Deconstructing Belonging - analysing texts for the HSC English Area of Study <b>Matrix Education</b>	Why Macquarie? <b>Macquarie University</b>
2.00	HSC General Mathematics Board of Studies NSW	Serious about uni at UWS <b>University of Western Sydney</b>	Career decision making for HSC students: choosing your pathway <b>PACE Career Development</b>
2.45	HSC English An overview and advice on extended responses Board of Studies NSW	Getting into TAFE <b>TAFE NSW</b>	How to prepare your application for AFTRS <b>Australian Film, Television and Radio School</b>
3.30	How your HSC works - a guide for students and parents Board of Studies NSW	Gap year - Asia, Africa, South America <b>Antipodeans Abroad</b>	UTS: Where creativity meets technology <b>University of Technology, Sydney</b>

**Exhibitors**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Academy of Information Technology (AIT)              | Interactive English                                       | St. Patrick's Business College                          |
| Academy of Interactive Entertainment                 | International College of Hotel Management                 | STS Student Exchange                                    |
| AFL Sportsready                                      | International College of Management, Sydney               | Sydney Institute of Business & Technology (SIBT)        |
| AFX Student Exchange                                 | International Student Volunteers                          | TAFE NSW  |
| Anglican Youthworks                                  | i-to-i Australia  | TAFE NSW, Northern Sydney Institute                     |
| Antipodeans Abroad                                   | James Cook University                                     | TAFE NSW, South Western Sydney Institute                |
| APM College of Business and Communication            | Jansen Newman Institute of Applied Psychology             | TAFE NSW, Sydney Institute                              |
| Australasian College of Natural Therapies            | JMC Academy   | TAFE NSW, Western Sydney Institute                      |
| Australian Business Academy                          | Kaplan Business School                                    | Teach NSW / Department of Education and Training        |
| Australian Business Limited                          | Lattitude Global Volunteering                             | The Actors Studio Australia                             |
| Apprenticeships Centre                               | Le Cordon Bleu  | The Australian College of Physical Education            |
| Australian Campus Network (ACN)                      | Legal Profession Admission Board/ Law Extension Committee | The Australian Institute of Music                       |
| Australian Careers Business College                  | Macleay College   | The Australian National University                      |
| Australian Catholic University                       | Macmillan Education Australia                             | The Hotel School Sydney                                 |
| Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP)      | Macquarie City Campus                                     | The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia     |
| Australian College of Sports Therapy                 | Macquarie University                                      | The School For Excellence                               |
| Australian Film Television and Radio School          | Martin College  | The Sydney Morning Herald                               |
| Australian International Conservatorium of Music     | Matrix Education  | The University of Auckland                              |
| Australian International Hotel School                | MedEntry  | The University of Melbourne                             |
| Australian Maritime College                          | Monash University   | The University of New South Wales                       |
| Avondale College                                     | National Art School                                       | The University of Notre Dame Australia                  |
| Bedford College                                      | National Institute of Education                           | The University of Queensland                            |
| Billy Blue College of Design                         | Navitas College of Public Safety                          | The University of Sydney                                |
| Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School | Neap  | The University of Western Australia                     |
| Board of Studies New South Wales                     | New York Film Academy                                     | THINK: Education Group                                  |
| Bond University                                      | NRMA Free2go  | Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)                    |
| Campion College                                      | Oceania University of Medicine                            | University of Canberra                                  |
| Campus Living Villages                               | Pascal Press  | University of New England                               |
| CATC Design College                                  | Pearson Australia   | University of Newcastle                                 |
| Charles Sturt University                             | Pivot Point   | University of Otago                                     |
| CPA Australia  | PricewaterhouseCoopers                                    | University of Tasmania                                  |
| CQUniversity Sydney                                  | Pro Dive  | University of Tasmania, School of Nursing and Midwifery |
| Curtin Sydney (CUS)                                  | Projects Abroad   | University of Technology, Sydney (UTS)                  |
| Deakin University                                    | Qantm College   | University of Western Sydney                            |
| Defence Force Recruiting                             | Raffles College of Design and Commerce                    | University of Wollongong                                |
| Eastern Suburbs Careers Advisers                     | RailCorp  | Whitehouse Institute of Design, Australia               |
| Ernst & Young  | Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University                       | William Blue College of Hospitality and Tourism         |
| Fuss Beauty College                                  | SAE Institute   | World Education Program                                 |
| IEP - Global Work Experiences                        | Sancta Sophia College                                     | Young Endeavour Youth Scheme                            |
| Insight Publications                                 | Southern Cross Cultural Exchange                          |   |
|  | Southern Cross University                                 |   |

### Enrolment form/Expression of interest

(Please fill out and return to Music Department)

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Roll \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument in which you would like tuition (please tick)

Violin

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet

Bassoon

Saxophone

Trumpet

French horn

Trombone

Tuba

Percussion

Drumkit

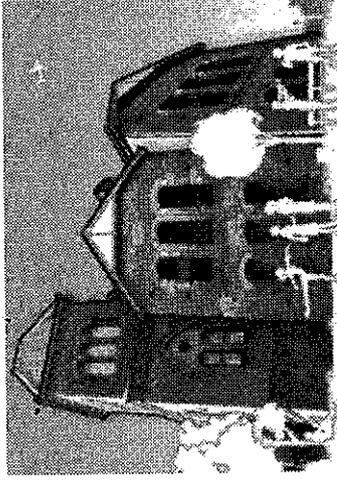
Piano

Guitar

Vocals

Please note:

Whilst the ITP attempts to cater for all of these instruments, this depends on both availability of qualified tutors and level of student interest.



## Newtown High School Of the Performing Arts



# Vocal /Instrumental Tuition Program

# 2010

## Instrumental Tuition Program

### ABOUT PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

Instrumental/vocal tuition is given in each week for a minimum of 30 minutes.

The lessons are generally rotated so that you miss a different class each week, minimizing class disruption.

It is the student's responsibility to catch up on any missed class work by talking with their class teacher and/or fellow students regarding class work and homework.

### Notification to class Teacher

Students will excuse themselves from class and go directly to the lesson. Upon return to class the student must go via the swipe room in the front office and obtain a 'music lesson' pass which must be presented to their teacher.

### Lesson fees

Whilst there is no set rate, lessons are generally \$30 per half hour to be paid in full at the beginning of each term.

### Commitment

Having private music lessons is a serious commitment and requires an undertaking to the following:

- Attend weekly lessons
- Regular practise
- Pay lesson fees in full at the start of each term
- Catch up on missed class work due to music lessons
- Tutors must be notified if for any reason you miss a lesson, including circumstances such as assessments or excursions
- A minimum of 24 hours notice of cancellation is required or lesson

## Instrumental Tuition Program

### HIRING AN INSTRUMENT

The school has limited instruments for hire for an annual fee.

As well as this there are several suppliers that we suggest

Sax and Woodwind

95574588

Sydney String Centre

99048051

Whilst there are many other suppliers for hire and purchase, please talk with a music teacher in regards suitability of the instrument prior to purchasing

### Repairers

Steve Giordano

95719086

MD Instrument Repair

97241200

If school instruments need repair then this should be done through the music department.

