The last month has continued to be particularly busy for everyone at the school. Showcase concerts, Presentation Day, two Orientation Days, reports, Year 7 swim school, and HSC assessment tasks, are just some of the activities occurring in the school.

25th Anniversary Concert Friday 11 December
Once again it has been a real pleasure to experience the outstanding talents of our students during our Showcase season. The series culminates with a very special concert at the Seymour Centre on Friday 11 December where we will celebrate 25 years of wonderful performances. We need the whole school community to support this event by buying tickets and attending on the night. Tickets can be purchased from the Seymour Centre website www.seymourcentre.com.

Schools Spectacular
Last month, many of our staff had the great fortune to attend this year’s Schools Spectacular at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. Once again, I am in awe of the talents of all of the students involved. Staff attending were particularly impressed by the level of sophistication shown in the performances of our dance, music and drama students. It is no coincidence that many of these outstanding segments were directed, devised and/or choreographed by our talented staff. Well done to all involved.

Presentation Day
Presentation Day will be held on Thursday 10 December at the Seymour Centre and will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate individual and school achievements from 2015. Many thanks to the team of staff who formed this year’s organising committee. Students received notes regarding the event earlier this week. Copies of these notes can also be found on our website. I look forward to seeing you there.

Orientation Days
We also took the opportunity this month to welcome our new students for 2016 and their families at two Orientation Days. On Monday 30 November our new Year 11 students joined us, followed by the new Year 7 on Thursday 3 December. Again, these events are successful because of the support of the staff and P&C volunteers.

Finally, as the year comes to a close, I thank you again for the way you have supported me and the school this year. I continue to be amazed by the talents and commitment of students, staff and parents and feel very privileged to lead such a school.

I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing holiday season and look forward to working with you in 2016.

A reminder that school resumes for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Thursday 28 January and Years 8, 9 and 10 on Friday 29 January 2015

Stephen Gray
Peter Shields
Co-Principals
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS’ REPORT

We are nearly at the end of another great school year. It has been a year filled with outstanding performances and many great achievements.

SHOWCASE
Our Showcase “Summer Series” has been excellent and the quality and standard of each of the evening performances has been outstanding.

The final showcase concerts are to be held with the Dance Night in the Everest Theatre on the 1 December followed by Drama showcase on the 2 December and Music showcase on the 4 December. The showcase concert season will culminate with our special 25th Anniversary Finale concert in the York Theatre on 11 December. We look forward to having many families join us in celebrating 25 years as Newtown High School of the Performing Arts.

The Deputy Principals extend our congratulations to our student performers, the technical production team, staff and parent volunteers for their invaluable contributions which make our concerts so enjoyable and rewarding.

ORIENTATION DAYS
In Week 9 of this term we were delighted to welcome to the school our entire Year 7 cohort for 2016 and our new intake of audition students for Year 11 2016. It was a pleasure to meet the parents, carers and students who have chosen Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and we look forward to welcoming them next year into our vibrant school community.

PRESENTATION DAY
The annual Presentation Day is the final whole school event for 2015. It will be at the Seymour Centre on 10 December. We are looking forward to formally celebrating the achievements of the 2015 academic year. We would also like to recognise the work of the Presentation Day team under the leadership of Ula George and David Cole, who have been very busy preparing and organising this special school event.

YEAR 11
Year 11 students are well into the HSC course with a number of assessments scheduled from 7 to 16 December. Timetables for the final assessment week of the year have been issued to students with no formal lessons taking place during this time. Students are expected to arrive at their scheduled assessment tasks at least fifteen minutes before time to minimise any unforeseen circumstances. In the event of illness or misadventure, students must follow the procedures described in the assessment booklet. On the day of the exam, if the student were to suffer an illness or misadventure, they must inform the school of their absence. On the day of their return, they must complete an illness/misadventure form and submit documented evidence to support their application to Karl Pico. The assessment task can then be rescheduled. If this process is not followed it may result in the student receiving zero for the task.

YEAR 10
Year 10 will finish their junior schooling on the 16 December when they are eligible for the Record of School Achievement (ROSA). Students are expected to attend until that date and are currently working on skills that will prepare them for the senior school. Part of their work involves completing a mandatory set of modules from the Board of Studies titled ‘All My Own Work’ before they are eligible to study the Preliminary courses. Students are currently being given the opportunity during class time to complete the modules.

The students intending to study the HSC Preliminary have selected their courses for 2016 including the incoming new audition students who attended an Orientation Day on the 30 November. Information about the school and their course patterns of study was communicated to all students.
In week 9, Year 10 students were taken through a program to support their transition into Senior High School. This began on Monday 30 November when the current Year 10 cohort joined the new students in the afternoon of the Orientation Day. The entire group participated in two sessions based around the Positive Education approach, one on preparing for senior school and exploration of the growth mindset, and one on gratitude. On Thursday and Friday, the current Year 10 students rotated through a series of follow up workshops on authentic writing, senior student roles and responsibilities, mindfulness, writing skills, health, and research skills, culminating in a bonding activity showcasing the importance of physical activity and fitness – “Capture the Flag”. The program was developed and implemented by Mr Andrew Benson (Year Advisor), Mr Alain Lavrut (Assistant Year Advisor), Ms Rachel O’Neill (Mules) (Deputy Principal), Ms Ula George (Careers Advisor), Ms Dominique Sweers (Teacher Librarian), Ms Elly Reynolds (Head Teacher PD/H/PE), Ms Anne-Mari England (School Counsellor) and Ms Laura Bivona (Teacher PD/H/PE) – A big thankyou for all the effort and positive energy put into the program by these teachers.

YEAR 8 & 9
Years 8 and 9 2016 have also chosen their electives and most students will study the electives of first choice. While we have done our best to accommodate all students’ choices, in some cases, students have been advised to choose again as some elective classes either did not run or the class size had reached maximum. Any written request for a change to your child’s pattern of study will be considered in the first few weeks of 2016.

REPORTING TIMELINE
Year 10 and 9 students will be reconnecting with their curriculum advisors on Wednesday 9 December and Friday 11 December respectively to reflect upon their progress towards the personal best goals that were set in semester 1. It is hoped that many of the goals set by the students will be realised in their yearly reports.

All Years 7-10 reports will be sent home to parents by the end of term, late in week 11. All junior report subjects are graded from A-E with individual teacher comments for each subject. If parents/carers have any questions regarding the reports please contact the Head Teacher responsible for that subject for clarification.

BYOD PARENT SURVEY FOR PARENTS
We remind all parents of our invitation to take part in our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Survey. We would like your feedback on this year’s BYOD program. Your feedback will allow us to make any necessary changes and further improve the program. Please be assured that absolute confidentiality and anonymity will be maintained in gathering and processing your responses.
Thank you in advance for your participation and feedback.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parentbyod2015

The last day of school for students is Wednesday 16 December, as the staff will be participating in two school development days on Thursday 17 December and Friday 18 December.

Finally, we would like to wish all members of our school community a safe, relaxing holiday and look forward to working with you again in 2016.

The Deputy Principals
Peter Shields/Rachel Mules (Curriculum, Years 7 and 10)
Karl Pico (Teaching and Learning, Years 8 and 11)
Nilaufar Rajwar (Wellbeing, Years 9 and 12)
The next P&C Meeting will be held next Tuesday 8 December at 6pm in the school common room. The P&C meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

The December meeting will be a short meeting, followed by an end-of-year social get together held at the Newtown Social Club (opposite the school) on King Street, from 6.30pm. All welcome.

YEAR 7 PARENT END OF YEAR CELEBRATION – 10 DECEMBER
NHSPA is holding their annual presentation day at the Seymour Centre on City Road on Thursday 10 December from noon-2pm. This is a highly recommended event for every Year 7 student and students in other years receiving awards.

AFTER the presentations, on Thursday 10 December, we are having a Year 7 family and carers social immediately following in the Everest Bar at the Seymour Centre. The P&C is providing a few nibbles. If you cannot make the awards presentation pop into the social part, with or without your child, and say hello and make some new friends. The Dendy have graciously donated two double movie passes for lucky door prizes. BYO business card, or write on the back of someone else’s, to enter the draw.

PLEASE REPLY to maya@salesinventoryprofile.com whether you know you can make it or not to keep our Year 7 list complete

25TH ANNIVERSARY GIFT – 25 YEARS OF NSHPA PERFORMANCES
The P&C will be presenting Newtown High School of the Performing Arts with a special gift to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Years of archived material has been sourced, digitalised and compiled to highlight the work of both students and teachers at the school across all curriculum areas. Alumni have also been included, proudly and fondly reflecting on their time at the school and what they have gone on to do with their lives. Robin Amm and Stephen Gray, as past and present principals of the school, are acknowledged for their great contributions. The P&C hope that you enjoy watching the twenty five year journey of this incredible school unfold throughout the presentation.

OVER 150 PARENTS ATTEND POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR
NHSPA P&C were very pleased to fund and support the Positive Psychology seminar for Parents (Tuesday 10 November at 7pm) presented by Suzy Green from the Positive Psychology Institute. This aim of this seminar was to help inform parents of the Positive Psychology program that NHSPA have committed to roll out in the next 2 years. The Parent seminar was therefore an opportunity for parents to hear a summary of what Positive Psychology entails, particularly in the educational context, and how they - as parents - can support the program and their child/children at home to make this program a success. Nilaufer Rajwar (Deputy Principal, Head of Welfare) has emphasised, it is only with the support of NHSPA parents that this program can succeed. A successful implementation of the Positive Psychology program at NHSPA will not only benefit the student body, but also their parents, the teachers, and the community as a whole.

Over 150 parents attended this Parent seminar on the 10 November. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with the main question being - when will there be more information sessions. The NHSPA P&C look forward to supporting both the parents and school in making the Positive Psychology program at NHSPA a great success, where students can learn skills they can apply constructively in every facet of the life.
2015 P&C YEAR CONTACTS
Maya Saric Year contact, Year 7
Tammy Moir Year contact, Year 8
Viola Morris Year contact, Year 9
Katie Mann Year contact, Year 10
Anja Kennedy Year contact, Year 11
Mary Sandstrom Year contact, Year 12

They can each be contacted via the P&C Contacts link on the NHSPA P&C section of the main school website (in the left side bar). Thank you to all these parents for being involved in the P&C, especially Mary who will be finishing her duties as the Year 12 rep this year.

2016 P&C WELCOME BBQ FOR FAMILIES NEW TO NHSPA – 4 MARCH 2016
A date for your diary - Friday, 4 March 2016, P&C Welcome BBQ at 5pm. This will be held at the school where both school staff and the P&C Executive team will be in attendance. It is a great opportunity to meet other Year 7 parents as well other families of children starting at NHSPA in 2016. Find out more about the P&C and how to get involved. This is the first official event for the 2016 calendar and as it held after the World Earth Festival (also on 4 March 2016) where many students perform - always a day of fun and entertainment which parents are encouraged to contribute to and attend.

PARENT EMAIL NETWORK (GOOGLE GROUPS) We encourage all parents to subscribe to 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 questions answered and sharing information). To subscribe send a blank email to: nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com

There is a googlegroups fact sheet on the P&C page of the school website.

NHSPA PARENTS CONTACT MESSAGE BOARD Follow this link for posting requests and ads for second hand uniform, instruments and equipment etc. http://nhspasecondhand.proboards.com/index.cgi?

P&C Committee
As 2015 draws to a close, we reflect on the many wonderful achievements in English this year. Our students have achieved notable success in the Premier’s Debating Challenge and the Plain English Public Speaking Competition. The hard-work and skill of our students saw several of our teams make it to semi-final and final rounds of the competition. We attained some excellent results in the NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Language Conventions papers, with our results markedly above the state average and well above other schools in our similar schools group. We eagerly await what are sure to be some outstanding HSC results later in December when these results are released. I would like to acknowledge the commitment and talent of our students, and of course, the dedication of the English staff. The quality teaching and learning facilitated by the English staff is what supports and nurtures our students to achieve at the highest level.

Over the next few weeks, the various junior year groups will be completing informal group projects in class. I have had the pleasure of seeing the preparation undertaken by many classes. It has indeed been edifying to witness the creativity, enthusiasm and abilities of our students. Below is a list of the topics and focus areas for the various year groups, on which their group projects will be based:

- Year 7  Sonnets and Soliloquies
- Year 8  Shakespearean Transformations
- Year 9  Romanticism
- Year 10 Victorianism

Year 11 (the new Year 12) are now in the throes of completing their first formal HSC assessment task – a speech and a listening task on Discovery. When they return to school in Term 1 of 2016, they will commence study of Module A: the Comparative Study of Texts and Contexts for Advanced English and Experience Through Language for Standard English. All students are encouraged to pre-read their prescribed text over the Christmas break.

The English Faculty recently held a planning day to prepare for the advent of the 2016 school year. Some important changes were made to our Scope and Sequence, in order to better engage our students and prepare them for the demands of the English syllabus. Some very creative and engaging units are currently being written for next year. The Faculty also finalised the English Faculty Plan, which gives us strategic direction on how to continue providing significant, rigorous teaching and learning for our students in English.

To finish, I take this opportunity to wish all members of the NHSPA community a happy and safe Christmas. We look forward to working with you in 2016 and beyond.

Kirk Thomas
Head Teacher English
The Maths Faculty would like to take this opportunity to wish a Merry Christmas to all our students and their families.

Our 2016, Year 12 students will be sitting their first HSC task in weeks 10 and 11. They have been given plenty of revision work and have been working well. We are looking forward to some great results. A reminder that our senior students will also be required to complete some homework over the holidays to better prepare them for their HSC.

Thank you to all the students who have already returned their textbooks. In order to be better prepared for 2016, it is vital that all textbooks are returned. All classes will be actively engaged in Mathematics tasks that do not require textbooks.

Can you work out an equation to find out how many presents you get on the twelfth day of Christmas if:

- on the first day you receive: a partridge in a pear tree
- on the second day you receive: two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree
- on the third day you receive: three french hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree
- and so on………. 

*First student with a correct equation will receive a present*

The picture below is an excellent example of peer tutoring from our Extension 2 class. Well done Teneesee.
Firstly, it would be great to acknowledge all the hard work put in by all staff and students for 2015. It has been a fantastic year with many highlights. The sustainability trip, science week 2015 and the language food incursion are a few that stand out. In 2016 we all hope to build on all the positives gained from this year and provide even richer learning experiences for all our students.

This year will finish up with the 2016 HSC cohort starting their first lot of HSC assessment tasks. Biology will be doing an assessment which will assess their ability to work scientifically. Chemistry and Physics will both be doing oral presentations, which assess their ability to communicate about contemporary scientific topics relating to their coursework. We wish all the students involved with the exams the best of luck!

Merry Christmas, Safe and Happy Holidays

Tom Tomesek
Head teacher Science/LOTE

NHSPA STUDENTS HELP REFUGEES ARRIVING IN GREECE

In early January, Noah Stevenson-Hynes (Year 9) and Amira Stevenson-Hynes (Year 12), along with their parents Katherine Hynes and Ian Stevenson will embark on a self-funded trip to Lesvos, Greece. They will be volunteering with The Starfish Foundation helping the thousands of refugees arriving each day from Turkey (on 8/11/15 there were 7000 arrivals).

"Soaking wet and freezing cold, this boy was given dry clothes, an emergency blanket and electrolytes for rehydration. But little could be done to undo the trauma he experienced - a trauma so visible from his expression". Shaan R. Ali Photography at Lesvos, Greece.
Jacquie Boon:

It is with our sincere and deep sorrow we say farewell to our compassionate and visionary leader Jacquie Boon. After 25 years of dedicated service to the creative arts at NHSPA and 17 years as Head Teacher Jacquie Boon is retiring.

The high standard of work and excellent reputation of the Visual Art Department at NHSPA is testament to Jacquie’s expertise and hard work. The legacy she has built over the last 25 years includes a culture of creativity and art making that is unique to the student’s individuality, developed and defined by sophisticated skills and knowledge. As a leader, Jacquie is the opposite of an autocrat, she is democratic, collaborative, compassionate and supportive of her staff always encouraging us to be individuals and follow our dreams and ambitions in education and art making. She has always lead by example in practicing excellence, good humour and a strong work ethic.

Her contribution to creative arts education has continued throughout her career with excellent classroom teaching, senior marking and her development of curriculum resources with her recent NSW premiership scholarship and travels to South East Asia.

We all sincerely wish Jacquie the best in her adventures. She will be continuing teaching in South East Asia and also be making artworks at a printmaking studio in Chiang Mai. Ms Boon’s exceptional work is never done. We look forward to hearing about her adventures and seeing her at school events when she is back in the country.

We are sorry to see you go and thank you so much for all you have done for us in the Visual Arts Faculty and for the whole school at NHSPA.

P.S… Jacquie your keys are in the door.

Showcase Summer Series exhibition
The new NHSPA gallery on King Street was the home of the summer showcase exhibition this year. Showcasing a range of artworks from junior to senior artworks.
**The visual Arts Showcase exhibition photos:** Top: Window display at NHSPA gallery. Left to right: Principal, Stephen Gray on opening night. Detail of showcase season decorations. Mr Fischer and Toby Bowring at the Opening night exhibition.

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**2016 Specialist Art programs**

We are happy to announce that next year the art department will be hosting three specialist art programs during Term 1 in the NHSPA gallery space.

In association with the ‘school to work program,’ thanks to the support of the careers department, we will run a series of workshops for Gifted and Talented students.

Firstly *life drawing* classes will provide the opportunity for senior students to practice and hone their drawing skills as well as experience drawing the figure in its unedited form, from real life. The series of classes will allow students to develop a body of work over the eight-week period. The series focuses on the drawing and drafting skills required for creative industries.

The next in the series is **Art-worlds: Art fairs, Art galleries and Artists Professional Practice.** Damien Minton P&C member and established gallery manager/director has generously donated his time and expertise to come and speak to our students about: professional practice in the arts, what is involved in running a gallery, how artists approach galleries, current trends in art fairs and what that means for artists, curators and galleries. The talks are for gifted and talented students who are considering a career in the arts and who want to excel in art history and criticism.

Also in the gallery G&T series leading contemporary artist Anne Zahalka will present a lecture and photographic tableau workshop for NHSPA students. This series would be highly valuable to any student interested in the photography industry, visual arts practice and visual story-telling. ‘ANNE ZAHALKA is one of Australia’s most highly-regarded photo-media artists having exhibited extensively in Australia and overseas for more than thirty years. Her work has often explored cultural stereotyping and has challenged these with a humorous and critical voice. She deconstructs familiar images and re-presents them to allow other figures and stories to be told that reflect on cultural diversity, gender and difference within Australian society.’ [http://www.zahalkaworld.com.au](http://www.zahalkaworld.com.au)

**Year 12- 2015**

Congratulations to all Year 12 2015 on the completion of your exams, the visual arts exam focused on some challenging questions that we feel the students were prepared to answer. We hope you’re having fun and enjoying a rest from study.

We are extremely proud of all our students and are excited to announce that three of our visual arts students ‘The three Em’s’ have been finalists (pre-selected) for the Art Express.
VISUAL ARTS FACULTY  Continued …

Emma Harbridge with the work ‘In the tangle of their lives they surrendered to sleep’

Emmy Saheki with her work ‘Study of the Male Anatomy’
Congratulations to Emma Steiger who is confirmed as accepted into the ArtExpress 2016. Her work will be exhibited at the Margaret Whitlam Galleries at University of Western Sydney next year.

Year 11 2015 – Year 12 – 2016
The Visual Arts department has been buzzing with activity now that the recent Year 11 students are transitioning into Year 12. The first HSC practical assessment is coming up and the senior art studio is brimming with experiments, tests and new beginnings. This is a delicate stage of the creative process and students are asking themselves difficult questions and making choices to discover 'What will my BOW be about? How will I make it!! We commend your perseverance and challenge you to take risks, innovate and bring these to resolution. We look forward to the presentation of your work in assessment 1 week 10.

Year 10 - 2015
Year ten have recently completed their individual Body Of Work. A selection of these works were recently exhibited in the NHSPA gallery during the showcase opening night on the 17 November and before the music night on the 19 November in St Georges Hall.
VISUAL ARTS FACULTY Continued …

Macy Diett

Jo Dwyer
Year 9 - 2015
Year 9 students have just experienced exhibiting art-works. Their sculptures were also part of the Showcase exhibition. Now, they patiently sit awaiting the holidays and drawing blocks… These beautiful Mandy Martin inspired technical drawings will be on display in the King Street Gallery during the holiday period.

Year 8 - 2015
Year 8 have been using the library to access laptops and produce digital images with Photoshop. The lessons inspired by the artist Julie Rrap and her work ‘overstepping’ showed the students techniques in using layers, blending and resizing to manipulate and morph images. The extension class have been learning one and two point perspective and applying this to creating sophisticated Collagraph prints.

Ed Oxenbould as Fallout Boy by Zakaya Bonne

Ball by Emosi Tagivetau
Year 7 - 2015
Year 7 have been busy in the world of water looking at Hokusai The Great Wave of Kanagawa and lino printing and Claude Monet’s Water Lilies.

Impressionism (class exercise)– Monet and coloured pencil

Lino Print on paper collage. By Miranda Murray
Opening Night
NSHPA Showcase Semester 2
A Success Written By: Doga Demir

Date: 17th Nov
Weather: Balmy
Anticipation: High

It was an awesome evening, full of lively and super talented performers and tasty food, served by the year nine hospitality class.

The visual arts exhibition of exceptional student work opened at 6pm, establishing the anticipation of the performances ahead.

The evening performances were spread across three venues. In St. George’s Hall there was a variety of great music and dance entertainment, and the studio theatre showcased talented drama students who performed amazingly.

Intermission allowed audiences to witness percussion, solo performers and horn players in a surround sound environment. The performances outside were very amusing and entertaining, and were enjoyed by all.

The music and dance performances in St. George’s Hall were one of the most entertaining and engaging shows that I have watched this year. The audiences just loved it. The show started off with the inspiring year 9 jazz ensemble, followed up by an emotional contemporary dance performance both were a prelude to the whole night.

From ballet to upbeat jazz, there were a wide variety of dance styles performed; it was phenomenal. Without any mistakes, the show ran very smoothly, it was clear that all the hard work these performers had invested had payed off.

“It's amazing to see such talented people performing, The show is amazing!” said a parent. “The show's been great so far. I really liked it.” said a year 9 hospitality student.

By the looks of it, I am sure that all the other nights will be just as good as last night.
Dear you, Life flashing before your eyes  
By Anna McFarland year 9

The Fletcher drama company of Year 10 & 11 students put on an interesting and highly engaging performance on the opening night of the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts biannual showcase.

As you entered the studio theatre you were greeted by the cast onstage and an envelope on your seat. Each envelope was addressed ‘Dear You’ and contained a different letter. The letters provided insight into the characters and the potential story line.

Storyline
Throughout the performance there were 5 groups of people, all telling a different story. All the stories were connected and revolved around the main two characters. Rather than telling everything, the story was told theatrically. Some of it was shown through dramatic hints and theatrical techniques. The overall feel of the performance was poetic in nature and each story gave small pieces of information about the main two characters.

The performance was overall highly engaging, well costumed and showcased an interesting use of props. The storyline was compelling and it was an overall well executed performance.

A Night to Remember  
By Noa Amiry, Ava Kalinauskas & Margot Mackellar

On Wednesday the 24th of November, we had the pleasure of watching NHSPA Showcase. Our night was set to be an exciting one, with a line up of three drama performances. And so we sat on the edge of our studio theatre seats, before the lights dimmed and the enthusiastic buzz of the audience softened to welcome our first act…

The night started with an outstanding performance by Sceats Company, titled “Stories in the Dark.” The piece admirably portrayed the simplicity and power of a bedtime story to help someone in need. The performance was set in the middle of a war, with two teenagers trying to stay safe. With both teenagers retelling and creating fables, it showed how stories could give hope and comfort to both the narrator and the listener. The performance was made up of re-enactments of stories and the situations of the two teenagers. Using the idea of a bedtime story made the piece relatable to the audience, and it was obvious that the crowd was feeling emotions vicariously to the actors. Overall it was a very successful performance.

Next Year 10 Extension Finsterer Company came to the stage, with an act titled ‘The World’s Wife’, written by Carol Ann Duffy. Through a collection of monologues, ‘The World’s Wife’ follows a variety of female characters, with each woman stepping out from their respective male-dominated situations to share their side of the story. From adaptations of Red Riding Hood, to Medusa’s opportunity to share her perspective, this timeless feminist piece was a showstopper. And even among the assortment of characters and stories, this polished performance saw the Year 10 students shine through as individuals and established actors and actresses. Achieving originality mixed with a dash of wit and defiance, Year 10 Extension Finsterer Company did not disappoint, continuing the night with a standout performance.

Last but not least was Gallaway Company with a stunning performance by some very talented year ten and twelve students. The play revolved around different marriages throughout the ages, comparing the differences in marriage from three separate eras. The plot was clearly established from the beginning and was very captivating to watch. The audience was clearly engrossed in the storyline as they reacted well to the comedy, to the sadness and to the happiness. The students showcased their amazing talents through the way they portrayed their characters and performed an entertaining and fantastic drama piece for people of all ages to enjoy.

We were thrilled to have the opportunity to support and admire the performances of our peers, and watch countless rehearsals and practises actualise into a collection of stellar performances. Congratulations to everyone who was involved on the 24th. We had a fantastic night, leaving the performance with a sense of school pride and a true appreciation of the essence of NHSPA.
A drama company working toward their performance on Wednesday the second of December.

They had no props or sets so they had to create scenes with their bodies.

**Showcase- A behind the scenes look!**

By Anna McFarland and Phoebe Wolf

The up in lights Showcase elective class are also practising for their performance on the same night.
EARTH FEST

FRIDAY MARCH 4 2016

REDUCE

REFUSE

REUSE

ROT

RECYCLE
Earth Fest 2016
Arte Povera Art Exhibition

Call out to Students, Parents & Community.

Create a sculpture that reflects NHSPA’s sustainability motto of:
Recycle,
Reuse,
Refuse,
Reduce and Rot

To be exhibited in the NHSPA gallery on King Street March 4 2016.

Categories:
Parents and the Community
Junior
Senior

Restrictions: 1 x 1 m maximum. Recycled materials only (non-recycled fasteners and adhesives allowed).

Judges: NHSPA Art Staff
Prizes: TBA
CLOTHES SWAP
AND MUSIC STALLS

DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED GOOD CONDITION
CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES OR MUSIC ITEMS THAT
HAVE BEEN COLLECTING DUST IN YOUR CUPBOARD
OR THE FLOOR-DROBE OF YOUR BEDROOM?

WE WANT THEM!

START COLLECTING THEM NOW AND BRING THEM IN FOR THE
CLOTHES SWAP AND MUSIC STALL AT THIS YEAR’S EARTH FESTIVAL ON
MARCH 4TH

#ITEMS CAN BEUGHT IN TO THE STUDIO THEATRE FOYER FROM 8AM ON
MARCH 4TH

E.G. 5 ITEMS = 5 TOKENS THAT CAN THEN BE USED ON THE CLOTHES SWAP
STALL DURING THE FESTIVAL.
REMEMBER FOR THE FIRST HOUR THOSE WHO HAVE BROUGHT IN CLOTHES
TO SWAP CAN SEARCH FIRST.
AFTER THAT ALL CLOTHES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE USING THE
NEF TOKENS!
WE WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTING: NHSPA SCHOOL UNIFORMS, PERFORMANCE
BLACKS
SKI CLOTHING - GET READY FOR THE NHSPA SKI TRIP!!!
RECORDS, CDs, INSTRUMENTS, SHEET MUSIC

REMEMBER SOMEONE’S “SHOPPERS REGRET” IS ANOTHER PERSON’S
PERFECT OUTFIT!
NHSPA Parents and Citizens Community (P&C)
Year 7 Welcome BBQ 2016

On behalf to the Parent & Citizens (P&C), we would like to warmly welcome you to the NHSPA community.

A date for your diary - Friday, 4 March 2016, Year 7 Welcome BBQ at 5pm.
This will be held at the school where both school staff and the P&C Executive team will be in attendance. It is a great opportunity to meet other Year 7 parents as well as Year 7 teachers and find out more about the P&C. This is the first official event for the 2016 Year 7 community group and as it held after the World Earth Festival (also on 4 March 2016) where many students perform - always a day of fun and entertainment which parents are encouraged to contribute to and attend.

BE A PART OF THE NHSPA P&C
We need you! The more parents are involved in the P&C, the more exciting and positive the outcomes for the school. New carers and parents are always welcome.

How the P&C works
We encourage P&C members to attend our monthly meetings. As a P&C member you will receive information about the P&C including notice of meetings and information regarding events and activities occurring at the school. Our main method of communication is via the NHSPA P&C Google Group, and we encourage you to register. It is a great way to keep informed regarding what is happening at our school. To register send an email to nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com

A voice
P&C membership is voluntary. Membership gives you voting rights and the opportunity to be involved in the future direction of the school. The P&C ratifies funding for certain school projects as well as contributing to strategic planning for the school when requested.

Friendship and community
The P&C monthly meetings are a friendly gathering of people who share the common goal of caring for our school. P&C meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6.00pm in the Common Room, next to the school reception area. The Annual General Meeting is held at the March meeting.

Some functions of the P&C are:
- To encourage closer communication and cooperation, between parents, staff and students, and members of the community.
- To provide support and recommendations to the Principal on issues relating to the student body, and to assist in the provision of financial or other resources and services for the benefit of NHSPA students.
- To participate in committees and projects to improve both the learning and teaching outcomes and physical environment of the NHSPA.
- To provide assistance and support to the school during Showcase performances, Audition and Orientation events.
What has the P&C been doing lately?
- Assisted in purchasing a new electronic sign for the school’s front entrance, to improve communications with students, parents/carers and the local community.
- Held regular school working bees around the school grounds including pruning, mulching and planting.
- Supported a Dance Masterclass program with Ruben Graciani from Point Park University, PA, USA in May 2015.
- Refurbishment of the Studio Theatre where students regularly perform.
- Supported the purchase of new sound equipment for Drama and Dance, a new rostra for Music and a drum kit for the Studio Theatre.
- Supported the non-Performing and Visual Arts faculties, including purchasing an interactive projector for Mathematics and robotics programs for TAS.

How can I become involved?
- Join the NHSPA P&C Google Group (see below on how to register)
- Come to the Welcome Year 7 BBQ on 4 March 2016 and sign-up for the P&C
- Come along to a P&C meeting (6pm, 2nd Tuesday of the month during term)
- Join one of the five P&C sub-committees (Building; Performing and Visual Arts [PVAS]; Communications; Faculty; and Environment)
- Keep an eye on the P&C news pages on the NHSPA website.

Our main method of communication with parents and carers is the NHSPA P&C Google Group – please register to keep up to date with the work of the P&C.

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**NHSPA P & C Google Groups**
This is an information group for families of NHSPA to keep in touch with P&C news, talk to other parents, and find out the information that your children forgot to tell you....

**How to subscribe?**
Send an email to nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**How to unsubscribe from the group?**
Send an email to nhspa+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

**I have changed my email address**
Please send an “unsubscribe” email from the old email address and then send another email to “subscribe” the new email address

**Problems subscribing or unsubscribing?**
Send an email to: j.m.caley@gmail.com

**To Post an Item**
Prepare an email and send to nhspa@googlegroups.com

**Emails will not appear immediately as they are subject to moderation**

**Moderation**
When your email is sent it is first reviewed by a moderator appointed by the P&C President and will only be withheld if it contains inappropriate language or remarks that are potentially defamatory.

**Problems posting any item?**
Please send an email to j.m.caley@gmail.com with the information you would like posted.

**To respond to a posting** Please do not hit “reply” when answering a post unless you want the response to go to everyone on the Google list. It is preferable you respond to the person posting by copying their email address and forwarding the email to the relevant address.
ALL THE STAFF AT NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS WISH THE STUDENTS, PARENTS AND CARERS A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON