Welcome back to our returning families for 2015, and a special welcome to new families who have joined the school community this year. The beginning of the school year is always filled with anticipation and excitement and I know this particularly applies to students experiencing the transition to high school and those joining a new school. This year we welcome approximately 170 Year 7 students, over 30 new Year 11 students and a small number of new students starting in the other years. We look forward to working with them and you, their parents over the coming months and years. All new parents and carers are invited to a welcome BBQ organised by our P&C on 27 February from 5pm following the World Earth Festival.

STAFF CHANGES
Our long serving Deputy Principal, Betty Romeo has been successful in being selected as the Principal of St George Girls High School this year. On behalf of the school community I have passed on our congratulations and best wishes to her in her new role. Betty Romeo is a visionary teacher who has helped transform our school into one of leading performing arts high schools in the country. She is a talented, creative and resourceful educator. Her outstanding contribution and inspirational leadership deserves celebration and acknowledgement of her dedicated service to public education and this school.

This year a number of new staff members have joined the school community. We welcome Victor Zitser in English; Antonella Triolo in LOTE; Fatma Berkeet in Science; Stephanie Leotta and Victoria Van Maanen in HSIE; Blade Fuller in Music and Paul Kennedy in TAS. We also welcome back Jenifa Dwyer and Alison McKellar.

We also congratulate Diane Aynsley who officially takes up the role of Head Teacher TAS this year. Sophie Rosier-Staines becomes the new Head Teacher Administration.

2014 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE RESULTS
Our HSC class of 2014 has once again continued the outstanding results seen at NHSPA over recent years. Congratulations to the students, teachers and families whose achievements include:

- Ancient History results were 3.6% above state mean with 17% of students receiving Band 6 which is almost double the state rate.
- 42% of Biology students achieved 80+ compared to 28% in the state and 38% in 2013 and 32% in 2012. Biology was 3.9% above state mean.
- In Dance, our students achieved 9.9% above the state mean with an average of 87.3%. 39% achieved 90+ compared to 30% in 2013 and 20% in 2012 with 86% in top two bands which is double the state rate.
- With an average mark of 86.6% for Drama and 8.1% above the state mean, 39% of Drama students achieved marks of 90+ compared to 13% in the state and 85% achieved in the top two bands compared to 42% in the state.
- English Standard results were 4.0% above state mean.
- English Advanced students scored an average mark of 81.9% with 66% achieving 80+ compared to 59% in the state.
- With an average mark of 45/50, 93% of English Extension 1 students were placed in the top two bands and achieved 3.5% above state mean.
- 86% of English Extension 2 students were in the top two bands compared to 77% in the state.
- The Food Technology results were 6.6% above state mean with 39% students achieving 80+ compared to 28% in the state.
Legal Studies results were 6.4% above state mean and an average mark of 80.2%. 27% of students achieved 90+ which was over twice the state rate with 62% in top two bands compared to 40% in the state.

With an average of 4.7% above the state mean, General Maths had 28% of its students in the top two bands compared to 25% of the state.

Modern History results were 3.3% above state mean with 28% of students achieving 90+ compared to 9% in the state and 17% in the 2013 cohort.

40% of History Extension students were in the top band compared to 22% in the state. 100% of students were in the top two bands compared to 78% in the state and 3.4% above state mean.

Music 1 results continued to be excellent this year with marks 9% above state mean and 50% scoring 90+ compared to 18% in the state and 33% in 2013. 100% of students were in the top two bands compared to 60% for the state (94% in 2013 and 65% in 2012).

Music 2 results, 45% of students scoring 90+ compared to 34% in the state.

Music Extension results were outstanding, an average mark of 47.5/50 and 100% in the top band compared to 75% for the state.

PDHPE results were 3.6% above state mean with 32% scoring 80+.

Textiles and Design results were 6.2% above state mean with 62% achieving 80+ compared to 47% in 2013 and 42% in the state. 24% of students achieved Band 6 which was nearly double the state mean.

Visual Arts were 3.3% above state mean with 64% of students in the top two bands compared to 49% for the state.

Once again our students achieved results for which we can feel very proud. This is further evidenced by the following successes:

- Jessica Goodfellow was awarded 1st in the state in Dance.
- 2 students will receive a Premier’s Award for gaining marks of 90+ in 10 or more units. These outstanding students are William Bartolo and Isabella Fulton.
- 71 students were placed on the NSW Distinguished Achievers list for receiving 90+ in at least one course.
- 33 students achieved marks of 80 or more in 10 or more units

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 the school, so that your child can be acknowledged in future newsletters.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The annual swimming carnival will be held at Drummoyne Pool on 13th February. We are hoping for fine weather and I’m sure we will once again see many outstanding performances as well as a lot of fun for all involved. Please assist us by ensuring your child has returned their permission notes.

WORLD EARTH FESTIVAL
The annual World Earth Festival will be held on 27th February from 1pm. All members of our school community are invited to attend. The focus for this year is going to be zero waste. There will be a variety of stalls promoting sustainable concepts and lots of performances by our talented students. More details appear in this month’s newsletter. Come along and enjoy this fabulous community event.
WELCOME BACK to all our students and families to the 2015 school year. A special welcome to the students and their families who are starting at NHSPA this year. Each year brings us exciting possibilities and opportunities and we look forward to another great year.

YEAR 7
It is a particularly exciting time for our Year 7 students with the start of high school. We hope the transition continues to be 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, School Counsellor Anne-Mari England and the Deputy Principal responsible for Year 7, Ms. Rachel Mules. There will be an opportunity to meet with staff at the welcome BBQ for new parents on Friday 27th February.

ASSESSMENT CALENDARS AND BOOKLETS
The school year has started well and students are well settled in their new classes. All students will be issued with the assessment booklets and assessment calendars within the first few weeks of term. These documents outline the nature of all assessment tasks scheduled over the year, along with the dates when each task will be held. Students have been issued with their 2015 school diary. Can we 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 will also be uploaded on the school's website to ensure that all members of our community can access these important documents and dates.

SENIOR ASSESSMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR ILLNESS/MISADVENTURE
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. If due to an illness or misadventure, a student is unable to attend an assessment task the student or family member must contact the school to notify the relevant Deputy of their absence. On the first day of their return to school the student must report to their deputy and complete the Illness/Misadventure form. 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 we would encourage students and parents to contact us for further clarification. We also have implemented a consistent assessment policy for Years 7-9 and Year 10 have important procedures also outlined in their assessment booklets.

COURSE CHANGES
There have been some students requesting changes to their course pattern of study for 2015. Any requests for changes to courses or electives studied by Years 8, 9, 10 for 2015 should be made in writing by February 12th and for Year 11 by 19th. There will be no further changes after these dates unless circumstances are deemed exceptional. This will ensure students have plenty of class time to meet outcomes and perform to their potential.

YEAR 12
Year 12 students in Week 3 will be given the privilege of flexible starting and finishing times, including permission to leave the school grounds at lunchtime. The signed permission note clearly outlines the conditions of these privileges. Students are expected to be at school by 10am if they have no class period 1 to swipe in, and swipe out if they are leaving school early. It is the Year 12 student's responsibility to follow this process in order to maintain accurate attendance records.
CO-CURRICULA COMPANY AND ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS
The co-curricula company and ensemble auditions for Semester one have commenced in Week 2. Audition dates and times have been communicated to the students. We would like to encourage all our students to embrace the opportunities that are available as part of our co-curricula program and participate. We would especially encourage the Years 7 and 11 auditioned students starting this year to take advantage of the performing arts opportunities being offered at NHSPA.

ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Swimming Carnival is to be held on Friday, 13th February at the Drummoyne Swimming centre. We look forward to a successful and enjoyable day, with good attendance and a high level of participation from our students. Thank you to Ms. Reynolds for the organisation of this event.

WELFARE
The Student Year Advisers for 2015 are:
Year 7  Ms. Hannah Hindmarsh and Mr. Hans Mayerhofer
Year 8  Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Philip Podreka
Year 9  Ms Cathy Spirovsksa and Mr Sam Byrne
Year 10 Mr Andrew Benson and Ms Diane Aynsley
Year 11 Mr Zeljko Janusic and Mr Adrian Shipp
Year 12 Mr Jeremey Atkinson and Ms. Sophie Rosier-Staines

We appreciate the hard work the Year Advisers do throughout the year with our students in ensuring their wellbeing.

YEAR 11 CROSSROAD CAMP
The Year 11 Crossroads camp is to be held on 10th and 11th February at “The Tops Conference Centre”, Stanwell Tops. The Crossroads program is a mandatory component of the Stage 6 syllabus. Besides meeting the requirements of the program, the camp assists with the transition of our new Year 11 students. It provides an opportunity for students to get to know each other and for new friendships to be formed. Thank you to Mr. Janusic and Mr. Shipp, the Year 11 Advisers, for their hard work in organising what is sure to be a successful camp. We would also like to thank all staff members who have volunteered their time, without which we would be unable to have the Year 11 camp. Also as part of the Crossroads course, Paul Dillon, a noted drug and alcohol guest speaker will address the students on 27th March at school.

YEAR 7 PEER SUPPORT CAMP
Later this term, in Week 9, will be the Year 7 Peer Support Camp also at “The Tops Conference Centre”, Stanwell Tops. Year 7 students and their Year 10 Peer Support leaders will attend this three-day camp. It is another important initiative that assists the Year 7 students transition into high school. Thank you to Mr. Jack Taylor, Peer Support Co-ordinator and our Year 7 advisers, Ms. Hindmarsh and Mr. Mayerhofer for the organisation of the camp. The Peer Support camp notes were sent out to the students at the end of last year. Payment for the camp and completed forms are required to be returned to Mr. Taylor at the earliest. Once again we would like to thank in advance all staff members that will be attending the camp.
WORLD EARTH FESTIVAL
On Friday 27th February Newtown High School is again hosting “World Earth Festival”. This festival will commence for students and the community at 1:00pm and will feature a number of live performances, multicultural and environmental stalls and multicultural food available for purchase. This event has been organised with the dedication and commitment of our staff under the leadership of Ms. Hindmarsh and the on-going support of the P&C. We would like to thank all the staff, students and parents who will be donating their time and skills to contribute to the success of this event. Tickets for the event are $5.00 and must be pre-purchased from the school and entry on the day will be granted via the Front Administration office on King Street. We would like to encourage all parents to attend this event as we can guarantee a wonderful afternoon for all members of our community to enjoy together.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)
Information regarding the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) was sent home to Year 7, 8 and 9 students at the end of last year. Students are required to bring in the signed and completed BYOD Policy Acceptance that sets out the responsibilities and expectations for the use of the personal device at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. All Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be given a talk on Digital Citizenship and the appropriate use of the device at school prior to the use of their device at school. Instructions will also be provided at the talk for steps on logging into the DEC network. Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries or concerns in regards to the BYOD program.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
As you are aware we are a uniform school. All students must be wearing our full school uniform which can be purchased from the Uniform Shop in F-block on Thursdays from 8.30am. We look forward to your support to ensure students arrive at school in uniform with the appropriate footwear; black enclosed leather shoes. If there is an occasion when your child is out of uniform, please provide a note explaining the circumstance and they will be granted a uniform pass without breach. If a student does not have an explanatory note, they must obtain a uniform pass from the office. Should there be several uniform breaches without an explanation, a letter will be sent home to clarify the circumstances. The school has a uniform pool and is able to assist with providing items of uniform.

ATTENDANCE
It is a legal requirement to maintain reliable attendance records for all students. If your child needs to leave the school early when they have timetabled lessons, for example, students should bring a letter to the office before school. Whole day absences should be explained in writing upon your child’s return to school within seven days. This is a DEC requirement. Also if your child is late to school, a note explaining the lateness is advisable.

We look forward to an exciting 2015 and the opportunity to work and learn alongside our students and their families. It is important that academic, welfare and other concerns are dealt with positively and we encourage students, parents and teachers to discuss issues with us whenever required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries or concerns in regards to the schooling of your child.

Nilaufar Rajwar, Leisa Munns and Rachel Mules
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS
The first **P&C Meeting** for 2015 will be held next **Tuesday, 10 February**, at 6pm in the school common room. The P&C meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to new families joining us. Being involved in the P&C is a great way to meet other parents and play an active role in the school community. You will learn more about NHSPA, its goals, achievements and teaching staff. No fundraising is required and there are many opportunities (both big and small) to become engaged in interesting projects to support the school.

**WORLD EARTH FESTIVAL AND P&C WELCOME BARBECUE**

World Earth Festival (WEF) is an annual event initiated by the P&C and has become an enormous success in recent years. The festival is a wonderful collaboration between students, parents and staff where everyone learns about and celebrates aspects of the school, the arts and environmental sustainability. The theme for this year's WEF is **Zero Water**, focusing on the principles of refuse, reduce, reuse, rot and recycle.

**When and Where:** Friday, 27 February from 12.30pm to 4pm, NHSPA grounds.

The **annual P&C WELCOME barbecue will follow on the same day (27 Feb) from 5pm to 7pm**. The P&C warmly invites all families new to the school to attend and meet the school’s executive staff and fellow parents.

**P&C VOLUNTARY FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTION**

For those new to NHSPA, the P&C relies solely on the voluntary fundraising contribution (included in your 2015 schedule of fees) to deliver support and upgrade facilities within the school. The contribution is tax deductible.

We do not conduct other traditional fundraising activities during the year and any additional events organised by the P&C are for social purposes rather than fundraising. We believe this is the most equitable way for busy families to contribute when most are time poor. This approach then allows the P&C executive to focus on effectively allocating funds according to the school’s greatest needs.

**P&C AGM**

The P&C AGM will be held on **10 March** at 6pm in the school library. Due to a number of executive P&C positions becoming available in 2015, we look forward to replenishing the ranks and encourage all parents interested in supporting and engaging with the school to attend. Serving on the executive is an effective way of having your say on how P&C funds should be spent to best serve the school’s goals of academic achievement and excellence in the performing and visual arts.

Further details on available roles on the P&C executive and various sub-committees will be included in the March newsletter.

**P&C on the NHSPA WEBSITE**

Follow the link below:
http://web1.newtown-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/
The school website has a calendar and links for the P&C, contacts, minutes etc.

**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?
A warm welcome back to the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts community for the start of the 2015 school year!

At the end of last year, we farewelled Mr Woolley who took on a position at SCEGGS Darlinghurst. As we commence term 1, I welcome Mr Victor Zitser to the English Department. Mr Zitser joins us from Alexandria Park Community School, for this, his first permanent appointment.

It’s that time of year again where we are seeking registration for our Debating Teams for 2015. Registration sheets are on the noticeboards downstairs in C Block. Students are required to register as soon as possible if they are interested in being involved in Debating this year. Listen out for daily notices regarding organisation and administration of the teams. Auditions (if necessary) and coaching will begin soon.

While it is only the beginning of term 1, we are already in “full-swing” in terms of curriculum and preparation for assessment tasks set to take place in the latter half of the term. Below is a list of topics and assessments for each of the year groups:

Year 7: ‘Ways of Writing’ anthology of poetry due in Week 9
Year 8: ‘Area of Study Journeys’ in-class creative writing task to be completed in week 8
Year 9: ‘Short Stories’ anthology due to be handed in at the end of Week 9
Year 10: ‘Shakespeare’ in-class essay to be completed in Week 8
Year 11: Standard – Module A Speech / Listening Task to be completed week 2 Term 2
        Advanced – Module A Speech / Listening Task to be completed week 2 Term 2
        Extension 1 - Speech / Listening Task to be completed week 2 Term 2
Year 12: Standard – Module A in-class essay to be completed Week 7
        Advanced – Module A in-class essay to be completed Week 7
        Extension 1 – Essay to be completed in class Week 10
        Extension 2 – First Draft and Research Task due Week 4

The English staff look forward to working with you this year.

Kirk Thomas
HEAD TEACHER ENGLISH
A warm welcome to all our students

The Mathematics faculty would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all Mathematics students for 2015 and the faculty is looking forward to a very productive year.

TEXTBOOKS
As you are aware, textbooks are a vital tool in all mathematics classes and quite an expensive school resource. I would like to thank all the students who have returned their 2014 textbooks and encourage the return of the few remaining books. Each student is in the process of being issued with a textbook. Most of our current books also come with an electronic version which can be obtained from the classroom teacher.

MATHS SUPPORT WORKSHOPS are still ongoing in 2015, every morning from 7.45 am onwards for any student. You may have difficulties with completing homework and would like some help catching up with work or you may need some quiet space to complete your Maths work. We look forward to seeing you there. Please see the Maths staff for further information.

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. The license purchased allows access for all students both at school and at home. Mathletics passwords will be issued throughout this week to every student of Mathematics.

Mathematics is a doing subject. It requires students to participate actively in the classroom, attempt all class work and to revise regularly. To succeed students need to take responsibility for their own learning by:
- Attending class prepared for learning with the correct equipment. It is compulsory for every student, studying Mathematics at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, to have his or her own scientific calculator IN EVERY Maths lesson

Students are expected to:
- complete two hours of regular Mathematics homework each week. This homework includes the completion of classroom activities, regular revision activities and study.
- communicate effectively with their teacher by discussing any expected absences prior to the event so that alternate learning can be arranged.
- accept responsibility for catching up all missed learning including lesson notes, classroom activities and homework.

We are currently finalising the process of ensuring that all students are in class that will enable them to optimise their learning. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 95191544, ext. 217 if you have any concerns or queries.

Joelle Pearn
HEAD TEACHER MATHEMATICS
Welcome back to students and members of the Newtown community. 2015 promises to be a busy and productive year for HSIE. We look forward to delivering engaging lessons and interactive learning activities inside the classroom and around the school.

I would like to introduce Stefanie Leotta and Victoria Van Maanen, who both join us this year. The HSIE faculty are very excited to have them on board and already there is a buzz from the students about their lessons. Stefanie will be teaching Business Studies, Geography and History; Victoria will be delivering lessons for Economics, Geography and History.

With the commemoration of the landing at Gallipoli, human rights issues both at home and abroad, our current economic and political affairs; the study of humanities is paramount to the learning development of young minds. We hope students gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the issues that are affect the world they live in.

Some of the major NHSPA events coming up for HSIE will be:

- Year 10 Cronulla Coastal Management Excursion
- Senior Mock Trial Team
- Global Leaders Conference in New York
- Year 7 Ancient History Day
- Year 8 Medieval Day
- 40 Hour Famine Fundraiser

I look forward to working with all students and parents in 2015. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding the education of your child.

Adrian Shipp
RELIEVING HEAD TEACHER HSIE

The Drama staff welcomes our students back for 2015 and acknowledges the outstanding results from our departed Year 12 students of last year. Their Drama results were the best on record. Over 85% of students were awards 80% or above (nearly 39% gained Band 6 which is 90% or above) which is our best result ever.

We are in the throes of forming this semester’s Drama Companies with auditions beginning this week and continuing until February 12.

But one Company already up and going is that which will present this year’s major musical production, “ONE FINE DAY” is an original musical featuring 27 SONGS from the early sixties (specifically 1963). There is a cast of over twenty students, a live band of over a dozen musicians (under the watchful eye of Emlyn Lewis-Jones) and choreographic sequences by Belinda Scanlon and the Dance Department. This is the major cross-curricula production of the year.

It runs for FIVE NIGHTS from Monday March 23 through to Friday March 27. TICKETS ON SALE NOW through trybookings.com.

Tim Ailwood
HEAD TEACHER DRAMA
Congratulations to the 2014 HSC PDHPE classes for your outstanding results. PDHPE results were 3.58% above state average. 83% of our students achieved Band 4 and above. PDHPE continues to grow and strengthen in the senior years, with currently three Year 11 and Year 12 classes.

Permission notes for Carnivals, Sport and PDHPE events
During the school year students will participate in weekly sport and whole school carnivals across various locations within the metropolitan area. With each of these activities comes a permission note and from time to time some students miss out because the notes are not returned.

To streamline this process for both staff and parents we are seeking your permission to include your child in all local carnivals and sporting activities. Students received hardcopy of the Sports Requirement permission note last week. Notes need to be returned to the yellow drop box outside the PDHPE staffroom by Friday 6th of February.

Sport Requirement note
Year 7 – Red Sports Requirement (was included in the information pack)
Year 8 – Orange Sports Requirement Note
Year 9 – Red Sports Requirement Note
Year 10 – Yellow Sports Requirement Note

Swimming Carnival
The school Swimming Carnival is next Friday (13th of February) at Drummoyne Pool. Students are permitted to make their own way to and from the venue, however the school will also provide transportation. This will be in the form of buses departing at 8:20 (sharp) from the front office and returning to school by 3:10. Students need to pay $10 to the office by Wednesday 11th of February if they would like to catch the bus.

PDHPE and Sport - two different subjects;
• PDHPE lessons include theory and practical lessons. Students in Years 7, 8 and 10 have one lesson each week of PDHPE. Each term weeks 1-5 are theory lessons (5 lessons) and weeks 6-10 (5 lessons) are practical classes. Teachers will remind students when they switch over to practical lessons.
• Students in Year 9 have 4 lessons (2 practical and 2 theory) per fortnight. Their class teacher will inform students which lessons are practical and theory.
• Year 7 Sport is integrated into the timetable and is on different days for each year 7 class. Sport is one class every week for the whole term. Students will cover a range of sports and will play in a competition round robin format. Sports include continuous cricket, softball, euro handball, volleyball, Oztag, soccer & AFL.

Years 8, 9 and 10 Sport
Years 8 - 10 sport started this week and is every Tuesday. Students will be required to bring the correct NHSPA sports uniform (shirt and shorts) and appropriate sport shoes (vans and converse are not allowed).

Sport times for 2015
Period 1 – Year 8 (9-10am)
Period 3 – Year 9 (12pm-1pm)
Period 4 – Year 10 (2pm-3pm)

I highly recommend all students to have an individual locker, which can be organized, through the office to keep their equipment in. This prevents students from misplacing uniforms and shoes.
The NHSPA sport program gives students a structured 60-minute sport lesson each week run by a qualified coach. Some of the sports include Netball, Basketball, AFL, Soccer, Oztag, Touch and Volleyball. Students also participate in fitness activities and Fitness First classes exposing them to a number of lifelong physical skills to increase their health.

Students who cannot participate in sport for more than one week due to a medical reason or injury will need a medical certificate.

**Regular Sport Trainings Sessions (All students are welcome)**

Basketball (Junior Boys) Monday (7.45am) Students meet at the GYM. Training has started.

Basketball (Girls ALL YEARS) Tuesday (7.45am-8.45am) Students meet at the GYM. Students need to see Miss Reynolds if interested as the session is run each week by an external coach. Cost is $25 for the term. Training starts next Tuesday 10th.

Volleyball (Boys) Tuesday afternoons 3.10-4.30. Students meet in the GYM. Training has started.

Touch Football (Girls & Boys) Wednesday mornings (7.45am) Students meet at the GYM. Training has started.

Softball (Girls & Boys) – Thursday mornings (8am) Students meet at the GYM. Starts Week 4

Volleyball (Girls) Training is at lunchtime. Students need to check the daily notices

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**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

Firstly, I would like to welcome two new staff members to the Science and LOTE faculties, Fatma Bekheet (Science) and Antonella Triolo (LOTE). From all of us at NHSPA I would like to send out a warm welcome and wish them the very best for 2015.

It will be a very busy year for all of us; this year will see the full implementation of the NSW Science syllabus for the Australian Curriculum for stages 4 and 5. This means a few changes with content that is being taught along with assessment tasks, in particularly there will be a big focus on working scientifically.

The topics being taught in term one for stages 4 & 5:
Year 7 - Introduction to Science
Year 8 - Chemical Reactions
Year 9 - Ecosystems, Energy and the Environment
Year 10 - Evolution and Genetics

Assessment tasks for stages 4 & 5:
Year 7 - Practical skills test
Year 8 - First Hand Investigation
Year 9 - Sustainability Assignment
Year 10 - Oral Presentation

For our seniors it will also be a very busy year. Year 11’s have all started their preliminary courses and will be getting use to the workload. Year 12 will be halfway into their HSC courses by the end of term.

Events of note for Science & LOTE in term one are; year 9 will be going on a Sustainability trip to Canberra, parent teacher nights and World Earth Fest. Through these events we hope to bring our faculties to the wider school community. If you have any questions relating to anything science and LOTE please don’t hesitate to contact us.
World Earth Festival 2015

We would like to invite you to be a part of Newtown High School of the Performing Arts for the annual sustainability festival. The theme for 2015 World Earth Festival is Zero Waste. Focusing on the 5 R principles of Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Rot and Recycle. The festival will be on Friday the 27th of February from 1pm-3pm for parents and students.

The festival is designed to educate students on some of the key ideas about sustainability as well as bring together the school community. Our goal is for students to understand the importance of making informed choices today without compromising future generations.

Stalls include:

**Second hand clothes swap:** students can bring in unwanted clothing to swap such as uniform items that no longer fit, concert blacks or other items.

**Plant Stall:** Seedlings, succulents and a variety of plants.

**BBQ:** P & C will be running a sustainable meat BBQ as well as falafel wraps

**Juice Stall:** Freshly squeezed juices

**Music stall:** Records and CDs

**Homemade Produce:** Home-made produce such as jams and chutneys.

**Cake Stall:** Home-made cakes and slices

Cake boxes will be sent out in Week 4 for students to make cakes/slices for the day.

**Coffee Stall:** Coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Bio cups will also be available too

Other Stalls including: Ice tea, Henna, Australian Youth Climate Coalition, Green Living Centre, Representatives from UTS on Sustainable Careers, Face Painting, Gelato and lots more...

Tickets for Parents cost $10 and can be purchased from the front office.

Money raised on the day will go to sustainability projects at the school such as improving the rubbish recycling system as well as donating money to a national project (this will be decided on soon by the students).

Contact Details:

Dennis Dumlao (P & C)  Hannah Hindmarsh (Environmental Leader)

dddumlao@bigpond.com  hannah.hindmarsh@det.nsw.edu.au
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3 February</td>
<td>3.30 - 5.30pm</td>
<td>Yr 7-12 Flute, Oboe, Bassoon</td>
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<td>Wednesday 4 February</td>
<td>3.30 – 5.30pm</td>
<td>Yr 7-12 Alto Sax</td>
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| Thursday 5 February | 2.45 - 4.30pm | Yr 7 – 12 Violins + Violas  
Yr 7-12 Lower Brass  
(Horns, Trombones, Tubas)  
Yr 7-12 Lower Woodwind  
(Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax) |             |           |
| Friday 6th February | 3.30 – 5.30pm | Yrs 7 – 12 Trumpets                                                  |             |           |
| Week 3 Monday 9 February | 3.30 - 5.30pm |                                                                 | Years 10, 11, 12 (H2) | Year 8 (A7) |
| Tuesday 10 February | 3.30 – 5.30pm | Yr 7-12 Lower Strings (celli & bass)  
Yr 7-10 Percussion                                                 | Year 7 (H2) | Yr 9 (A7) |
| Wednesday 11 February | 3.30 – 5.30pm |                                                                 | Years 8 & 9 (H2) | Year 12 (A7) |
| Thursday 12 February | 2.30 – 4.00pm | Year 7 – 12 Clarinets  
Yrs 11 – 12 Percussion                                                 | Dance Callbacks (H2)  
2:45 – 5.00pm | Year 11 (A7) |
| Friday 13 February |         | Swimming Carnival                                                  |             |           |
| Week 4 Monday 16 February | 3.30 - 5.30pm | Yr 8 and 9 Voice                                                    | Callbacks   |           |
| Tuesday 17 February | 3.30 – 5.30pm | Yr 10, 11, 12 Voice  
Yr 7 – 12 Guitar and Bass                                            |             |           |
| Thursday 19 February | 2.45 - 4.30pm | Yrs 9 – 12 Classical  
Ballet(H2)  
2.45-5.00pm                                                      |             |           |
| Friday 20 February | 3.30 - 5.30pm | Yr 7Voice                                                           | Yrs 7 & 8 Classical Ballet |           |

NB: Students who are unable to audition for companies/ensembles at the designated time because of illness or other serious clashes see the relevant Performing Arts Head Teacher.

Please Note: Technical Company auditions Thursday February 13, 2:30-4:00pm in the Studio Theatre.