Showcase Season
The highlight of term 4 once again promises to be our Showcase Summer series. The season starts with our spectacular multi venue opening night on Tuesday 17 November and continues at school until 4 December. I know the quality will again be outstanding. Congratulations to all involved. Tickets for Opening Night, St Georges Hall and Studio Theatre shows are available online through our school website.

Seymour Centre Showcase Concerts
This year we are again taking showcase on the road with our final two concerts performed at the Seymour Centre. The Dance Showcase is on Tuesday 1 December, and our special 25th Anniversary Concert (Dance, Drama and Music) on Friday 11 December. We would love to have full houses for both of these nights so please support this initiative. Tickets for these nights on sale from 12 November and must be purchased directly through the Seymour Centre box office, phone 9351 7940 or their website www.seymourcentre.com

Presentation Day
The Seymour Centre is also the venue for this year’s Presentation Day, to be held on Thursday 10 December. This special event gives us the opportunity to celebrate student achievements of 2015. More information will be posted home as we get closer to the date. Again I hope to see you there.

Student leadership
Earlier this term I was pleased to conduct our annual training and planning day for our new Prefect body. Following this highly successful day, the Prefects elected our new School Captains for 2016. Congratulations to Stephanie Jaunzemis and Ned Olive. I know that Ned and Steph will make an outstanding contribution over the next 12 months.

Our Year 9 students have also shown off their fine leadership skills at last month’s Peer Support training camp. I’d like to congratulate all the students on their commitment and we look forward to working with the selected leaders next year as they lead the program with our new Year 7 students.

Student achievements
Late last term we were very pleased to hear that Jasmin Barker Brierley (7N) had been selected as a finalist in the Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize – Years 7-8 Student section. Last year Jasmin was a finalist in the Primary school section. We should hear the results of the final soon. Good luck and congratulations to Jasmin.

Again demonstrating the eclectic nature and varied talents of our students, congratulations go to Year 9 students Broughton Caley, Taku Rogers, and Abe Benson who last term took out the Electric Vehicle (EV) Prize in Newcastle on their first attempt. In brief, the EV Prize, held by the Hunter Valley Electric Vehicle Festival, is a design and efficiency competition for electric vehicles. The winner is the one that completes the most laps of the track in 1 hour on electric power only, using a battery of specified maximum capacity. No pedal power is permitted, thus the most efficient vehicle, ridden with skill and brains, that completes the whole hour conservatively but quickly, is the winner.

Stephen Gray
Principal
welcome back to term 4

year 12
Year 12 began the HSC examinations on Monday 12 October which continues through until Wednesday 4 November. All the students have appeared prepared and have approached each exam in a positive manner. We wish them all the very best of luck over this very important time and we are looking forward to some outstanding results over the coming weeks. I would like to thank the parents of our Year 12 students for the support they have offered their children over this challenging year. I am aware and appreciate that parenting during the HSC year is often a stressful and difficult task. I would also like to reflect on the effort and dedication displayed by every teacher who taught a Year 12 class in 2015. Teachers undertake the HSC every year with their students and I would like to thank our Year 12 teachers for the guidance and support they have provided each of the students in their classes during this HSC year. We look forward to seeing all Year 12 on Tuesday 10 November at the sign-out BBQ to celebrate the end of the HSC and their school life.

year 11 transition into hsc courses
Year 11 has started HSC studies this term and all students have received the assessment booklets and calendar for 2015/16. It is extremely important that students read the contents of the booklet and are aware of their assessment commitments and the processes to follow in regard to illness/misadventure or applying for an extension. Parent support and encouragement is most important and it is recommended that you are aware of the assessment information contained in the package. The acknowledgment of receipt of the assessment documents is to be signed by student and parent and returned to Year Advisers, Ms Ansoul and Mr Janusic. Classes will be working hard up until the end of term working on their HSC course work.

senior study skills workshops
Year 11 participated in the Elevate Study Skills workshop on Tuesday 27 October. This was to assist our senior students further develop skills in a range of areas including time management, note taking strategies, revision skills and exam preparation. It was a highly productive and successful workshop and techniques used will ensure that students use these study skills to make a tangible difference to their results.

important year 11 message
All Year 11 students are to remain on school grounds at all times during the school day. They have not been given privileges to leave the school – that process will be done in 2016 and will not be complete until all students have returned the completed/signed permission letter, and have been notified by the Deputy Principal. All students who have dropped subjects are still required to be at school as per normal. If they have a study period in period 1, they need to swipe in at the Swipe Office by the usual start time, 8:55am, and go to the library. If they have a study period in period 4 they must go to the library, and will not be given permission go home before 3.15pm.

year 11 reports
Reports for students in Year 11 were issued on 2nd November during a meeting with their Curriculum Advisers. Students by now may be in a position to decide their pattern of study in the HSC year. It is advised not to make a hasty decision if unsure and instead, maintain 12 units until later in the term or even next year. Some students have already made decisions to drop a course. Once the documentation has been completed students will be issued with updated timetables and will be invited to the library or Learning Centre to work independently during study periods. All Year 11 students are expected to be at school for the entire school day.

year 10
Year 10 are currently completing the final assessment tasks this month. These tasks and the other tasks described in the assessment booklet that have been completed throughout the year contribute towards their Record of School Achievement (ROSA). It is important all tasks have been completed to at least a satisfactory standard and if any N determination letters have been issued, the tasks described in the letters must be completed and redeemed. Classes for Year 10 will continue up until the end of the school year and students are expected to attend all lessons. In class, they will complete their Year 10 courses, the mandatory “All my own work” modules and follow programs designed to develop skills in preparation for senior schooling. In Week 9, beginning Monday 30th November, Year 10 will undertake a program to begin the transition into senior school. This will involve a range of activities from research skills to developing a positive growth mindset and promises to be engaging and motivational.
YEARS 7, 8 AND 9
Years 7, 8 and 9 are currently studying for their final assessment tasks for the year. It is important they develop a study plan and are well prepared for these tasks. The afternoon study centre is open in the Library every Monday and Wednesday afternoons until 5pm if students need support and advice from teachers. In the post assessment period students will continue to working in class to complete their course work up until the end of term.

Preparations for the 2016 timetable are well underway with students in Years 7, 8 and 10 finalising their choices for elective courses. If your child is considering changing their pattern of course study, a supporting letter from a parent is necessary.

DIGITAL WORKSHOPS
As part of the BYOD program, to allow our students to become more discerning users of the internet all Year 8 and 9 students participated in the Digital Thumbprint workshops on Monday 26 through to Thursday 29 of October. The concepts covered in the Year 8 workshop included information security, online business models and terms and conditions. The workshop that Year 9 students participated in helped them better identify the effect they have on themselves and others when socialising online. Concepts covered included intention and impact, online identity and defending friends.

SHOWCASE ‘SUMMER SERIES’
Rehearsals for the Schools Spectacular and our Showcase Summer Series are also well underway. Many of our students are participating in these events and managing assessment tasks and examinations too. It is a credit to those students who display enormous commitment and dedication to their academic studies and creative arts. Congratulations to all students and staff for their outstanding contributions to these events.

The opening night of the Showcase Summer Series will be on Tuesday 17 November. It promises to be an extravaganza with an Art Exhibition and Music and Dance performances in St Georges Hall, Drama performances in the Studio Theatre and Music performances in the outdoors. The Art Exhibition will be in the shop front of St Georges Hall and opens from 6pm and the performances will commence at 7pm. The Showcase Hospitality students, under the guidance of Diane Aynsley will be serving delicious food during the outdoors performances.

The Showcase season continues on 19 November with a Music night in St Georges Hall. In Week 8 there are two nights of Drama in the Studio Theatre on 24 and 25 November. In Week 9 there is the Dance Showcase to be held at the Seymour Centre on the 1st December. During Week 9 there are also 2 nights in the Studio Theatre, a Drama evening on the 2 December and a combined Music and Drama night on the 4 December.

Our Summer Series culminates in an exciting 25th Birthday Celebration which will be held at the Seymour Centre at 7.30pm on the 11 December. It will be a special evening with performances from Music, Dance and Drama celebrating the school that we have become in the 25 years.

Tickets for the Dance Showcase and 25th Anniversary concerts can be purchased from the Seymour Centre website from the Thursday 12 November.

The program for the “Summer Series” is outstanding and we would like to recognise the commitment and professionalism of the performing arts staff, who continue to work so tirelessly at this time of year to ensure that our students have such performance opportunities. We would like to also recognise and thank our P&C who offer continued support during the showcase season and the technical crew under the leadership of David Ferguson who work behind the scenes each day and night to maintain a very professional production. We look forward to seeing parents and students at our concerts over the coming weeks.

ORIENTATION DAYS
Later this term we will have the opportunity to welcome to the school our entire Year 7 cohort for 2016 on Thursday 3rd December. Our new intake of audition students for Year 11 2016 will have their Orientation Day on Monday 30th November. It is always a pleasure to meet the parents, carers and students who have chosen Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and I would like to officially welcome them all to our vibrant school community.
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS’ REPORT Continued...

PEER SUPPORT LEADERS CAMP
64 Year 9 students travelled to The Collaroy Centre to participate in the Peer Support Training on Wednesday 14th October to Friday 16th October. The students were highly engaged and motivated over the three days and their behaviour was impeccable. The trainers and camp personnel both commented on how impressed they were with our students and recognised the leadership potential evident amongst the students. All the teachers who attended the camp also agreed that the quality of Peer Support leaders this year was outstanding. The final list of Peer Support leaders for 2016 will be announced soon and I am confident that the transition of our 2016 Year 7 students will certainly be enhanced as a result of the peer support program and the quality of the peer leaders running this program. A very big thank you must go to Jack Taylor for his organisation of this initiative and to Danielle Barsi, Sam Byrne, Brenton Fletcher and Cathy Spirovska for attending the camp over its duration.

ASSESSMENT TASKS
This time of the term is a busy assessment period for all of our students. Many students have already completed key assessment tasks in all subjects. The student grades that appear in their semester 2 reports reflect the outcomes assessed in these tasks and for our Year 9 and 10 students will meet with their curriculum advisors later in the term to review their progress and personal best targets set in Semester 1. Semester 2 reports will be sent home at the end of this term.

DEADLY KIDS DOING WELL AWARDS
Harley Mann was nominated for a Deadly Kids Doing Well Award. The awards took place at the University of Technology on 13th October. The 2015 Deadly Kids Doing Well Awards highlight and recognise our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It was a very special occasion and wonderful celebration of the achievements of Aboriginal students in Sydney schools. Congratulations Harley.

We look forward to a very successful and positive last term of learning and activity for everyone in our community. We hope to see many parents over the next few weeks as we enter into our busy showcase period. As always we welcome the opportunity to discuss any of the events mentioned in this correspondence with you and we are also available to assist parents with any specific welfare or school matters.

POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY INFORMATION EVENING
A reminder that we will be hosting an information evening for our families on Positive Psychology on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7pm. Due to the overwhelming response from parents the venue has changed from the Library to the Studio Theatre. The session will be facilitated by Dr Suzy Green.

Dr Suzy Green is a Clinical and Coaching Psychologist (MAPS) based in Sydney and the Founder of The Positivity Institute, an organisation dedicated to the research and application of Positive Psychology for life, school and work. Suzy is a leader in the complementary fields of Coaching Psychology and Positive Psychology having conducted a world-first study on evidence-based coaching as an Applied Positive Psychology. Suzy was the recipient of an International Positive Psychology Fellowship Award and has published in the Journal of Positive Psychology. Suzy lectured on Applied Positive Psychology as a Senior Adjunct Lecturer in the Coaching Psychology Unit, University of Sydney for ten years and is an Honorary Vice President of the International Society for Coaching Psychology. Suzy also currently holds Honorary Academic positions at Sydney Business School, University of Wollongong, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne, the Institute for Positive Psychology & Education, Australian Catholic University and the Black Dog Institute.

Dr Suzy Green has worked with the wellbeing team at NHSPA in implementing Positive Education. Positive education is defined as education for both traditional skills and for happiness. The high prevalence worldwide of depression and anxiety among young people, the small rise in life satisfaction, and the synergy between learning and positive emotion all argue that the skills for happiness should be taught in school. There is substantial evidence from well controlled studies that skills that increase resilience, positive emotion, engagement and meaning can be taught to school children.

This event is supported by the P&C. Please email Katie Mann at katiemann043@gmail.com if you will be attending the event.
BYOD Survey for Parents

We would like parents to take part in our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Survey. Your feedback on the current program that was implemented in all year groups this year, will help us gain an accurate picture of the impact and effectiveness of BYOD and 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

New Government School Opal Card online application

From the 2 November 2015 parents and guardians are required to apply for the new School Opal Travel card online. Parents and guardians are now required to complete the online form, print and returned to school for endorsement. Once School Opal card has been processed by the NSW Transport Department it will be posted to the address provided on the form.

For further information please refer to attached letter from the NSW Transport Department outlining these significant changes to school travel passes.

The Deputy Principals
Rachel Mules (Curriculum, Years 7 and 10)
Karl Pico (Teaching and Learning, Years 8 and 11)
Nilaufer Rajwar-Leisa Munns (Wellbeing, Years 9 and 12)
P&C NEWS

The next P&C Meeting will be held next Tuesday, 10 November at 6pm in the school common room. The P&C meets on the second Tuesday of every month. The December meeting of the P&C will be a social event held at the Newtown Social Club (opposite the school) on King Street. A short meeting will be held at on Tuesday 8 December at 6pm followed by refreshments and nibbles. All welcome.

POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR

The P&C has assisted the school in hosting an upcoming parent information seminar on positive psychology on Tuesday 10 November at 7pm. The session will be facilitated by Dr Suzy Green and it will be held immediately after the P&C meeting, which will run from 6pm til 7pm. All parents welcome.

CALLOUT FOR SHOWCASE VOLUNTEERS

The showcase session kicks off on the Tuesday 17 November. One of the small but vital contributions the P&C provide is to setup and operate the Studio Café. This requires 3-4 parent volunteers for each performance night. The Studio Café will be offering refreshments and some light snacks before the show and during the interval period. The café operates between 6.00pm-8.30pm.

NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED, all that is needed is a cheerful smile & a willingness to lend a hand and in doing so contribute towards building a stronger and vibrant school community that we are all part of. There are 6 performance nights and thus we will need 20 parents for this showcase session.

In the past, parents have volunteered on the nights when their son or daughter performed and thus you might like to consider doing the same thing this year. I have included an outline of the each night's performance (see end of P&C news pages). I would however encourage you to also see other performances to experience firsthand the vast talent across other creative art disciplines.... YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.

We've received feedback from numerous parents regarding the refurbishment of the Studio Theatre area, it does look and feel great... it is a fantastic setting to catch up with other parents.

If you are available and able to help out, please contact P&C Vice President Dennis Dumlao via email (dddumlao@bigpond.com) or via phone 0404 336 647. Note that showcase kick off is only a week or so away and therefore a prompt reply is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you... DO NOT DELAY REPLYING...

CALLOUT FOR ORIENTATION DAYS VOLUNTEERS

The school also needs some assistance to run the Studio Café on the Orientation Day for Year 11 on the 30 November and Year 7 on the 3 December. The café will be operate between 8.30am to 11.30am. This is a great opportunity to welcome the new parents to a great supportive school community that we are part of. We will need 6-8 volunteers for the two mornings. If you can help out, please contact me via email dddumlao@bigpond.com or call on 0404 336 647.
YEAR 7 PARENT END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

A year 7 family and carers social is being organised immediately following the school's Presentation Day on Thursday 10 December 2015. The end of year awards presentation is highly recommended for all year 7 students and anyone in other years receiving awards. Parents are always welcome to attend. As with all NHSPA events, there will be some fabulous performances across the event.

The year 7 family social gathering will follow straight after the presentation, from 2pm to around 4:30pm, either within the Seymour Centre itself or at a pub within a few blocks. The exact location will be notified through the Year 7 email list when confirmed.

If you cannot make Presentation Day, we encourage you to pop in to the year 7 family social, 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 for the draw.

If you are not already on the year 7 P&C parent list (as distinct from the school email list), please email maya@salesinventoryprofile.com to have your email included.

THANK YOU TO THE PARENTS WHO CAME TO THE NHSPA P&C WORKING BEE!

The NHSPA P&C WORKING BEE on Sunday 1 November was a great success! BIG THANKS to organiser John Caley and his wonderful volunteer team who braved the heat and ‘farmers’ friends’ to beautify our school by weeding, pruning, mulching, planting and cement cleaning. Thank you Annie Chesterman, Trudi Fletcher, Briony Fowke, Hannah Hindmarsh (teacher), Katherine Hynes, Jake Lloyd Jones, Winona Lukabyo, Isabel McCintosh, Natasha Marfutenko, Mary Ellen McCue, Tammy Moir, Louise Nash, Anna Nettheim, Carolyn Odgers, Colin Sharp, Ed Sweeney, Nicki Wilkinson, Edward Scheer, Ray Fowke, Katie Mann, Alison Gill-Engesser and other parents who worked hard but weren't recorded on our sign-in sheet.

...And congratulations to Alison Gill-Engesser, the winner of the Showcase Family Ticket for a performance at the Studio Theatre. Well done Alison. We hope you and your family have a great night out.

See you all at the next P&C Working Bee!

YEAR 8 PARENT EMAIL LIST

The P&C is pleased to announce that the new P&C parent liaison for Year 8 will be Tammy Moir and the Year 9 contact will be Viola Morris. Tammy is putting together a parent email contact list for the Year 8 cohort. Please email Tammy at tammy.moir@gmail.com if you are happy to have your email included on the Year 8 list. The role of the P&C reps is to organise social events for the parents of that year, and act as a conduit between that year group’s parents/carers and the P&C.

2015 P&C YEAR CONTACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maya Saric</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tammy Moir</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola Morris</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Mann</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anja Kennedy</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Sandstrom</td>
<td>Year contact, Year 12</td>
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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.
PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS SUB-COMMITTEE (PVAS)

The P&C PVAS committee has worked closely with the head teachers of the Dance, Music, Drama and Visual Arts faculties to support them in the acquisition of important resources during 2015. The Dance and Drama faculties now have quality sound systems; Music will have a rostra installed and a drumkit will be based in the Studio Theatre – all supported by the P&C. The PVAS committee is also working towards the production of a DVD that will showcase the school in celebration of its 25th anniversary this year. We would like to thank the head teachers of those faculties for acquiring archive material and deputy principal Mr Pico for all his assistance and support. The PVAS committee is very supportive of NHSPA and we look forward to working with the school again throughout 2016. The next meeting of the PVAS will be held in the foyer of the main school administration block on Friday 6 November at 4pm. The committee will be viewing the draft of the commemorative DVD to be presented to the school for its 25th anniversary event on 11 December (using archival material). All welcome.

NEW SCHOOL SIGN

The P&C launched the new school sign with Deputy Principal Nilaufier Rajwar prior to the October P&C meeting. The P&C’s communications subcommittee worked with the school to purchase the new electronic sign at the school entrance, with the P&C donating close to 50% of the funds to purchase the sign. We think it looks terrific, and it aligns with actions in the School Plan.

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.
SHOWCASE CONCERTS
SEMESTER TWO “THE SUMMER SERIES”

TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2015 7.00PM

ST GEORGES HALL SHOP FRONT
Visual Arts Exhibition from 6.00pm - 7.00pm

PERFORMANCES TO START AT 7.00PM

ST GEORGES HALL
Year 9 Jazz Ensemble
Year 9 Dance Extension - "Near Light"
Year 9 Classical Ballet - "Repertoire"
Year 10 Dance Extension - "Don't Mean a Thing"

STUDIO THEATRE
Years 10 and 11 Fletcher Company - “Life Flashing Before Your Eyes”

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES
Brass Ensemble
WOMP Percussion

THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2015 7.00PM-MUSIC

ST GEORGES HALL
Orchestra, Junior String Quartet, Junior String Ensemble, Junior Choir, Red Choir, Senior Choir, Candice’s Extension Choir, The Newtones, Year 9 Songwriters, Higlendorf Percussion Ensemble, Year 11 and 12 Solos, Year 7 Extension Choir and Junior String Ensemble

TUESDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2015 7.00PM-DRAMA

STUDIO THEATRE
Year 8 Sceats Company - “Stories in the Dark”
Year 10 Extension Finsterer Company - “The World’s Wife”
Year 11 Gallaway Company - “In Her Place”

WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2015 7.00PM-DRAMA

STUDIO THEATRE
Year 8 McGlyn Company - “Circus Lavariego”
Year 10 Extension Finsterer Company - “The World’s Wife”
Year 11 Gallaway Company - “In Her Place”

WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2015 7.00PM-DRAMA

STUDIO THEATRE
Year 9 Elective Up In Lights – “Chicago”
Year 9 Accelerated Hodgeson Company - "Booking FaceTime with Narcissus"
Year 9 Accelerated Benson Company - "What If....."
Years 10 and 11 Two Peas Company - “Fear and Misery of the Third Reich”

FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER 2015 7.00PM-MUSIC

STUDIO THEATRE
Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz Orchestra, Junior Jazz Ensemble and Guitar Ensemble, Concert Band, Year 9 Songwriters, Years 11 and 12 Solos and Saxophone Quartet.
P&C NEWS Continued...

NHSPA P&C WORKING BEE
A STRIKING FAREWELL
By Noa Amiry and Ava Kalinauskas

The shrill sound of a horn echoing through the oval marks the beginning of the much-anticipated teacher versus Year-12 soccer match. The annual event has been printed on everyone’s calendar and today (3/9/15) a crowd of supporters has gathered to witness the coveted battle…

The action has commenced and the teachers are looking like a formidable opponent. Within the first ten minutes, the Teachers have scored! Alex Small, Year 11, has put the teachers in the lead. The game isn’t lost yet and the Year 12 team has not given up. Ms Bivona is next to hit the back of the net, with a great shot, tilting the game in the Teacher’s favour. Not yet defeated, the Students fight back, but are met with a nerve-wracking Teacher penalty shot, which sails straight over the net. The air horn signals the conclusion of the first half and the two teams bump shoulders as they swap sides. Soon the game is on again and the students still hold hope. That is, until the Teachers deliver two outstanding blasts on target, which makes a win unattainable for the Students. What started as a close game has turned into an outright thrashing and the teachers have prevailed with a stellar four nil.

The game comes to a close and the crowd is filled with cheers and condolences. As the two teams exchange cold handshakes, the teachers have regained some dignity after their narrow Touch Football loss earlier in the week. What a striking farewell!
Spotto
Looking for yellow cars - By Anna McFarland

Kalinauskas, A. (2015) 'Venice of the east' Chao Phraya River, Bangkok [personal image]
Only Play During The Day

Lindquist. T (4th September 2015) Only Play During The Day [ own image ]

EYE SPY

Three of a kind: by Oscar Clarke (Taken 2015)

Weekend in motion: by Oscar Clarke (Taken 2015)
Pain and Prejudice

Wolfe, P. (September 2015) Blurred Innocence [own image]

THE UNKNOWN BEYOND

MacKellar, M. [2015] THE UNKNOWN BEYOND [own image]
PEER SUPPORT CAMP

The Year 9 Peer Support leaders are starting to be trained and picked in anticipation of our new year 7’s arriving in 2016. The Peer Support Camp ran from Wednesday, 14th of October, to the 16th of October. Sixty five students were selected to start their training at the Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops.

The training activities included amazingly fun things like laser tag and high ropes. The chosen students were trained in peer support skills by leadership staff at the venue and also by their accompanying teachers. Thanks must go to Mr Taylor, Ms Barsi, Mr Byrne, Mr Fletcher and Ms Spirovksa for giving their time to train the upcoming peer support students.

By Doga Demir
Warm Fuzzies spreads the positivity around NHSPA

By Margot MacKellar, Ava Kalinauskas and Noa Amiry

The results are in! Scientists have now proven that positive psychology impacts our lives in more ways than previously expected. So now Newtown High School of the Performing Arts are putting this new information into practice.

The SRC have taken this idea to brighten the day of Newtown’s cohort. The essence of Warm Fuzzies is to write a positive message to recognise the attributes and achievements of fellow peers. These are then collected by the SRC and distributed to the recipients. This is an opportunity to spread happiness to friends and to the wider school community. The aim is to create a jubilant and optimistic atmosphere, which will have countless positive repercussions on the students. The Warm Fuzzies are soon to be dispersed throughout the school, and the SRC are anticipating the success of this initiative.

Ms Spirovska stated that after being delivered, Warm Fuzzies would “improve the school environment, influencing students’ wellbeing in a positive way and leaving them feeling a sense of appreciation by their peers.”

Many have also commented on the positive nature of Warm Fuzzies. The messages spread happiness throughout the school community, promoting positivity and encouraging a bright school atmosphere. Others have observed the hopeful feeling that comes from sending a message.

Isla Mowbray (Year 9) exclaimed “it’s not just receiving messages. Sending them feels great- maybe even better.”

Overall the Warm Fuzzies have been an overwhelming success, and are sure to become an annual event.
ENGLISH FACULTY

Term 4 has commenced with frantic pace, beginning with HSC examinations in Week 2. The tireless efforts of many are sure to have paid off, with our expectation of some excellent results waiting to be confirmed with the release of HSC results midway through December.

Year 11 are now well into their first Year 12 unit – the Area of Study “Discovery.” They were fortunate enough to attend a series of workshops in Week 3 at a seminar run by the English Teachers Association of NSW entitled “Discovering Discovery.” Our students gained a wealth of ideas and resources from attending this day of lectures.

Staff are in the throes of writing Semester 2 Reports for Years 7-10. As Head Teacher, it is always a pleasure to read of the wonderful achievements of our students. Congratulations to our students for their academic excellence and their creative talents that shine through in all that they do.

The various year groups are completing informal projects in English this term. Below is a list of the topics and focus areas for the various year groups:

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

Year 11 (the new Year 12) will complete their first HSC assessment task at the end of this term. These tasks will be:

- Extension 2 – Viva Voce on proposed Major Work concept in Week 7
- Extension 1 – Speaking / Listening Task on ‘Twelfth Night’ in the examination week
- Advanced – AOS Speaking / Listening Task in the examination week
- Standard – AOS Speaking / Listening Task in the examination week

Enjoy Term 4. The year will be over before we know it!

Kirk Thomas
Head Teacher English

HSIE FACULTY

2015 has just raced by it seems – November already! With the HSC now completed for another year we wish all our Year 12 students the best of luck for their pending results. Most exams appeared to be quite reasonable and the responses of students dropping by the staffroom post-exam were generally positive. Some of which was based on the content of the exam, however a large amount of the enthusiasm also emanated from the realisation that they had completed 12 years of study.

November of course, also means another Remembrance Day ceremony and with World War I centenary commemorations underway, the school will hold a special service to acknowledge the importance of this aspect of our Nation’s history. The HSIE department works in conjunction with the school executive and local RSL members to produce a respectful and reflective ceremony for the students.

Term 4 also means another crop of students enter their final year of schooling. We would just like to wish them every success in their studies and encourage that they get organised as quickly as possible in order to stay on top of the heavy workload that Year 12 brings. Use the skills and experience of your HSIE teachers to help you through this period, and importantly make sure you follow the school’s policies regarding submitting assessable work.

David Cole
Relieving HT HSIE
INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

On the 11 August, 222 Students from our school competed in the 2015 International Competitions for Schools Mathematics Competition. This competition is undertaken by students from 22 countries including Australia. Our school received 25 Distinction awards, 69 Credit awards and 24 Merit awards.

Our best results are listed below:

The following students were ranked in the top 2% of the state:

- Year 7: Ella Dunnalen
- Year 8: Fiona Paterson
- Year 9: Ryan Webber

In Year 10, the following students were placed in the top 4% of the state:

- Anna Milburn
- Solomon Nivison-Smith
- Yasmina Chotchova
- Belinda Rosser

In Year 11, Tom Wharton-Jones was placed in the top 10% of the state.

Students will receive their certificates before the end of the Year. Congratulations to all the students who took part in the competition.

Mr Mantzikopoulos
ICAS Mathematics Coordinator

Calculators
We are in the midst of the assessment tasks period and this is a reminder that all students need to be organised for class and ensure that they have their own calculators, rulers and pens.

Streaming tests
Students in years 7-9 will have a streaming test in week 8/9. This provides us with additional information ensuring that every student has achieved their respective stage outcomes and provides further evidence of students’ performance.

Mathematics textbooks
Textbooks will be collected in week 9. Please bring back all the textbooks that you borrowed this year so that the end of year stocktake can be completed. Textbooks not returned will incur a replacement fee.

Joelle Pearn
Head teacher Mathematics
CONGRATULATIONS are to be extended to Year 11 Drama student **HARLEY MANN** who has recently been accepted into the Prestigious "Circus Oz BLAKflip Masterclass Program" for 2015. You may have seen Harley last year perform the Acknowledgement to Country at our Presentation Day on the aerial straps.

This program accepts a small number of highly skilled (inter-disciplinary) emerging Indigenous artists from around Australia and they work for 2 weeks on developing skills and professional artistic practises within their field.

Harley will be working with some of Australia's most recognised Circus and Physical Theatre Directors, such as Anni Davey, Antonella Cassella and Kirk Page.

Good Luck Harley - we wish you well!

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CONGRATULATIONS to Year 10 Extension students who were assessed by Ms Hoddinott and Ms Finsterer on Friday October 16. These students performed a poetic piece drawing from expressionistic acting techniques. With complex material, these students exceeded expectations. Well Done! Ms Finsterer.

**7N Drama**

In Year 7 drama, we performed the following piece at our year assembly.

In class, Miss Anni gave us the stimulus to create a short piece based on adventures. Our group decided to use the students as puppets and puppeteers. The scene starts with myself and Lulu standing hunched over in the background whilst Sandro and William welcomed the audience to the show. They then make their way behind us and introduce us. The boys tell the story of Lulu and I walking down the street giving hi-fives and hugs but because we’re puppets, failing. Suddenly we collapse. The Boyspanic! We slowly rise and surprise the audience by turning the boys into puppets and killing them. The scene concluded when Lulu and I turn back into puppets and return to our original hunched position.

*Chelsea Raits 7N*
Big CONGRATULATIONS go to our drama teacher, Bel Macedone (Director) and Dave Ferguson (Lighting Designer) on their show for local Circus and Physical Theatre Company 'Aerialize' that Premiered at the recent 2015 Sydney Fringe Festival at the Seymour Centre.

"Insomni-AIR: The Art of Dropping Off" is a piece that examines the theatricality of the brain during an aerial sleep lab. In particular, the issues that teenagers deal with around sleep and sleep disorders, using a new aerial physical theatre language to identify these challenges to sleep in our modern world.

The show also involved Yr 11 Aerialist Harley Mann - who performed on the cordelisse and the human chandelier, rehearsal understudy Yr 10's Nicki Huber-Smith, and stage crew member Yr 9's Ali Belgrove, who was an amazing assistant to the rigger in the catwalk!

"Insomni-AIR" won the 2015 Sydney Fringe Festival Physical Theatre and Circus Award as well as the 2015 Sydney Fringe Festival Directors Choice Award and the show has been invited to perform at the San Diego and Mexico Fringe Festival.

A big congrats to you all!
Key Dates Term 4

Year 7 Swim School  Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 December
Year 9 Surf School  Monday 14 December

Year 7 Swim School
(Permission notes will be handed out Wednesday 11 November)

The Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2014 shows 271 people drowned in Australian waterways between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015. This figure has unfortunately increased slightly on the previous year. Drowning deaths across Australia have generally decreased by about 10% on previous years, and this is as a result of individuals' water awareness, swimming ability and ability to perform CPR in an emergency situation, however more could be done. To help prevent drowning tragedies, the PDHPE faculty at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts provide a Swim School program for all year 7 students as part of the Stage 4 Aquatics and First Aid program.

The Swim School program is a modified version of the Swim and Survive program designed by the Royal Surf Lifesaving Association to educate young Australians about water safety. Through the program students learn water rescue techniques, stroke correction and survival swimming, basic first aid and resuscitation.

Swim School is compulsory for all students as it is a part of the Stage 4 PDHPE program. There will be no Year 7 classes running during the 2 days.

Time:     Normal school time 8.45am to 3.10pm.
Transport:  Students will walk to and from the venue with supervising teachers.
Cost:     Included in school contributions.
Food:     There are canteen facilities available, however these are limited. Students are advised to bring their own lunch, snacks and drinks.
Clothing:  Students are to wear their full school sports uniform to and from the venue.

Students must also bring appropriate swimming attire to change at the pool. (This includes swimming costume, towel and goggles). Clothing such as long pyjamas or tracksuits will be needed on the Tuesday for the clothed swim/rescue (a plastic bag is also recommended).

Year 9 Surf School
(Permission notes will be handed out Wednesday 11 November)

This term Year 9 has the opportunity to attend a one day Surf School at Long Reef Beach on the Northern Beaches. The surf school will enable students to develop knowledge and skills related to surf safety, surf education, surfboard riding and body boarding tailored to their individual ability.

Students will participate within Sydney Surf School three hour surf education program. The program is supervised and instructed by qualified instructors allowing students to develop a new skill of surfboard riding, learn specific safety techniques within the surf and beach area. The program is run in conjunction with Surfing Australia’s Safe Surfing Program and the NSW Education Department Risk Assessment guidelines.

Students will participate in 3 x 45 minute structured activities focusing on surf awareness, body surfing and surfboard riding.

Students will travel to and from their venue by bus with supervising teachers, leaving the school at 8.30am and returning to school by 3.00pm. Students MUST travel to and from the venue by bus. Students will be dismissed upon arrival back at school. The cost of the excursion is $45.00, payable to the office by Friday 11 December.
Sport Shorts
Over the last year a number of students have been involved in designing new sport shorts. The new shorts are a relaxed stretch fit making them more comfortable across all sports and activities.

Shorts can be purchased from the Uniform shop for $30. Students do not have to purchase the new shorts if they currently have the correct NHSPA sport shorts. Old stock is being sold at a discount price of $10.

E. Reynolds
Head Teacher PDHPE
VISUAL ARTS FACULTY

We are back for the last term of 2015 and what a term it has set out to be. The Year 12 Body of Works have returned marked just as the Year 12’s enter their final week of HSC exams.

PIXEL PRIZE

Annalise Kafetzi was a finalist in the Pixel Prize 2015 with her photograph ‘Hydration’. Congratulations Annalise!! Out of 300 submissions only 138 photographs were shortlisted.

THE MORAN PRIZE

Yr 7 student Jasmin Barker-Brierley was selected as a semi-finalist in the Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize in the secondary school section. We are so proud of her and adore her clever photograph.
THE ZINE WORKSHOP
With assistance from the School to Work program, lucky Year 10 and 11 students were handpicked to participate in a whole day workshop with Leigh Rigozzi. The day was a huge success with students being shown everything from how to fold and create 15 different types of zine from a single piece of paper through ideas generation to the production of zines at an industry level. The students were excited and really involved (we could not believe how quiet they were!!) The range of zine’s developed and produced by the students is exceptional and will be on show at the Summer Series Showcase exhibition.

Leigh Rigozzi is a Sydney-based artist and illustrator. He has exhibited his work throughout Australia, self-published dozens of zines, and run workshops for art students from primary school to university level. Rigozzi is the editor of Blood & Thunder, an infrequently published anthology of Australian comics as well as the Projects & Communications Officer at the NSW Writers’ Centre.

YEAR 9 STUDENTS
Our current year nine students were sculpting like mad before the holidays. Engaged in a Rosalie Gascoigne art-making activity the final products this year have surpassed all expectation. A sneak peak below, these artworks will be on show at the Summer Series Showcase Exhibition.
STARSTRUCK

Claire Conroy and Francesca Heinz have developed STARSTRUCK a new photography showcase elective for Year 9 students. The black and white, wet/dry photography course specifically linked to portraiture and Newtown’s Showcase performers. The course will introduce students to wet photography and darkroom processes. Students will learn how to use both manual and digital cameras, process images as well as the history of portraiture both in and out of stardom. The schools showcase performers and ensembles will be the photographic subjects.

During the Term 3 holidays Daniel Fischer attended a day at the Visual Arts HSC Marking Centre. Attendees are taken through a range of works from all expressive forms and are able to discuss critical components of the assessment process with senior markers. Mr Fischer also attended several seminars at the Graphic Festival where he got into a discussion with filmmaker, George Miller; filmmaker and comic book writer, Kevin Smith and comic book artist, Nicola Scott. In November Mr Fischer is taking a short trip to Europe where he will be attending lectures at the Hamburger Bahnhoff in Berlin and The Palais De Tokyo Paris. We look forward to his sharing.

Claire Conroy has finally emerged from the rigors of Sydney College of the Arts wielding her Masters degree. For some time she has been juggling work and study and is now a joyous Master of Fine Art.

Finally we would like to invite all Carers, Family and Friends to the Semester Two Showcase exhibition on the 17 November 2015. Newtown has been lucky enough to secure an art gallery and function space, which will host an array of exhibitions and events throughout 2016. The shop front which has been full of rotating artworks since the HSC show will be open to the public and house an assortment of junior artworks especially for the Summer Series showcase. We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Newtown High School of the Performing arts!
Music Faculty

November sees the start of our ‘Summer Series’ Showcase concerts. The opening night will be a great opportunity to see the full range of Performing Arts with Music, Dance and Drama performances. This will feature the Senior Extension Choir, Senior String Quartet, the Year 9 Jazz Ensemble, and Year 11 soloists.

There will be two main music nights. One on **Thursday 19 November** in St Georges Hall and one on **Friday 4 December** in the Studio Theatre. The ensembles for each concert are as follows:

**Thursday 19 November** in St Georges Hall
- Orchestra
- Junior String Quartet
- String Ensemble
- Junior String Ensemble
- Junior Choir
- Red Choir (Candice)
- Boyd Extension Choir
- Hilgendorf Percussion Ensemble
- Year 11 solos
- Year 7 extension choir

**Friday 4 December** in the Studio Theatre
- Concert Band
- Symphonic Wind Ensemble
- Jazz Orchestra
- Junior Jazz Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble
- Year 9 songwriters
- Year 11 solos

Each concert starts at 7pm. For the St Georges Hall concert on 19 November, students will need to be in the Studio Theatre with their instruments and full performance uniform by 6pm (this will be our green room). For the Studio Theatre concert on 4 December, students will need to meet in C Block at 6pm with instruments and full performance uniform.

The Senior String Quartet has recently been busy, performing for the RPA Annual General Meeting, The Sydney East Blues Awards and the Sydney Network Awards Ceremony. This term we have also established the Junior String Ensemble, which rehearses on Tuesday lunchtimes.

Congratulations to clarinettist Olivia Hans-Rosenbaum who featured as a soloist at the Australis Concert at the Sydney Opera House on the 28 October. The Saxophone Quartet directed by Andrew Smith, also played at the Sydney Opera House as part of the Endeavour concert. This was their last performance as their current line-up as two of their Year 12 members, Sam Weller and Rowan Scott, wind up 6 years of amazing ensemble work. Kay Hughson in Year 11 has also recently been awarded the Western Sydney Uni Talent Development Scholarship for 2016.

The Music Faculty would like to extend congratulations and good wishes to our Year 12 of 2016. Five students (Alistair Hayes, Sam Weller, Josh Meader, Georgia Kennedy and Jessica Rookwood), have already been rewarded for their efforts with encore nominations. All students should be very proud of what they have achieved in their years at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts - you will be missed.
Idea of North high school vocal festival

A few weeks ago the Newtones competed in the 'Idea of North high school vocal festival' with around 30 other schools. In the end we took out the gold award!!! On top of that we were asked to perform in a concert with the Idea of North where we reprised one of our numbers. Afterwards we were invited to share the stage with them to sing one of their arrangements of 'Isn't She Lovely'. We were absolutely astonished and honored to sing with such inspirational musicians, singing one of THEIR arrangements was such an accomplishment for us, and a validation of all our hard work for the past 4 years! And if that wasn't enough for us afterwards the Idea of North said that this was their first of many collaborations to come with 'the Newtones'. We are so thrilled at the idea of working with these musicians and look forward to the amazing a capella music to come!!! That evening I received a message from the group and we were invited to join them for one of their upcoming gigs in December as their opening act. As well as singing in the show with them. We are so excited and looking forward to all the amazing opportunities to come. Thank you Idea Of North we are so very grateful.

Gabriel Burke Year 10

Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Program

At NHSPA we are privileged to have outstanding working professional musicians as our tutors. As from February 2016, the fees for individual Instrumental / Vocal Music Tuition will increase to $40 per half hour private lesson. This increase will bring our fees inline with the industry standard rate.

Thank you in advance.

Deborah McGowan
Instrumental Program Coordinator
FAO: School Principal

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Changes to SSTS applications and the introduction of the School Opal card.**

The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) gives eligible students free or subsidised travel between home and school, on the approved train, bus or ferry services.

From term one 2016, Transport for NSW will be issuing School Opal cards to students eligible for travel under the School Student Transport Scheme via a new online application process.

The introduction of the new School Opal card and online application form will provide significant benefits for schools:

**Automatic renewal**

Most parents, guardians and students won’t need to apply for a School Opal card if they have already been given a school student travel pass and will automatically receive a School Opal card in 2016.

However, parents, guardians and students will need to apply if the student:

- is just starting school and has not had a pass before
- is in a transition year (i.e., year 2 to 3, or 6 to 7)
- is changing schools, including going between primary and secondary school
- or, if the student’s personal details have changed (e.g., address).

**Reduced distribution**

While School Opal cards will automatically sent to schools for existing pass holders for distribution for travel in term one, all new applications received for travel from the start of 2016 will be sent directly to the student’s nominated address.

**Online application form**

Schools will no longer need to keep the SSTS application form as parents, guardians and students can go online from 2 November 2015 to complete their application form, print it out and return it to the school.

**Fewer forms**

Schools will only need to endorse a single application form for each student's eligible address and send it to a single address (Locked Bag 5085, Parramatta 2124) even if they are applying for multiple services.

**Simplified replacement process**

Schools won’t need to endorse additional applications for lost, stolen or damaged passes, as parents, guardians and students simply need to visit [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students) or call 131 500 to order a...
new School Opal card. Schools can continue to follow their current processes for students who have lost their pass.

**Online eligibility assessment.**
The new online application portal will automatically assess eligibility based on distance rules.

**Same eligibility rules**
The eligibility rules for subsidised school travel remain the same for travel inside and outside the Opal network. Students may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants) there’s no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking distance or further.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking distance or further.

Schools can find out more about the School Student Transport Scheme at transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/schools

**How you can help?**

- Display the enclosed poster on the school noticeboard.
- Distribute the flyers to students and parents.
- Encourage applicants to go online to apply for 2016 travel in the Opal network via your communication channels. The application is available at transport.nsw.info/school-students. Paper forms that have already been completed and submitted to Transport for NSW or a transport operator will be processed and do not need to be resubmitted.
- Responsibly dispose of any remaining blue SSTS application forms.
- Add digital tiles and banners to add to your website when they arrive via email.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Passes and Schemes on 02 9891 8900 or 1800 227 774.

Thank you for your support.

**Transport for NSW**