PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Mid-way through first term and as always there is much happening and lots to report on.

USA Dance Tour
The US Dance tour left for Dallas on the 2 February with 30 students accompanied by Stephen Gray, Karl Pico, Leisa Munns and Alison McKellar. The tour party will participate in workshops at Booker T Washington Performing and Visual Arts High School, our sister school in Dallas before leaving for New York City. Whilst there, the students will attend Alvin Ailey classes and see some Broadway shows. From NYC our school will compete in the US Dance Festival in Pittsburgh before stopping over in Anaheim to visit Disneyland. They arrive back in Australia on the 11 March with staff and students back on the 14.

For the duration of the tour, I will be Relieving Principal, Football Scores, Diane Aynsley Relieving Deputy Principal for Years 9 and 12, Belinda Scanlan and Peter McAlpin Relieving HT’s Dance and TAS respectively.

World Earth Festival
Our annual World Earth Festival will be held on the 4 March from 1pm. It is an event that is successfully staged through the outstanding collaboration that exists between students, parents and staff. It is an opportunity for our community to celebrate our school’s achievements in the arts and in environmental sustainability. It will be great to see so many parents attend this event and make the day a memorable one.

New Parent BBQ
On the same day as World Earth Festival, the P&C will hold their welcome BBQ for new parents from 5pm. Several staff members will attend the BBQ. I would like to particularly thank the P&C executive and parent volunteers for conducting this important event that has given all of us the opportunity to mingle and get to know each other better in a more casual setting.

Uniform Policy change
Your child may have already discussed with you the change we have made to the uniform policy. The school has removed gender labels from all items of uniform. The students have been lobbying for this change for some time, formed a committee and put a proposal to the executive at the start of 2016. It was supported and adopted by the executive and P&C executive. This change was made to provide an inclusive, safe environment and to enhance the wellbeing of some students who may identify as gender fluid.

Year 11 Crossroads Camp
Last month our Crossroads Camp was held at Stanwell Tops. This initiative allowed the compulsory program to be delivered in a way that not only provided important content but also gives the students, both old and new, an opportunity to get to know each other and enhance their connection to the Year group and school. Evaluations from staff and students indicate that the event was very successful. As always, these activities can only take place with the support and hard work of the teachers who attended. A big thank you goes to them and in particular to Mr Benson for his outstanding commitment to his year group.

Peer Support Program
Later this month our annual Year 7 camp, at Stanwell Tops, will be held. The camp is an important part of our Peer Support Program where Year 10 students work with Year 7 students developing the skills required for a successful transition to high school. Our thanks and congratulations extend to the Year 10 leaders for the work they will do on the camp and their ongoing commitment to the program. Thanks also to the staff who will give up their time to attend the camp because without their support, it simply could not happen.

Parent-Teacher Nights
This month students in Years 9 and 12 received information for the upcoming Parent-Teacher Night on Monday the 14 March. The link to online bookings can be accessed through our website. You can assist us by ensuring a booking is made and being prompt to your appointments. The Parent-Teacher Night for Years 8 and 11 will be on the 30 March with bookings opening on the 14 March. Both events start at 3.30pm and conclude at 7pm. I look forward to seeing you there. The Parent-Teacher Night for Years 7 and 10 will be held in Term 2 on the 4 May.

Peter Shields
CO-PRINCIPAL
Staff and students are now well settled into the new school year. In the first few weeks of this term we have had many events such as the swimming carnival, the Crossroads Camp and on Friday 4 March we will be running World Earth Festival and a Welcome BBQ for parents and students who are new to the school.

Year 11 Crossroads Camp
In Week 4, Year 11 students attended their two day mandatory Crossroads Camp at the Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops. It was a successful camp with students displaying exemplary behaviour, participating in all activities, engaging in the talks presented by the guest speakers and most importantly building stronger bonds with their peers. The last component of the Crossroads course was covered by Paul Dillon, from Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia, who addressed Year 11 students at school on Friday 26 February. Thank you to Year 11 Student Advisors Andrew Benson and Alain Lavrut for their organisation of such a successful camp and the Crossroads Program of events.

World Earth Festival and Welcome BBQ
On Friday 4 of March the school will be holding its annual World Earth Festival from 1pm-3:10pm and a Welcome BBQ from 5pm-7pm. The World Earth Festival will feature a number of live performances, multicultural and environmental stalls and multicultural food stalls and workshops. This event is being organised by Hannah Hindmarsh with the on-going support of the P&C. We would like to thank all staff, students and parents who will donate their time and skills to contribute to the success of this event. The Welcome BBQ that follows has been organised by the P&C. The BBQ is for all Year 7 parents and new parents of students in Years 8-11. We thank the P&C for their organisation of this important event.

The Year 7 Peer Support Camp
The Year 7 Peer Support Camp at the Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops is going to be held this month from 22 to 24 March supervised by members of the Wellbeing Team, including Executive. The Peer Support program is a valued wellbeing initiative that takes place for our Year 7 cohort each year to facilitate the transition into High School. Year 10 peer support leaders will also attend the camp with Year 7 students. The camp will give our Year 7 students the opportunity to form close friendships with each other and with their peer support leaders. This camp is a huge organisational task and responsibility for staff, particularly Jack Taylor and Danielle Barsi. Our appreciation goes out to these two teachers for the hard work and commitment.

Tell Them From Me Survey
This term, our school will participate in the 2016 Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help students improve their learning outcomes. The survey is completed on-line during Weeks 8-11 and is entirely voluntary and confidential. If you do not wish for your child to participate in the survey please complete the consent form attached here and return to Ms Rajwar by Wednesday 9 March. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

BYOD
Students in Year 7 have now been given a talk on Digital Citizenship and the appropriate use of their learning device at school. They have also been given instructions for logging in to the DoE network. They can now bring their own devices to school for educational purposes.

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, students should bring a letter to the office before school and must swipe out when they leave. Whole day absences should be explained by phoning the school, replying to the absentee SMS or in writing upon your child’s return to school within seven days. This is a Department of Education requirement.

Year 12 Privileges
Year 12 students have been 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 and swipe in by 10am if they have no class period 1, and to 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.
Year 12 Assessment Week
Year 12 assessment week will commence on Monday 4 April. There will be no timetabled lessons from 4 to 8 April. Students will receive their assessment timetables and information regarding examination procedures and expectations. Students must follow the school policy in regards to absences from examinations and Illness/Misadventure procedures. Good luck to all Year 12 students during this assessment block.

Year 11 Assessment
Year 11 assessment task due dates are fast approaching, beginning in Week 7. Parents are asked to familiarize themselves with the Year 11 assessment booklet that was given to students at the beginning of the year. It is also available for download on the school website. In particular it is important to read the Illness/Misadventure procedures and ensure that they are followed by students where necessary. We wish Year 11 students the best of luck with their first formal assessment tasks.

Parent Teacher Nights
The first Parent Teacher Night is soon approaching with Parent Teacher interviews for Years 9 and 12 taking place on Monday 14 March between 3.30-7pm. Bookings are now open via the link on the website and we would encourage parents to attend this evening to discuss the progress of their child. The correspondence regarding this evening has been distributed to students in Years 9 and 12. This correspondence (which is also available on the school’s website) describes the process for making bookings online. Bookings for the first evening will close on Friday 11 March at 3pm.

Parent Teacher evenings are a very worthwhile opportunity for parents, students and their teachers to meet and engage in early productive dialogue about the progress of the student. We are looking forward to seeing many of our parents and students at our upcoming parent teacher evenings. Parent Teacher interviews for Years 8 and 11 will be held on Wednesday 30 March and for Years 7 and 10 on Wednesday 4 May. Information regarding the online booking process for these evenings will be circulated to students and made available on the website at least two weeks prior to each parent teacher night.

Emergency Drills
As part of our compliance with the Department of Education in relation to Workplace Health and Safety, the school is required to conduct Emergency Drills for Evacuations and Lockdowns on a regular basis. Whilst we are unable as part of this process to notify students and parents of the actual times and dates of such drills, we would like to inform you that you can expect drills to occur at some time over the next few weeks of Term 1. Staff will be going through the emergency procedures in the next week or so, prior to any drill taking place, as per our policy.

Finally we remind parents that many of the events outlined in this correspondence are also available via the online school calendar on the school’s website. The school places all key dates, events and assessment information on the calendar. Also available on the website are copies of all letters sent home to parents regarding school events. We would encourage parents to visit the website routinely to ensure that you have all the relevant information and are kept up to date on all school activities.

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS
Nilaufer Rajwar (Years 7 and 10)
Rachel O’Neill (Years 8 and 11)
Di Aynsley (Years 9 and 12) Rel. DP
The P&C meets on the second Tuesday of every month. 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.

**THIS FRIDAY 4 MARCH: WORLD EARTH FESTIVAL**

World Earth Festival is an annual event open to parents, carers and friends of the school community. It will be held on THIS Friday 4 March between 1.00-3.10pm at the school. This year, entry to WEF is our gift to you (no need to buy any tickets). We are therefore looking forward to seeing you on Friday. Entrance to the event is via the front office on King Street. You will need you sign in as well. Parents are welcome to come early at 12:30pm if they wish to hear our environmental guest speaker Tim Silverwood (http://www.timsilverwood.com).

We have a callout for parents to be involved. The festival is a wonderful collaboration between students, parents and staff where we learn about and celebrate aspects of the school, the arts and environmental sustainability. This is a fabulous opportunity to immerse yourself in the special atmosphere of the NHSPA school community. To get involved please contact P&C Vice President Dennis Dumlao on Email: dddumlao@bigpond.com or Mobile: 0404 336 647.

**THIS FRIDAY 4 MARCH 5PM-7PM: P&C WELCOME BBQ**

The annual P&C welcome BBQ will be held at the school at 5pm on Friday 4 March, in the courtyard outside the Studio Theatre. The focus is on welcoming new Year 7 and Year 11 families (and other new families) to the school and to introduce you to the NHSPA P&C. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents from your child’s year group as well as teachers and find out more about the P&C. The BBQ will run til 7pm. The BBQ will be held after the World Earth Festival (also on 4 March 2016) where many students perform - always a day of fun and entertainment which parents are encouraged to contribute to and attend.

**P&C AGM TUESDAY 8 MARCH 6PM**

The AGM for the P&C will be held next Tuesday 8 March at 6pm in the school library. Due to a number of executive P&C positions becoming available in 2016, 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. See below for more details on roles available in the P&C. Nominations close with the returning officer Peter Shields at the meeting on Tuesday 8 March.

Please come along and get involved.

P&C Executive Positions (up to 11) to be elected.

- **President** (currently Emma Walters)
- **Vice Presidents – 2** (currently Nicole Wilkinson and Dennis Dumlao)
- **Treasurer** (currently Ross Moffat)
- **Secretary** (currently Kelly Burke)
- **Up to six other Executive Committee** members (currently: Justin Meehan, Katie Mann, Tony Ryan, Maya Saric, Jenni Wilkins and Anna Nettheim)

At least two of our Executive Committee members will not be renominating in 2016.
In addition, nominations will be called for chairs and members of the following subcommittees:

- **Building Sub-committee** - responsible for design of and changes to infrastructure and equipment and refurbishments through the school. (Currently chaired by Justin Meehan)

- **Environmental Sub-committee** - responsible for introducing sustainable ideas to the school, as well as looking after the garden and environment, eg, through regular working bees. (Currently chaired by John Caley)

- **Faculty Sub-committee** - responsible for supporting the academic and sport faculties and implementing creative and interesting teaching and learning strategies for curriculum outcomes in these areas. (Currently chaired by Katie Mann)

- **Performing and Visual Arts Sub-committee** - responsible for supporting the Music, Drama, Dance and Visual Arts faculties, plus technical companies through creative and interesting teaching and learning strategies. (Currently Chaired by Nicole Wilkinson).

- **Communications Sub-committee** - this Sub-committee is an exciting opportunity for interested parents to work with the school and help design and implement creative and practical communication ideas, to assist the flow of relevant information between groups. (Currently chaired by Maya Saric)

Come along, nominate yourself and get involved!

**NEXT PVAS COMMITTEE MEETING**
The next meeting of the Performing and Visual Arts Sub-Committee (PVAS) will be on Friday 18 March 2016 at 4pm in the school foyer. For further information please contact Nicole Wilkinson on nickiwilkinson@hotmail.com

**CALL OUT FOR PARENT REPS FOR YEAR 7**
Each year the P&C puts out a call for parent representatives for Year 7. 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. It can also involve working with the year advisor and assisting new parents navigate the high school environment. We have parent reps for all the other year groups too. If you are a parent of a child in year 7 and you are interested in being the link between the P&C and the parents of year 7 in 2016, then please come to the P&C AGM on Tuesday 8 March at 6pm at the library.

**P&C PAGE ON NHSPA WEBSITE**
The P&C page on the NHSPA website contains information on the P&C, meeting dates, contacts and latest news. Make sure you visit by clicking on the P&C link on the left side bar of the NHSPA website.

**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?
NHSPA is embracing the Positive Schools ethos and all the year advisors and the well-being team have been working with students on their character strengths. As a school we are on a “Growth Mindset” journey utilising the research of Carol Dweck and her colleagues. **Growth mindset is the power of believing you can improve.** A growth mindset believes that the brain is like a muscle. It grows, develops and is capable of learning new things when mistakes are made and then corrected through feedback. Growth mindset emphasises that intelligence is not fixed but can be developed through practice. **Effort** is the keyword in a growth mindset.

This is a quick one minute video on growth mindset. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brpkjT9m2Oo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brpkjT9m2Oo)

Growth mindsets improve well-being, leading to higher engagement and better academic outcomes. Growth mind-set calls upon a shared responsibility for student engagement, learning development and success. Students understand that they are in control of their achievement and that failures to achieve do not define them, but rather give them experiences from which to learn. Growth mindset is a natural inclusion in the positive school’s framework.

Here is a TEDxtalk on growth mindset. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN34FNbOKXc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN34FNbOKXc)

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts is developing a common language around learning from a growth mindset perspective. When teachers give feedback to students we focus on effort and give criticism that is constructive and focuses on improvement.

People with a fixed mindset believe that effort is something that people who are not so smart need, whereas people with a growth mindset see effort as what makes people smart. A fixed mindset sees failure as defining who they are, whereas a growth mindset sees failure as opportunity to grow.

Praise that concentrates on talent rather than effort keeps students in a fixed mindset. So to this end, here are two strategies to use, as a parent, to build a growth mindset?

**Concentrate on effort.** “You really tried hard and your effort has paid off”

“You haven’t mastered this YET, but ask your teacher what you need to do to improve.”

“I noticed you didn’t need to put in much effort for that great mark. Perhaps you should try to give yourself a greater challenge next time.”

**Support intrinsic pride.** “You worked so hard, you should be proud of yourself” NOT “I am so proud of you”.


Sleep on it!

Your ability to learn may depend on it.

Universities across the world are finding that the link between sleep, function and memory and is very strong.

Scientists already know that the brain uses the “downtime” during sleep to transfer new memories to long term storage.

The Queensland Brain Institute at the University of Queensland has made a connection between sleep and the ability to learn by conducting experiments with fruit fly as patients.

Fruit fly have a very similar brain structure to humans (to really simplify things) and have been shown to have similar patterns of light and deep sleep as humans.

The University of Queensland conducted research that found that increased sleep alleviated learning defects in the fruit fly. The study used fruit fly with severe learning defects or memory loss as they aged. (Want to know how they ascertained these defects? Go to http://www.qbi.uq.edu.au/) Sleep was then induced and when the fruit fly woke up the fruit fly were normal learners!

Michael Carr-Gregg, Managing Director of the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre, gave a Master Class at the 2015 Positive Schools Conference that stressed that most young people need around nine plus hours of sleep a night to “maintain optimal daytime alertness”. His research shows that preteens and teens rarely get that much sleep regularly. He has looked at factors such as “part-time jobs, early-morning classes, homework, extracurricular activities, social demands, and late night use of back lit devices” that contribute to this sleep deficit.

So instead of cramming the night before an exam, plan ahead. Study well and truly before the exam and give yourself the night off to sleep and let your brain work unimpeded.

blogs.brandeis.edu/fruitfly


Jane Gray
Teacher Mathematics Faculty
In English, it has been a busy and productive term. Year 7 have been enjoying reading Short Stories and are now compiling a Poetry Anthology. Year 8 are still immersed in the Hero’s Journey and *The Hobbit* and Year 9 are writing their own short stories. Year 10 are discovering the pitfalls of “unbridled ambition” in *Macbeth* or love at first sight in *Romeo and Juliet*. The Year 11 classes are enjoying a Comparative Study of texts and their context in Advanced English or American Voices in Standard English. Our HSC students are preparing for their second task at the end of next week.

Debating auditions have been held and the teams for 2016 have been selected. The debaters are practicing in the lead up to our first debate.

The English staff along with our Librarian Dominque Sweers are looking forward to Earthfest where we will be running the Second Hand Book Stall. Staff have been clearing their bookshelves, so you can be certain there will be lots of high quality books to purchase.

The faculty look forward to seeing you at Earthfest and talking with you about what you have been reading. Mr Crich is reading *The People of the Book*, Ms Garnsey is deciding if *Life After Life* is worth the effort, Ms Martyn is engaged in meta-data for her Masters Degree, while I am too busy reading Extension 2 Major Works and Descartes' Philosophy on Dualism for my Masters Degree to even think about reading fiction!

In closing, I would like thank Ms Garnsey for Relieving as Head Teacher English for the first 5 weeks of the term while I was Relieving Deputy Principal. Ms Garnsey has done an exceptional job, at a very busy time of the year. A big thank you also to Miss Chen who covered classes to accommodate for Ms Garnsey and I to take on higher duties.

Enjoy what is left of the term.

*Kirk Thomas*

Head Teacher English
Hi All,

Just a quick update from Science and LOTE for this newsletter to keep you posted with upcoming assessments.

**Science**

**Year 7** has a skills test in week 8. This will assess a student's ability to interpret data and plan and conduct a scientific investigation.

**Year 8** is conducting a first-hand investigation at home. This task is due in week 7 and will assess the ability to test a hypothesis and analyse the data collected from it. The purpose of this task is to develop a student's understanding of what a fair test is by conducting one of their own.

**Year 9** will be writing a report to present a plan for an eco-friendly and energy efficient home. This is due in week 9. They will also be conducting a resource audit of their home. This assessment is designed to help students understand the scientific rationale behind environmentally friendly designs. The audit will also help to offer practical solutions to make their own home more environmentally friendly.

**Year 10** will be presenting an oral evaluating a biotechnology from week 8. This assessment task is designed to help students evaluate the ethics behind biotechnology. Students will increase their knowledge of genetics and understand how to support a valuable point of view using scientific evidence.

**Preliminary Biology** are doing a skills test in week 7 based of first hand investigations they have been doing in their first unit, Patterns in Nature.

**Preliminary Chemistry** will be writing a report due in week 10 on the how resources are used in industry. This report will assess and student’s knowledge and understanding from the units Chemical Earth and Metals. Moreover, the students will apply this content to societal issues that stem from our use of the Earth’s resources.

**Preliminary Physics** are presenting a written report due in week 9, on a communication that uses the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS). This report is designed to assess scientific literacy and a student's knowledge and understanding of the (EMS) and how this relates to society.

**HSC Biology** will be doing and oral presentation based on content in the unit Blue Print of Life. It will assess how our understanding of DNA has led to a world where technologies using DNA are present in day to day life.

**HSC Chemistry** will be doing a skills test based from the unit Acidic Environment. It will assess a student’s ability to collect and analyse data.

**HSC Physics** will be doing a written exam based on the topics; Motors and Generators and Space.

**LOTE**

**Year 7** are conducting speaking tests from week 6 onwards

**Year 8** are conducting speaking tests from week 9 onwards

**Year 9** are conducting speaking tests from week 8 onwards

**Year 10** are conducting speaking tests from week 7 onwards

All the speaking tests in languages are designed to assess a student's ability to verbally communicate using skill learnt during class.

If there are any question relating to any upcoming assessments in Science and LOTE please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tom Tomesek
Head teacher Science/LOTE
Mock Trial
Preparations for this year’s Mock Trial competition are under way with a large number of enthusiastic students turning up for the initial meetings. This competition is a valuable and rewarding part of our extracurricular program and is led by teacher Jonathan Parnham and lawyer Elisabeth Nash from Mills Oakley Lawyers. NHSPA has performed exceptionally well in recent years and we expect a similarly high standard from our ‘new recruits’ in 2016.

Year 10 Geography Field Trip
The Semester 1 Year 10 Geography field trip to Cronulla, with teachers Stefanie Leotta, Rachel O’Neill, Asher Field and Mike Tanner was a great success as usual. Students undertook research action relating to coastal environments, using a range of practical skills and activities on the day including field sketches and water quality testing, making observations and analysing coastal environmental issues at Cronulla first hand, and considering citizenship responsibilities in response to these issues – an experience that we hope will enhance their understanding of and participation in the community and Australian society. The students will use this experience to submit their own Research Action Plans for assessment and we look forward to viewing their presentations and conclusions.

Year 12 Business Studies Excursion to IKEA
In preparation for the HSC, senior Business Studies students are required to investigate the Key Business Functions of a large global enterprise. Having IKEA just down the road from the school provides the perfect opportunity for students to witness first hand some of the aspects related to Operations and Marketing in this global giant. Both Year 12 classes attended the excursion in week 5 to investigate such areas as ‘cost-leadership’, ‘differentiation’, ‘operations processes’ and ‘global factors’ affecting IKEA, all of which will be valuable knowledge for their upcoming assessment task as well as the HSC exams. Below we can see students KJ Shergill and Alex Small enjoying some of the IKEA breakfast before a busy morning of observations and note-taking. The other photo helps to demonstrate some of the scale of IKEA’s warehousing operations and the complexities involved in running such a large business.
Global Young Leaders Conference
Once again this year the HSIE faculty has nominated students for the global Young Leaders Conference in the US, taking place during the winter break. This unique leadership and training conference gives our students the opportunity to expand their perspectives and cultivate their inherent leadership skills by examining and discussing global issues with distinguished diplomats, as well as visiting historical and modern-day bastions of political, social and economic influence. At the time of writing, around 8 students are definite starters for the conference, an experience that past students have found very engaging and rewarding.

Year 7 History – ‘Investigating the Past’ Excursion
Towards the end of this term and at the beginning of next term, each of our Year 7 History classes is set to undertake a brief excursion (during their timetabled History lesson) to investigate some of the past history of the local area. Our Librarian, Dom Sweers has produced a wealth of local historical information centred largely around the cemetery at St Stephen’s Church in Camperdown Park and students will have to complete a booklet that requires them to do some searching and investigating of their own. This is a great opportunity for our students to experience first-hand some of the practical side of being an historian.

David Cole
Relieving Head Teacher HSIE

DRAMA FACULTY

This term has started with lots of verve and energy.

We have never had so many students audition for Showcase Company. The students were so well-prepared and many were successful in getting into Company. We are running 9 companies with 186 students involved…this does not include the Technical Company. All students got written feedback from their audition.

This term has also been a time when past students have come back to school to share their expertise with the current student cohort.

Eve Sherpardson-Beck and Georgina Adamson have just completed their theatre studies degrees at Charles Sturt toured their final year production to NHSPA. It was incredibly useful for students to see this as they are heading towards devising their GPs. Their production won the Blair Milan award.

Michael Hankin, who is a very successful award winning set designer, came to school to talk to our Year 12 students about how he conceptualised Belvoir's production of Angels in America. It was an illuminating talk.

Ella Prince, another past graduate who studied acting at RADA, is directing one of our Year 8/9 companies.

Odessa Young’s wonderful films The Daughter and Looking for Grace are a source of pride for us in the Drama department.

Yael Stone is also back in Australia, after a successful season of Orange is the new Black, to act in Belvoir's production of Stephen Sewell's play The Blind Giant is Dancing.

We have also taken the students on a variety of excursions: Onstage to show the Year 12 students the band 6 performances and projects from last year’s Year 12, The Secret River at the STC, An Australian drama symposium at STC, The Shape of Things at McDonald College, Jasper Jones at Belvoir to name just a few.

In the forthcoming weeks we are going to Arcadia at STC, The Blind Giant is Dancing at Belvoir and looking at archival footage at both NIDA and Belvoir of past productions of plays that are on the HSC syllabus.

Judith Hoddinott
Relieving HT Drama
Congratulations to all students that have auditioned for our music ensembles this year. This was an excellent turn-out and it is great to see students getting actively involved in Newtown High School of the Performing Arts.

Ensemble lists appear outside of the Music Faculty. Any student that has either not auditioned and wishes to do so, or simply doesn’t appear on the lists, should speak to someone in the Music Faculty as soon as possible.

All large ensembles have begun rehearsing and it is now very important that all students maintain a commitment to their ensemble. Smaller extension ensembles may appear throughout the year and students are considered for these ensembles based both on their abilities and their commitment to larger ensembles.

Please make a note of the time and venue for each ensemble.

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<td>Morning 7.20am</td>
<td>Orchestra McGowan Lewis-Jones Rehearsal Space</td>
<td>Symphonic Wind Ensemble Isaac Podreka **</td>
<td>Concert Band Isaac Podreka Rehearsal Space</td>
<td>Hilgendorf Ensemble Rehearsal Space</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
<td>WOMP Miller Rehearsal Space</td>
<td>Junior String Ensemble McGowan A5</td>
<td>CPM Ensembles Miller / Lewis-Jones B1, A5, H5, A8</td>
<td>String Quartet Lewis-Jones A5</td>
<td>Junior Jazz Miller A5</td>
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<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Wind Quintet Podreka A5</td>
<td>Senior String Quartet Lewis-Jones</td>
<td>Classical Guitar Quartet Miller Studio 1</td>
<td>Newtones Miller</td>
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<td>Folk Ensemble Lewis-Jones</td>
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<td>3.15-4.45 Senior Choir Fuller Studio Theatre</td>
<td>3.30-5.00 Guitar Ensemble Zane Banks B1</td>
<td>2.45-4.15 Jazz Orchestra Isaac Miller** Rehearsal Space</td>
<td>3.15-4.30 Junior Choir Podreka Boyd A5</td>
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</table>
This week the Visual Arts faculty will be hanging the Arte Povera Art Competition entries for the World Earth Festival in the Gallery space on King Street with winners announced soon.

Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts students have begun a series of life drawing classes each Monday after school and are already producing work of an excellent standard. Life Drawing (drawing the human body from life/nude) has for centuries been a significant aspect in the training of young artists. It has also been practised by Newtown students in past years and for some of these students the life drawing experience has provided the basis of work exhibited in Artexpress.

Giovanna Trenoweth
Head Teacher Visual Arts
PD/H/PE FACULTY

PDHPE

Year 7 - 10 have finished their theory units and are moving onto practical lessons. Each year group will have a practical assessment task on the following units:

Year 7 – Athletics
Year 8 – Dominant Movement Patterns
Year 9 – Athletics
Year 10 – Aerobics/Fitness

Sport

Swimming Carnival Results

Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
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**15 Year Old Boys - Individual Scores**

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**16 Year Old Girls - Individual Scores**

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**16 Year Old Boys - Individual Scores**

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**17-19 Girls - Individual Scores**

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**17-19 Boys - Individual Scores**

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**HOUSE POINTS**

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PD/H/PE FACULTY Continued ...

FANTASY HOUSE (RED)

ACTION HOUSE (GREEN)

HORROR HOUSE (YELLOW)

MUSICAL HOUSE (BLUE)

Elly Reynolds
Head Teacher of PDHPE/Sport
### Sydney East Team

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### Girls IM Relay

- **Miranda Rodgers**
- **Molly Smith**
- **Archie Broughton**
- **Grace Doyle**

### Girls 12 200m Relay

- **Hannah Newton**
- **Sophie Valencic**
- **Felix Kiera**
- **Allira Wilkinson**

### Girls 16 200m Relay

- **Zanzi Hocknell**
- **Rose Wilkie**
- **Jude Ford-Rabin**
- **Felicity Wilkinson**

### Boys IM Relay

- **Scott McDougall**
- **Taylor Stone**
- **Taiga Kita-Leong**
- **Miranda Rodgers**

### Boys 12 200m Relay

- **Marcel Kocbek-Malepa**
- **Taylia Newlyn**
- **Ben Wastie Pero**
- **Hannah Newton**

### Boys 16 200m Relay

- **Ben Waste-Pero**
- **Seiya Worden**
- **Ewan Mcquilty**
- **Olivia Medina Du Cros**

### Boys 17-19 200m Relay

- **Lincoln Sharp**
- **Rosa Sheer**
- **Archie McKay**
- **Zanzi Hocknell**
Open Girls Volleyball
On Monday the 15 of February our Open Girls Volleyball team played a riveting match against Kogarah High School in the CHS knockout competition. Although their opponents were the more experienced team, our girls put up some tough competition and were narrowly beaten three games to one. Our girls started shaky but began to gain some momentum during the third set where they began to showcase some impressive volleyball skills. Although still a young side with many juniors in the team, the NHSPA Open Girls Volleyball will be a force to reckon with in years to come.

Alain Lavrut (English)

Open Boys Basketball
The Open Boys Basketball team played Oatley Senior High School last week. The team played with high energy throughout with captain Marley Grace leading the point scoring of both teams. Julian Oliver and Tom Warton Jones also put many points on the board despite a strong defends from Oatley. Unfortunately Oatley lead the score at the final buzzer by 15 points. The boys all showed great sportsmanship throughout the entire game.

Stuart Klees (Learning Support/PDHPE)

2016 Carnival Dates (School, Zone, Sydney East & State)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>SYDNEY EAST (region)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 15 March 2016</td>
<td>SOPAC Homebush (7.30am – 2.30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSWCHSSA (state)</td>
<td>Sunday, 3 - Tuesday, 5 April</td>
<td>SOPAC Homebush</td>
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<td><strong>Cross Country</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>NHSPA (school)</td>
<td>Thursday 31st of March</td>
<td>Sydney Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLIGH ZONE (zone)</td>
<td>Friday 27th of May, 2016</td>
<td>Sydney Park</td>
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<td>SYDNEY EAST (region)</td>
<td>Friday, 17 June 2016</td>
<td>Miranda Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSWCHSSA (state)</td>
<td>Friday, 22 July 2016</td>
<td>Eastern Creek</td>
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<td><strong>Athletics</strong></td>
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<td>NHSPA (school)</td>
<td>Wednesday 18th of May 2016</td>
<td>Homebush Warm up Athletics Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLIGH ZONE (zone)</td>
<td>Thursday 23rd of June 2016</td>
<td>Homebush Athletics Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>SYDNEY EAST (region)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 3 – Thursday, 4 August 2016</td>
<td>Sylvania Waters Athletics Fields</td>
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<td>NSWCHSSA (state)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 7 – Friday, 9 September</td>
<td>SOPAC Homebush</td>
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Red Cross Blood Drive

On Tuesday 23 February a group of students travelled into the city to donate blood at the Red Cross Blood Bank. Jemima Tilly, Sarah-Jane Rantzen, Rhys Briggs and Jasper Tulloch all attended and are to be congratulated. I will be organising a group booking each term. Any interested students, 16 years and over that have not donated in the last 12 months should speak with Ms Bivona in the PDHPE staffroom.

Seido Juku Karate is pleased to welcome students from Newtown High School of Performing Arts to attend classes at our full time training facility - 358 Abercrombie Street, Darlington

Seido Juku Karate offers a free trial class for Newtown HS of Performing Arts students. Come & try a class!

What teens have told us:
- "We like training with other teens from Newtown High School"
- "We get treated as adults"
- "We can see ourselves developing"
- "I'm learning to defend myself"
- "I can get my black belt before I finish school"

Karate Timetable:
- Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday
- Beginner classes at 6:30pm - 7:15pm
- Saturday beginner class at 11:00am
- Beginner classes 4 days a week
- Special student rates for Newtown HS

Join us for a free trial class, contact Leigh on 0411 4521 831 or book a class online via our website www.seidokor.com.au

Elly Reynolds
Head Teacher of PDHPE/Sport
Just Keep Swimming!

Friday 12 February was Newtown High School of the Performing Arts’ annual Swimming Carnival at the Drummoyne Swimming Centre. As usual, the carnival was a success, with all four sporting houses well represented. Past champions, Horror dominated the pool once again, with Musical, Fantasy and Action not far behind.

The day was very enjoyable for the participants and supporters, with all the main events receiving many enthusiastic cheers from all houses. The individual medley (IM), 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly, and the house relays, being the best events of the day.

One of our own Journalism students, Taylor Stone, was successful in placing first in 6 of her races, breaking 4 school records for her age and maintaining her status as (14yrs) Age Champion, once again. Many other students, over all the years, were also able to achieve personal goals at our carnival. We hope everyone had an enjoyable Swimming Carnival for 2016!

- Ruben Savariego, Year 9 Journalism

2016 Swimming Carnival

By Owen Fitzpatrick

The 2016 Swimming Carnival was held at Drummoyne swimming centre on Friday the 12 of February. There were many students, teachers and parents in attendance.

The warm weather, positive atmosphere, constant eventfulness and beautiful setting made Friday a very enjoyable day for anyone in attendance. Although some attended just for a fun day there were many students there to compete. Most races seemed to have competitors in all 8 lanes unless they were very challenging, like the 200m freestyle, or had too many competitors for a single race and needed leftovers and sometimes extra races. The amount of people competing in the majority of races, excluding ones where you must be a very experienced swimmer, implies many people were giving it a go. These people were getting participation points for their house even though swimming competitively isn’t their forte; this is one thing the house captains all whole-heartedly support and encourage.

Many people played a part in making this event as successful as it was. The staff had to organise the carnival, record times, make announcements, supervise the students and some even competed in races. The house captains encouraged their house and organised relays, the parents encouraged many competitors; generally their own children, and contributed to the positive atmosphere and the students had a great time competing and chatting giving the event a purpose.
Okay, let's dive straight in... Yet again the NHSPA Swimming carnival was quite the event. As always it was held at the Drummoyne Pool and everybody was ready to go, covered in coloured zinc and all dressed up in the house colours. The year 12s had outdone themselves this year with a wide range of costumes, including one individual who rocked up in an inflatable sumo suit. The day was filled with yelling and cheering from the stands, especially in the famous 'Teacher vs Students relay' which the students won this year by the way.

The results were tallied and 4th came Action (my home team still staying strong with this beautiful swimming carnival losing streak) and Fantasy came in 3rd. The usual battle between the two most athletic houses was ended for another year with Musical coming 2nd and Horror crowned first for yet another year.

Mercy Mellar
It was a hot day at Drummoyne Swimming Pool, and NHSPA were having the annual Swimming carnival. 6 years came together to support their fellow classmates when they competed in races such as 50 metres Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly, and Backstroke. They also did 100 metre Freestyle and Medley. Records were broken, Chants were spoken, and spirits were broken. All the Year Twelves at the event dressed up in Hawaiian costumes, swimming costumes and house coloured costumes as shown above.

Over all, Action came 4th, Fantasy came 3rd, Musical came 2nd, and Horror came 1st with 50 points ahead of 2nd place. A favourite part of the day for most people was the Student vs Teacher race, where the year 12s raced their own teachers. The students of cause won and the teachers hid from their shocking defeat. Over all everyone who came loved it. They swam and had a great day. You could say it was a splash.
Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 1 2016, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to Ms Rajwar by Wednesday 9th March.


Peter Shields
Co Principal
Newtown High School of the Performing Arts

Dr Jenny Donovan
Executive Director
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to Ms Rajwar by Wednesday 9th March.

I **DO NOT** give consent for my child/children to participate in the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .................................................................

Roll class/es ........................................................................

Name of parent/carer ...........................................................

Signature of parent/carer .......................................................  

Date .................................
Parent/Teacher Nights 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Parent Teacher Nights 2016 will be held from 3.30pm-7.00pm on the following dates:

Years 9 and 12- Monday 14th March
Years 8 and 11- Wednesday 30th March
Years 7 and 10- Wednesday 4th May

The school day will finish at 3.00pm for all students on these days to allow for the 3.30pm start.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Gray
Principal
Parent/Teacher Night for Years 9 and 12 Notification

MONDAY, 14th March, 2016
from 3.30 pm to 7.00 pm

Dear Parent/Carer

You are invited to attend a Parent/Teacher Night to discuss the progress of your child.

The Parent/Teacher Night will be held on Monday 14th March, 2016 from 3.30pm – 7.00 pm for Years 9 and 12. We strongly recommend that students accompany their parents to the interviews.

Bookings are made through the school’s website www.newtown-h.schools.nsw.edu.au. Click on the online booking link and follow the prompts; you may be required to enter the event code LeqLr. If you are receiving this as an email, please click on the school’s web address to begin this process. Bookings will be open from 9.00am on Thursday 25th February 2016 and will close at 3.00pm on Friday 11th March 2016.

Please book a time that is convenient for you as soon as possible to ensure that you are able to secure a teacher interview. We suggest you book the session with your child present, if you are unsure of the names of your child’s teachers.

If you are unable to make online bookings please instruct your child to make bookings in person with their teachers and note the times in their diary.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Stephen Gray
Principal
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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### Year 9

#### Year Advisers
- Brenton Fletcher
- Claire Ansoul
- Philip Podreka
- Zeljko Janusic

#### Deputy Principal
- Karl Pico

### Year 12

#### Year Advisers
- Brenton Fletcher
- Claire Ansoul
- Philip Podreka

#### Deputy Principal
- Karl Pico
Newtown HSPA
Map of Locations for Parent Teacher Night

Library (Upstairs):
Music, Drama, Visual Arts, TAS

C Block
(Downstairs):
English, PD/H/PE, Mathematics
Frequently Asked Questions

What is purpose of teacher parent night?
The purpose of Parent Teacher Nights is to provide an opportunity for Students, Parents and Teachers to meet, receive feedback, discuss concerns and strategies to improve student learning.

How do I book an interview?
NHSPA uses an online booking system. A Parent Teacher Night Notification will be given to students to take home and also published on the school’s website and in our newsletter. Parents/Carers can book online through the school’s website using the code provided for in the Parent Teacher Night Notification.

Should my child attend?
Students are encouraged to attend the interviews as this will allow them to receive feedback from their teachers. However, individual circumstances will dictate whether this is possible and/or desirable.

Why are the interviews only 5 mins long?
Parent Teacher Night is one of a number of ways the school communicates with Parents/Carers about their child’s progress. Discussions are designed to provide a brief overview of each student’s progress. If a more detailed conversation is required, appointments can be arranged with the relevant Year Advisor, Head Teacher or Deputy Principal.

What if I cannot attend?
If you are unable to attend and you have specific questions about your child’s progress, you can contact the relevant Head Teacher of that subject. If you would like to discuss your child’s overall progress, please contact the relevant Deputy Principal in charge of the year group. Parents/Carers can contact the school by sending an email addressed to: newtown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au marked to the attention of the relevant Head Teacher or Deputy Principal.

Why are interviews held before reports are sent out?
Teacher interviews provide an opportunity to meet face to face and address any issues which may already have an impact on each student’s learning. This provides an opportunity for students to receive feedback and make the necessary changes to improve their progress which can then be reflected and reviewed in the Half Yearly Reports.

What if I have a problem making a booking?
If you are having difficulties booking please contact the office who will either assist you with the booking process or direct you to the Deputy Principal in charge of Teacher/Parent Interviews.
How do I cancel a booking?
Changes and cancellations can be made up to the closing date of the bookings. Following the closing date all enquiries should be directed to Karl Pico, Deputy Principal. Closing dates will be indicated in the Parent Teacher Night Notification.

What if the teacher is unavailable?
If you are unable to book an interview with a specific teacher and you have concerns about your child’s progress, you can contact the relevant Head Teacher of that subject. If you would like to discuss your child’s overall progress, please contact the relevant Deputy Principal in charge of the year group. Parents/Carers can contact the school by sending an email addressed to: newtown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au marked to the attention of the relevant Head Teacher or relevant Deputy Principal.

What information can I expect to receive from the interview?
Interviews are individual in nature. In general the teachers provide a summary of your child’s progress, areas for improvement, discuss topics and skills taught in class and upcoming assessments, and address any areas of concern.

What sort of follow-up is provided if issues are identified?
Following the Parent Teacher Night, if you have any ongoing concerns, please contact the relevant Head Teacher or Deputy Principal in charge of the year group. Parents/Carers can contact the school by sending an email addressed to: newtown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au marked to the attention of the relevant Head Teacher or Deputy Principal.

How do I access the school on Parent Teacher Nights
Attached to the Parent Teacher Night Notification is a map of the school indicating where each faculty/teacher will be located. The front gate near administration, Corelli’s Gate and Whitehorse Lane gate will be open. Signage also will be placed to assist in locating interview venues. SRC and/or Prefects will also be on hand to assist.
NHSPA Parents and Citizens Community (P&C)
Year 7 Welcome BBQ 2016

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Some functions of the P&C are:**
- To encourage closer communication and cooperation, between parents, staff and students, and members of the community.
- To provide support and recommendations to the Principal on issues relating to the student body, and to assist in the provision of financial or other resources and services for the benefit of NHSPA students.
- To participate in committees and projects to improve both the learning and teaching outcomes and physical environment of the NHSPA.
- To provide assistance and support to the school during Showcase performances, Audition and Orientation events.

**What has the P&C been doing lately?**
• Assisted in purchasing a new electronic sign for the school's front entrance, to improve communications with students, parents/carers and the local community.
• Held regular school working bees around the school grounds including pruning, mulching and planting.
• Supported a Dance Masterclass program with Ruben Graciani from Point Park University, PA, USA in May 2015.
• Refurbishment of the Studio Theatre where students regularly perform.
• Supported the purchase of new sound equipment for Drama and Dance, a new rostra for Music and a drum kit for the Studio Theatre.
• Supported the non-Performing and Visual Arts faculties, including purchasing an interactive projector for Mathematics and robotics programs for TAS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**To Post an Item**
Prepare an email and send to nhspa@googlegroups.com
Emails will not appear immediately as they are subject to moderation

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

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

**To respond to a posting** Please do not hit “reply” when answering a post unless you want the response to go to everyone on the Google list. It is preferable you respond to the person posting by copying their email address and forwarding the email to the relevant address.
22 February 2016

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

YEART 2016

PEER TUTORING – AFTER SCHOOL STUDY CENTRE

This year Newtown High School of the Performing Arts will be integrating peer tutoring into the After School Study Centre, which will include tutoring by Year 10 students for Year 7 Students.

PEER TUTORING STATEMENT OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of peer tutoring at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts is to support student learning in the library Study Centre on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3.15pm-4.30pm. Students will have the opportunity to work on recent class work, homework and current assessments with Year 10 students under the supervision of teachers.

ROLE OF THE TUTOR

It is anticipated that peer support tutoring will assist students in a positive and constructive way. The tutors are expected to act as role models for younger students and model appropriate behaviour. The benefits of working as a peer tutor include developing social responsibility, sharing and consolidating knowledge, developing communication skills and opportunities to develop leadership.

ROLE OF THE TUTEE

It is anticipated that peer tutoring will support students in their learning and their transition towards independent learning.

Tutees are expected to bring all necessary information and equipment with them to the Study Centre.

The benefits of being a tutee include developing time management skills, gaining academic confidence, fostering strong relationships with older peers and forming a stronger connection towards the school.

Jack Taylor
Year 7 Year Advisor

I give permission for my son/daughter ________________________________ to attend the cross age Peer Tutoring sessions on Monday/Wednesday (please circle) afternoons in the School Library Study Centre.

Parent/Guardian name: ________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian signature: ____________________________________________

Parent/Guardian contact number: ________________________________________

Date: _________________________

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO MR TAYLOR IN THE ENGLISH STAFFROOM

King Street Newtown NSW 2042. P.O.Box 785 Newtown NSW 2042. Phone 02 9519 1544 Fax 02 9519 1657

www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au