WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE
A HAIR-RAISING DAY

At lunch time on the 12th of March 2014 Newtown High School of the Performing Arts smashed a fundraising record. Students, Sophie, Lucina, Eleanor, Harriet, Franki, Andrew and Kai sacrificed their hair for the Worlds Greatest Shave. A whopping sum of $15,300 was raised—higher than any previous year. As described by one of the shavers, Eleanor Oppen-Riley from year 8, the day was “Very exciting and really fun...” but having an audience of over 600 students, parents and teachers was “Scary because I don’t think I’ve ever had so many eyes on me at once!”.

This is NHSPA’s fourth year running the Worlds Greatest Shave. It is an SRC run event and all funds were donated to the Leukemia foundation. This year it was organised in just three weeks by SRC members Audrey Mitchell and Will Bartolo and fundraising commenced only one week before the event, making the results even more impressive. Student organiser Audrey Mitchell, Year 11, describes the week before as “crazy, everyday we would have someone new to call or more spamming on social media to do, Will and I were speechless to how successful the event was. The generosity of parents, school teachers, students and the general public was astonishing. We raised 6,300 over our initial aim to go towards an amazing cause”.

SRC NEWS

Donation Boxes
The SRC is planning to install donation boxes at the school canteen to raise money for the exodus foundation. Get your spare change ready and look out for the boxes in the coming weeks.

World Earth Festival
SRC running a gelato stall at the World Earth Fest on March 28th to satisfy your cool cravings! 2 tokens for 1 scoop.

World Greatest Shave
The SRC wants to thank Newtown student, teacher and parent body for helping to raise $15,242 for the Leukemia Foundation.

SRC Facebook Page
And for anyone who hasn’t already, be sure to like the NHSPA SRC Facebook page today!

www.facebook.com/nhspasrc
Year 11 Crossroads camp

The new year 11’s were given the chance to get to know each other at the Crossroads camp held at Stanwell Tops. The camp was held over three days and, as always, was a beneficial experience for all who attended. Supervising teachers included Ms Rajwar, Mr Atkinson and Mr Miller who gave up their comfortable beds at home to watch over the year 11’s.

USA DANCE TRIP

On the 19th of March, NHSPA farewelled the dancers going to America to attend the National Dance Trip in Miami. The farewell performance was an outstanding preview of what is soon to come. The bi-ennial trip, taking students from year 10, 11 and 12, offers students an opportunity to both perform and attend dance classes, enhancing their skills and providing them with an opportunity to see other dancers. Best of luck to these talented students!

Year 9’s go viral

If you were one of the 461,903 people who viewed the video of Tony Abbott (to date) being questioned by Newtown High School of Performing Arts you may have felt a shared sense of pride in seeing our fellow Newtownians question the Prime Minister with such eloquence. After an unplanned meeting with Abbott on the Environmental Committee run Canberra ‘Sustainability’ excursion, Abbott presented the students with the opportunity to ask questions, and ask they did.

This did not go unnoticed by others, in fact it was reported in The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian Guardian, The Independent UK, Facebook Radio, Ten News, Gay News Network and online blog, Mammamia. Such was the maturity of their questioning Mr. Abbott ended up suggesting the Year 9’s go on ABC’s Q&A.

Year 9 student Gabriel Burke described Abbott as being “quite shocked that we could put these things in words”. He thought the interview reaffirmed “Our schools sense of equality”. The Year 9’s were praised for their confidence and outspokenness in their questioning of the Prime Minister. Their questioning covered topics from the carbon tax, immigration and gay marriage to women’s representation in the parliament.

If you have not yet watched the video click on the link below to see the year 9’s work their magic.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBZwu5bAEdo
March 3rd was a foggy day. The clouds were ripe with water and Year Seven was ripe with excitement. Mr Fletcher was dressed in his best year-advising attire, ready to serve some Vision Valley realness.

Upon NHSPA’s arrival at Wesley Vision Valley, the heavens decided to open – drenching Newtown’s students and beckoning for the camp’s starving leeches to come forth and feast on the innocent blood of Year Seven.

Many activities took place during Peer Support Camp – raft building, archery, the flying fox and canoeing to name a few. Bonds were created, fears were overcome, jokes were cracked, talents were showcased, and life-long friendships were made.

The disco was where most of this talent-showcasing occurred. Two hundred and thirty peers supported one another for an hour with sweaty affection. Group 10 had even prepared some mean-as dance moves that blew everyone away.

We laughed. We cried. We ate. We slept. We danced. We sang. We partied harder than ever before. But most importantly, we supported our peers to the max.
My School week usually starts on a Sunday night when I need to pack all my books for the next morning. I aim to do this in five minutes, but it usually takes a couple of hours for me to get up off of my desk, chair or bed because I can’t really be bothered to get ready.

The next morning I would usually get up at about 6:00am, but I don’t really trust myself to get up at then so I have to set about 15 alarms for me. They ring from 5:50am - 6:30am because I just can’t get myself up - I always fall back asleep.

By the time I have done everything to get ready it’s just about 7am when I need to leave home to catch the bus. I catch the 310 for about 30 minutes, then go to the train station and catch the train all the way to Newtown. It isn’t a short trip- it takes an hour and a bit to get to school.

When I get to school my friends are already there, so in the mornings we just talk and walk around school until we find something interesting to do. The first period tends to go really fast depending on what subject I have - if it’s maths then it feels like forever.

By the time I get out of class and meet up with my friends it’s usually just about time for the end of recess so we have to speed-eat and stuff our food down our mouths so that we get something to sustain us till lunch.

Period 2 and 3 come and go and eventually period 4 comes around, which is alright because I know it’s the last period and I’m looking forward to getting home.

When I get home I can’t do my homework because I need to go out to dancing or drama class. I’m so busy Monday to Friday with dancing and acting! I’m not really a sporty type so you won’t find me out playing football or soccer. By the time I get home from my extra-curricular activities it’s about 8:00pm - 9:30pm so I have to get all my books ready to go for another day at school.

Finding a way to fit my homework in is the hardest part of my day.

My name is Ethan and this is a day in my life.
The swimming carnival on 7th of the February was an absolute splash! NHSPA was very excited to be returning to the suburb of Drummoyne to participate and watch the 2014 swimming carnival. The weather was just right for the day, with the sun shining. Luckily many students were very abundant with their use of sunscreen and sun safety remained paramount.

For many students the day started with a lengthy bus ride from Newtown to Drummoyne swimming pool. Many overcrowded busses were seen leaving the school in the early morning. Students ranging from year 7 to year 12 were eager to participate and race in this year’s Swimming Carnival. This year 60% of the student cohort arrived at exactly 9.10 AM, which is surprisingly large for a Performing Arts School. Many students dressed up for the occasion, most popular costumes were pirates, life guards and gangster.

The races started off with a bang - literally! The first race was the mixed 200, many competitors from all ages and genders participated in this captivating race. Swimmers from year 12 and year 8 joined together in a harmonious race of excitement and determination.

Many year sevens also participated in their first races at the carnival; races such as the 12-13 butterfly and the girls’ 13-14 backstroke was an incredibly tense race to watch. Many students flocked around the pool to follow what was one of the highlights of the carnival.

Year 9 student Chiara French spoke to us about her experience at one of the best NHSPA Carnivals ...

“It was really good, I swam in the relay and the freestyle. We all ate and talked and had fun. My group and I all sat in the Action House section in the Grand stand. I raced in the first race which was the freestyle but it was a false start so we all had to do it again. Zanzi, Sarrah and I all swam to the end. I swam because I wanted to give it a try but I actually found it really fun”

When asked about the saltwater, Chiara replied, “It was so stingy! Oh my goodness, it burned - but the amount of fun I was having distracted the burning sensation”.

Overall, all students had a great time, whether they were watching in the stands, dressing up or competing. We all had fun.

What a great carnival!
A STAR IN THE MAKING:
IVY JANE

NAME: IVY JANE
AGE: 15
TALENT: SINGING

Ivy Jane, a talented music student at NHSPA has just released an outstanding EP Through the Glass which features 4 musical masterpieces. Ivy has true talent and her song writing skills and emotional connections to her songs are extremely rare for people of her age. Ivy’s incredible guitar and piano throughout her songs is undeniably brilliant, however, the star of the show is her beautiful voice with a distant dark tone. My personal favourite is Blood Bank, and Ivy has described her EP as “clean, raw and new” and she is “very happy with the result”. She would also like to “thank everyone who has supported me throughout my musical journey”. Her album and single is available on iTunes, and next time see her walking around the school congratulate her on such creating such a beautiful series of work!
Book Review: No.1 Ladies Detective Agency

By. Veronica Von Arnim, Year 10

Join private detective Mma Ramotswe as she solves mysteries from her one-room agency at the foot of Kgale Hill at the edge of Kalahari, in the outskirts of Gabarone, Botswana. With the help of her secretary Mma Makutsi and friends Mr J.L.B. Matekoni from the Tlokweng Road Speedy Motors and Mma Potekwani from the adoption agency, Mma Ramotswe fights for justice and solves the problems of the good people of her land. World renowned, excellently written and enthralling from the first page, this 14-book series is still going strong with new instalments being published by McCall Smith each year. It has spawned a TV series starring Jill Scott, associated merchandising and a cult-like following. Sensitively written, this book will have you in stitches one minute and crying the next. With its image evoking scenery, The No.1 Ladies Detective Agency leaves you wanting more (or wanting to book the next flight to Botswana!). This series is highly recommended for anyone who’s looking out for a laugh, enthralling detective cases and musings of a traditionally-built lady who loves her red-bush tree and the dusty land she was raised on called Africa.

Film Review: Frozen

Frozen

Directed by Jennifer Lee and Chris Buck

By. Rhian Mordaunt, Year 10

Go on a magical journey with Anna, Elsa and the rest of the gang. From the opening song to the final credits I was in heaven. Frozen is a masterpiece that has been cited as the animated film of a generation. Musical goddess Idina Menzel was brilliant as the voice of the young queen, Elsa, who was born with the magic ability to create ice. As Elsa grows up she finds she is no longer able to control her powers and disaster ensues when she is crowned as queen. Kristen Bell (aka the voice of gossip girl) brought Anna to life. Anna is one of my personal favorites, she is queens younger sister who does not know of her sisters talent and brought a comedic side to the film as a character with a cheerful glow. Complete with catchy tunes, breathtaking animation and outstanding characterisation this is a must-see movie. After winning a Golden Globe, an Academy Award, 5 Annie Awards and 2 Critics Choice Awards I can assure that after seeing this masterpiece you will never be able to let it go! To some, Frozen may be just another Disney film, but to those who have experienced the magic, it is something much more.
How to survive year 7

Year 7 is a tricky time for everyone- the change of schools, different teachers for every class, and most of all, the homework! However, it is easy to do well, and make lots of friends, as long as you know what you’re doing.

• On your first day in Year 7, you will be given a homework diary. Use it! Writing your homework down will ensure that you never forget it.

• Be nice and friendly! If someone looks lonely, then say hello to them, and smile! You might discover some great friends.

• Stay organised. Take notes, and have your locker clean and tidy. When you know where everything is, it’ll make life at school much easier.

• Don’t call out answers without being asked for them. Don’t be the Class Clown who annoys everybody. Smile and keep quiet while others are speaking, and be polite to your teachers.

• Last but not least, have fun! Join an extra curricular activity, such as soccer, Newstown, or the many choirs and bands at Newtown. You’ll make new friends and be doing something that you love!

Don’t be scared of high school, within a couple of months you’ll feel right at home. Promise!

Enjoy your year!

Mia Black
Year 8
The diplomat’s language, the most beautiful language – the French language.

French remains a strong influence in both national and international culture.

Nationally, the language is carefully shaped and monitored by the Académie Française [Below]. There are forty members, called Immortels, made up of political leaders, writers and scientists. The Immortels decide on French words to describe new ideas or inventions and maintain the language by replacing foreign words with French equivalents.

The Immortels are treated with great respect. They hold their positions for life, and also wear traditional costumes.

Internationally French has been regarded as both “the diplomat’s language” and the “most beautiful language in the world”.

French is the official language in twenty-nine countries, including Belgium, Canada, Madagascar and Switzerland. It is also the cultural and administrative language in Vietnam, Cambodia and Morocco.

Many international organisations also regard French as an official language such as the Red Cross, International Olympics Committee, European Union, African Union, and even the United Nations.

Similar to many other languages, French has regional dialects. Although nowadays French is mostly of the Parisian speech, some dialects still survive, such as Provençal in Southern France, Occitan in South-Western France and Alsatian in North-Western France.

However, where did our bonjour and au revoir come from? What are the Origins of French?

French is part of the Romanic language group which includes Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. Other groups include Germanic (German, Dutch, English), Slav (Russian, Polish, Czech) and Celtic (Welsh, Irish and Brenton).

French is Romanic mainly due to the strong Roman influences in France in its early development. However, many other cultures and languages have shaped the French to what it is now.

From 3000 BC onwards, Gaulish, the language of the Celts, who were lived in modern day France, changed the way the French count. The French say quatre vingt (literally four twenties) for 80 due to the influence of the Welsh counting system used in Gaulish.

Latin, from 124 BC to 771 AD, the language of the Roman Empire, has given French its most significant influence. This includes setting it apart from other European languages, giving it place in the Romance language group.
Latin gave French most of its grammatical structure, à (at) is from the Latin ad; de (of) from de; et (and) from et; où (where) from aut; faire (to do) from facere; avoir (to have) from habere; bon (good) from bonus; tu, nous and vous (you, we and plural and formal 'you') from tu, nos and vos; and bien and mal (well and bad) from bene and male. Latin also gave French its gender in nouns and adjective gender agreements. All nouns from apple (pomme) to problem (problème) have a gender. French articles, which are also gender based, come from Latin. This includes the (le, la, les) and a (une, un).

Finally, Latin introduced ne pas for making French verbs negative. For example I eat, je mange, made negative would be je ne mange pas, I do not eat. Frankish, from 400 AD to 771 AD, language of the Germanic people who also inhabited modern day France not only gave French its name, French, but also gave French Germanic influence. While in modern French adjectives after the noun, it is now not uncommon to put a regularly used adjective before the noun, a trait of Germanic languages.

Finally the Old Norse, from 850 AD to 911 AD, language of the Vikings who lived in areas of Northern France gave influenced French place names, cities and towns ending in -bec (meaning stream), -fleur (meaning bay), and -tot (meaning farm).

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**Common French Phrases:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hello</td>
<td>Salut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good morning</td>
<td>Bonjour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good evening</td>
<td>Bonsoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good night</td>
<td>Bonne nuit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>Merci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How are you? (formal/informal)</td>
<td>Comment allez-vous/ça va?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please (formal/informal)</td>
<td>S'il vous plaît/te plait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very well</td>
<td>Très bien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not well</td>
<td>Pas bien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>Mal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Napoleon Bonaparte:**

Napoleon Bonaparte, born in August 1769, is a key figure in European history. Starting as a modest artillery officer, Napoleon later shaped European history, and the notion of modern warfare.

With France in chaos after the French Revolution, Napoleon is said to have ended it by crowning himself Emperor of the French in 1804. He later lead France to spread its influence in European culture, with its unmatched military.

Napoleon also reformed the notion of modern warfare. By ended the armies of knights and lords fighting for their people, they now fought for themselves.

Napoleon Bonaparte has left a strong influence in our history.

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10
ONLY AT NEWTOWN

This section is dedicated to the unique moments that only members of the Newtown community could achieve. Here are the winners:

1. To Airu (Year 10) who organised the dance off at the Peer Support Camp. Mr Byrne really needs to practice his back flips on the dance floor.
2. To the students who haven’t realised that two water buffalos ran up King St on Tuesday. Yes it really did happen!
3. To the year 7 students who came back to school from Peer Support Camp and started a “Ride my Pony” dance in the Quad Area. Welcome to Newtown!

If you hear any achievements from anyone around the school, please come and see me.
Mr Shipp

NEWSTOWN
Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
Issue 6 2014

If you have any submissions please contact us via email at newstownhspa@gmail.com or come to our meetings every Thursday F5.