Principal’s Report

Year 12
This term has been a very busy and successful one for our Year 12 students. Since the trial examinations we have started the HSC itself with practical exams and submissions of major works in Dance, Drama, Extension 2 English, Visual Arts, Textiles and Design, and Music. Everyone involved has been very impressed with the quality of work presented and we look forward to some outstanding results.

We are currently planning events to celebrate the contributions of the current Year 12 to the school over the last six years. The major event will be our Graduation ceremony on **Tuesday September 21st**. Families will receive invitations and more information over the next two weeks.

Student Achievements
In addition to our HSC successes, our students have continued to achieve both within and outside the school. Some of these achievements include:

- Our Tournament of the Minds teams achieved outstanding results at last weeks Sydney competition. Our Social Sciences team (Rosabella Holt-McDonald, Jennifer Balcomb, Julian Caillon, Annie Salmon, Charlotte Regan, Harry Kerr and Sam Weller) won the competition and now head to the State finals. Our Maths team (Jo Kei Sample, Diyar Durunesil, David Naple, Angel Miu, Michela Castagnone, Harriet Cronley and Calista Yeoh) while not winning this year competed with great distinction. These results continued our outstanding results from last year and we are very proud of the students and their teachers, Joelle Pearn and Bobbie Gledhill. Our teams received high praise from the judges who commented that their presentation was "one of the best we've seen in years!"
- Jasmine Sutton of Year 7 recently hosted the Kids of Macarthur Health Foundation Women's Trust Luncheon. I received a letter from the Foundation's CEO congratulating Jasmine on her confident contribution to the success of the event.
- Last month Demi Chilchik had great success at the St George Drama Eisteddfod finishing first in the monologue and second in the duologue sections.
- Congratulations to our Junior Chess team, again managed by Joelle Pearn for their recent semi-final placing in the Sydney Region Chess Championships. This year the team was Mostyn de Villenoisy, Alex Nguyen, Thibault de Villenoisy and Dane Zielinski-Nicolson.

China Tour
Later this month 104 students and 9 staff leave for the Sydney Region tour of China. Our Music and Drama students are busily rehearsing for their performances in Shanghai, Yangzhou and Zhengzhou. We look forward to sharing with you their successes and adventures in the next newsletter.

Parent Teacher Night
Our next Parent-Teacher Night will be held on Wednesday 20th October between 4:00pm - 7:00pm.

This afternoon/evening will be for Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and is primarily designed for parents who are particularly concerned about the progress of their child in one or more subjects based on our term 1 Parent-Teacher night and the recent semester 1 school reports. Parents who are satisfied with their child’s progress need not attend, however they are welcome to.

Teachers will also be sending individual invitations to parents with whom they would particularly like to speak. Remember that appointments need to be made. Students should complete their booking sheets in classes in negotiation with their teachers. More information can be found on our website.
For the last three weeks of Term 3, Betty Romeo is on long service leave. It is a well deserved break for Betty, her first extended leave period since she started teaching and we wish her well on her overseas adventure. Nicki Wilkinson will be Relieving Deputy Principal and we thank her for her considerable contribution in Betty’s absence.

The Year 11 Yearly examinations began on Monday 6th September and run until Friday 17th September. All students have been issued with examination information, including exam timetable, behavioural expectations throughout the exam period and illness/ misadventure procedures. Students should arrive at least 20 minutes before the scheduled exam starting time and if your child suffers an illness or misadventure on the day of the exam, Mrs Wilkinson should be contacted by 8.30am so that the exam can be rescheduled for another time during the examination block. Year 11 students return to class from 20th September and are expected to attend all lessons throughout Week 10.

The State Dance Festival will be held at the Seymour Centre from Tuesday 7th to Saturday 11th September featuring a range of our very talented students. Tickets are available through the box office at the Seymour Centre for performances every night at 7.30pm, including a matinee performance at 1pm on Saturday. If you can attend one of the performances, we are sure the students and staff would appreciate your support and you will have an enjoyable evening.

The School Certificate Trial Computing Skills examinations will be conducted on-line on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th September. Students have been rostered into groups of twenty over these two days and have been given details of their exam time. The venue for the exam will be F7. The School Certificate Trials in English and Science will be conducted on Thursday 16th with Mathematics and History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship on Friday 17th September. The venue for the Trials will be the Gym. All students are expected to be prompt to their scheduled exams, wear full school uniform and, if absent, observe illness/misadventure procedures.

The Year 12 showcase of practical work has been outstanding with some excellent performances, productions and major works being presented. This once again reflects the depth of talent at our school across a range of subject areas, along with the dedication and hard work of our teaching staff.

Year 12 reports will be issued on Wednesday 15th September where students meet with their Curriculum Advisers to discuss the recent trial HSC results and their study plans for the HSC exams which commence from 14th October. We know this is an exciting, yet daunting time for our departing Year 12 students as they prepare for their HSC and look to the future, and we wish them all the very best. Graduation Day for Year 12 will be Tuesday 21st September in St George’s Hall.

The China tour, with 104 students participating, leaves for Shanghai on Wednesday 22nd September. Our Drama and Music students in Years 7 to 11 will be showcasing their skills to schools and community groups during their stay in China. We wish them good luck and look forward to their return on Sunday 3rd October. What a wonderful experience!

Finally, we would like to wish all members of the school community a safe and pleasant holiday. School resumes for everyone on Monday 11th October starting with a Week B timetable.

Peter Shields and Nicki Wilkinson, Deputy Principals
P & C News

P&C Voluntary Fundraising Contribution (VFC) update:

We’ve had a wonderful response to the VFC in the last month and sincerely thank all families who’ve made their contribution.

We have now raised $33,800, which is up $11,500 on the 2009 total.

With the $33,800 now achieved we are able to fund these initiatives in 2010:

- Sound mixing desk in studio theatre ($5,600)
- Master classes for Dance, Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Technical Company (up to $25,000)

It’s not too late! When we reach our target of $50,000 we will also be able to provide new seating and installation of a formal box office in the Studio Theatre foyer. Please help us reach our target. See the attached payment form in the newsletter or go to the P&C section on the school website.

It is very exciting to see the new drapes have been hung in the Studio Theatre and look amazing. They really give a very professional look and improved staging options for the theatre. The P&C largely funded the $28,000 for these drapes from last year’s VFC.

Next P&C Meeting
Tuesday 14th September 6pm Staff Common Room

Subscribe to Google Groups
Subscribe to our parent email network by sending an email to: nhspa+subscribe@googlegroups.com
There is a google groups fact sheet on the P&C page of the school website or for other queries please contact Edi Condack (econdack@iinet.net.au).
September 2010

Dear Parent / Guardian

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts
2010 P&C Fundraising Contribution

The NHSPA P&C has one simple aim: to ensure our children have the very best educational opportunities possible.

In 2009, the P&C introduced a voluntary fundraising contribution as an alternative to traditional fund raising. Over $22,000 was contributed by NHSPA families and we were very happy with this level of support in its first year. These funds were used to upgrade the Studio Theatre (new stage floor and replacement of stage tabs and wings).

In 2010 the P&C has set a goal of raising $50,000 via the voluntary fundraising contribution. It is proposed that funds raised this year will be distributed as follows:

- Master Class fund (up to $25,000)
  - $2000-$5000 investment for each faculty (Drama, Music, Dance, Visual Arts) and the Technical Company to support the running of master classes during the year. This will help to fulfil an element of the school’s Strategic Plan ‘develop PA Patrons Program including provision for master classes’ in order to increase opportunities for students to excel in PA.
- Studio Theatre Foyer Upgrades (up to $20,000)
  - New seating in foyer
  - Creation of a formal box office
- Technical Company ($5,600)
  - Sound Mixing Desk

In 2010 the suggested voluntary contribution will remain unchanged at $200 per student or $350 for two or more students, or you may nominate any amount of your choice. There are 40 teaching weeks in the year and the suggested contribution is the equivalent of only $1 per day in the school year. 100% of your contribution is tax deductible.

The P&C will continue to provide support services such as front of house refreshments at showcase, auditions, orientation plus the welcome BBQ for new families. The P&C also joins with the students and teachers to coordinate the annual World Earth Festival. Any additional events organised by the P&C will be for social purposes rather than fundraising.

The NHSPA P&C thanks you and looks forward to continuing to support the school in providing improved opportunities and facilities for our students.

Yours sincerely

Darren Mitchell
P&C President
2010 NHSPA P&C Fundraising Contribution

Please retain this portion as your record of your contribution. Please note that the NHSPA P&C is not required to issue a receipt. However, the P&C retains records of all payments received should an enquiry be necessary. Please record your payment date.

Date paid: _____________________

☐ I have made a contribution of $____________________ for the 2010 calendar year which is tax deductible

Note: The St Georges Hall Trust is a tax deductible fund listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations under sub section 30-300(7) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. To enable the donation to be tax deductible it must be only used to assist the organisation meet its objectives (ie the promotion of literature, music, a performing art, a visual art, a craft, design, film, video, television, radio, community arts, Aboriginal arts or movable cultural heritage).

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2010 NHSPA P&C Fundraising Contribution Payment

Parent/Payee Name: ---------------------------------------------

Student Name(s): ____________________________ Year(s): _______

Contribution Amount (please tick):

☐ $200 ☐ $350 ☐ Other ________ (please specify)

√ Payment Method   Mastercard   Visa Card   Cheque Payable to: NHSPA St Georges Hall Trust   Cash

Credit Card No. ____________________________________________ Expiry Date ____________

Cardholder’s Name (Please Print): .............................................. Phone No: ......................

Please Return to School Front Office or Fax to: (02) 9519 1657 02-063-080
from the Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

**Welfare**
The Year 9 Peer Support Camp will be held from Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} October until Wednesday 27\textsuperscript{th} October 2010 at The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops. This camp serves as a platform for selected Year 9 students to develop and display their leadership skills and realise their own unique gifts and talents. The camp also provides an opportunity for students to get to know themselves better through their involvement in a range of activities.

After the conclusion of the camp, 32 students will be selected to become Peer Support leaders to the incoming Year 7 students in 2011. These leaders will make a positive difference to the lives of the new Year 7 students and make their transition into high school a much easier and positive experience.

**Learning Support**
This semester sees a number of changes occur in the Learning Support faculty. One of these changes is the departing of Lisa Bassett who will be on maternity leave until next year. We wish her all the very best on the impending arrival of her new little addition and look forward to seeing her again next year. We are fortunate enough to have Trish Wil-loughby with us to carry on the fantastic work that Lisa has been doing with our students.

**PDHPE**
The Year 8 Gala Day was held earlier this term and as always our students displayed excellent behaviour throughout the event. Teachers supervised students competing in 4 different sports and a selected number of Year 10 students participated as coaches on the day. It is always warming when teachers and parents from other schools complement our students on their sportsmanship and behaviour. We even had the bus drivers congratulat-ing our students on their manners! Well done Year 8!

This Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} September sees our Year 8 students participate in the Year 8 Sleepout, raising funds and awareness for homeless youth. We will have a number of representa-tives from Youth Off the Streets as well as from NSW Police speaking to our students. We look forward to an eye-opening night!

This year NHSPA will be participating in the Coles Sports for School initiative. If you shop at Coles please bring your coupons in to the front office where I will place the coupon box. We hope to get as many coupons as possible in order to get as much sports equipment as possible.

Ms Bivona
**Relieving Head Teacher Welfare**
HSIE DEPARTMENT

This year’s Mock Trial Team – Louisa Court, Anny Francis, Arielle McDonald, Megan Mapp, Alexandra Rigby, Madeleine Scott-Murphy and Dale Tresidder – performed very well this year, winning a series of rounds to make it to the knockout stage of the tournament. The team was up against a strong opponent in the form of the team from Sydney Grammar and their prosecution of a particularly difficult case was formidable. Both teams kept the audience entertained with brilliant performances, and unfortunately for Newtown, the Sydney Grammar boys won the round. Our team’s performance was outstanding and the magistrate in the case expressed his regret that they did not win the round, it being so close. The team was prepared, as always, very thoroughly by our coach Elizabeth Nash, from the law firm DLA Phillips Fox. Thank you to Elizabeth and a big thank you to Legal Studies teacher Jonathan Parnham for all of the organisation and effort that goes into making Mock Trial happen at NHSPA. Congratulations team, you have made your teachers, parents and school community very proud!

This year has seen the HSIE faculty involved in the NSW Premier’s Department’s Oral History Project. History teacher Hans Mayerhofer accompanied a group of Year 9 students to Parliament House where they had the opportunity to learn how to undertake oral histories, and to interview veterans of the Vietnam War. This project is ongoing, so stay tuned for more detail later in the year.

The HSIE faculty is embracing the DER laptops and the integration of technology into our teaching and learning. We have developed a bank of resources and activities across a range of our subjects, which are uploaded on the school’s Moodle site. We have a number of planning days organised for Term 4 for teachers to develop further strategies and resources. We would like to thank the P&C for the generous assistance in the area of technology and look forward to sharing our strategies with parents in the near future.

The Global leaders conference in New York was undertaken again this year and was a resounding success – stay tuned for more detail in the next newsletter!

Ms Rachel Mules
Head Teacher HSIE

From the Literacy and Numeracy Team

The Literacy and Numeracy team has focussed on literacy in Term 3. Faculty representatives have been working hard to enhance the teaching/learning programs with literacy strategies being embedded throughout.

A particular focus at present is on raising awareness of language conventions. This focus includes a Year 7 project involving each class designing posters to remind all students about some basic writing conventions including sentence structure, capital letters, punctuation and paragraphs used in all text types in all subjects. These posters will be displayed in classrooms, the library and in the school foyer in Term 4 for students as well as parents to see.

Thank you to the LAN team and Year 7 students!

Nicky Wilkinson and Rachel Mules
Literacy and Numeracy Team
ENGLISH

**Extension Two English**
Congratulations to the 14 students from Year 12 who so eloquently presented evidence of their hard work in this challenging course recently in front of a packed library audience.

The high quality of the finished Major Works has inspired a record number of students to apply to study for this course for the 2011 HSC.

The students have worked extremely hard to complete their Major Works in recent weeks and we now look forward to the same excellent results that last year’s cohort achieved.

**Debating**
Our Year 7/8 team recently took on Sydney Secondary College, Leichhardt in the competition and went down narrowly.

The topic was THAT JUNK FOOD SHOULD BE BANNED and we were the negative.

Congratulations to Iris Higginbotham, Jared Ziegler, Sameera Patoor-Brah and Antonia Flowers for their efforts. This team has a lot of potential and hopefully will stay together in years to come.

**Book Club**
It’s been pleasing to see a large number of avid readers attending Ms Ellis’ Book Club in room C-1 each Wednesday. Popular novels such as *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak are discussed. Interested? See Ms Ellis for details.

**Visiting Teachers**
The English faculty is pleased to welcome to our school two visitors: Ms Diana Hasche and Ms Stephanie Kuldan are with us till about the end of this term and we wish them well in their teacher training.

**Students at Work**
As we go to print, Year 11 are busily preparing for their end-of-course exams and we wish them well in this final assessment task prior to the commencement of their HSC courses.

Meanwhile, Year 12 are in their final weeks of classes and again we remind them of the importance of attending all revision lessons right till the end of proceedings.

Michael Fischer
Head Teacher English

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**DRAMA DEPARTMENT**

Our HSC students completed their performance components last week. With 65 students, examiners viewed 15 group performances and 48 individual performances. The standard of work was high as witnessed by those who attended our HSC Showcase Nights in Week 6.

We wish our students well for their forthcoming music tasks and the ultimate exams in October.

The Showcase season is nearly upon us. It begins on November 2nd. Tickets on sale soon.

**DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

**TERM 3**

**SEPTEMBER:**

**Week 8:**
Monday 06 Year 11 Yearly Exams begin

**Week 9:**
(Monday 13 Year 10 Trial School Certificate Computing Skills Test
(Tuesday 14 Yr. 10 Trial School Certificate English and Science
(Thursday 16 Year 10 Trial School Certificate Maths and HSIE

**Friday 17**
Year 10 Yearly Exams end

**Week 10:**
Tuesday 21 Year 12 Graduation Day
Science Newsletter
Astronomy night at NHSPA
Friday 10 September 2010

To coincide with the school’s Year 8 winter sleep out, Year 8 students will be treated to an astronomy night. During the evening three telescopes will be set up, along with expert commentary from amateur astronomer teachers.

The night will showcase the Science faculty’s new 8-inch (that’s the diameter of the mirror) Dobson Newtonian telescope that has been kindly donated to the school by the Sandstrom family.

The DET expert astronomer, Jeff Stanger, from Sydney Girls High, will be there with his 16” telescope. Graeme Sandstrom will also be there to show students how to view the heavens.

The star chart shows the stars and constellations visible in the night sky for Sydney, for September 2010 at about 7.30pm (Local Standard Time). Stars down to a brightness or magnitude limit of 4.5 are shown. To use this star chart, rotate it so that the direction you are facing (north, south, east or west) is shown at the bottom. The centre of the chart represents the point directly above your head, called the zenith, and the outer circular edge represents the horizon.
NSWSS is a residential school for students in Years 9-10-11
Featuring former NASA Astronaut Dr James Reilly

The NSW Space School is a 4-day hands-on residential school conducting activities and lessons relating to space travel, astronomy, rocketry, space junk and much more. The school also features lectures by scientists and highly respected experts in the field of space science.

Students will have the opportunity to experience the real world of being an NASA Astronaut as Dr Reilly explains how Astronauts are interviewed, selected and assigned to flight crews as well as his experiences in flying on 3 separate Shuttle missions and conducting seven space walks.

All students who attend the NSW Space School will automatically become eligible to attend AISS 2011 and also have the unique opportunity of being selected to attend the exclusive NASA Johnson Space Centre Houston engineering course … See www.yassa.com.au for more details.

GRANTS: Students attending the NSWSS 2010 will have the opportunity to receive one of 3 YASSA student leadership grants of $300 each to attend the AISS 2011.

Cost of the NSW Space School: $255
Cost includes:
- All Accommodation
- All Meals
- All Local transport
- All Workshop materials
- All Lectures
- Graduation Certificate
- NSWSS T-shirt

Application form and contact details available at
Homework Help Options

Option 1: Yourtutor

Yourtutor creates an online classroom where students are connected to qualified, expert tutors for one-on-one help with homework, assignments, exam preparation and study questions. It is designed to assist students from Years 4 to 12.

Yourtutor is available Monday to Friday from 4pm-8pm. Access is available from home or at the Library. To access the service:

Step 1: Go to www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/library/web resources/yourtutor.htm
Step 2: Select yourtutor
Step 3: Type in your library card number
Step 4: Select the school year level, and subject and wait to be connected to the next available yourtutor tutor.

Option 2: Homework Help

Homework Help is designed to assist students from Years 3 to 12 during school terms. Bookings are not required - just turn up with your homework or essay/assignment. The program does not provide one-on-one intensive tutoring, but focuses on homework assistance in a group setting. Homework Help is held during the school term.

@ Marrickville Library: Tuesday 4.00pm - 8.00pm
Our tutor specialises in high school English including Advanced and General, Modern and Ancient History.

@ Dulwich Hill Library: Thursday 4.30pm - 7.30pm
Our tutor specialises in general Homework Help from primary to high school.

Youth Services

Computer access including free internet

Library members can book internet terminals in all branches. Bookings can be made in the library or by phone. There is a limit of one hour per person per day. All the terminals have access to the internet and are linked to a black and white printer. All the computers have disc and USB drives and have Microsoft Office software.

Wireless Internet

Internet access is available for laptop computers through the Library’s wireless network. Two hour sessions are available upon request. Available at the Marrickville Library only.

Graphic Novels

The Library has a huge range of graphic novels for loan at all our branches. Titles can be reserved and we welcome suggestions for purchase. The collection is constantly growing and includes many popular series.

For further enquiries please either phone or email the Youth Librarian 9335.2165 libyl@marrickville.nsw.gov.au

Marrickville Library

Cnr. Marrickville & Petersham Rds. Marrickville. Phone 9335.2173 Fax 9335 2189
Email: library@marrickville.nsw.gov.au
Monday-Friday: 10am-8.30pm, Saturday 9.30am-5pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm

Branch Libraries - Opening hours

Monday-Wednesday 10am-5.30pm, Thursday 12.30pm-8pm, Friday closed.
Saturday 9am-12noon, Sunday closed.

Dulwich Hill Library 12-14 Seaview St., Dulwich Hill. Phone 9335.2182 Fax: 9564.2543
St Peters/Sydenham Library: 39 Unwins Bridge Rd., Sydenham. Phone/Fax 8335.2184
Stanmore Library: Douglas Street, Stanmore. Phone/Fax 9335.2183

High School Study Resources: All libraries hold a dedicated school resource collection that contains books, study guides, prescribed texts and other resources that support the school curriculum.

Readers Advisory Service: Marrickville Library Service has trained staff to help find information and resources for school assignments and projects. Marrickville Library Service also offers free information sessions to students who wish to learn more about online databases and using the internet effectively. Ask staff for more information.

Online Resource Databases: The Library provides free access to a number of databases for research use. Databases include: Macquarienet and World Book and Literary Reference and Novelist. See full list at: http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/library/webresources/databases.htm