



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

What an exciting and rewarding term this has been for students and staff at NHSPA. Thank you to all our parents for your continued support of the many events and performances we have held in the last five weeks.

SHOWCASE SEASON

It has been wonderful to see the return of Semester 1 Showcase and to welcome proud parents and family members to a plethora of performances in music, dance, and drama. Our students have appreciated the incredible opportunities they have had to learn from some of the finest arts practitioners in the State and to collaborate with each other. As always, our staff have been incredibly generous with their time, working long hours before and after school and on weekends to ensure performances are of the highest quality. A huge thank you to the "behind the scenes" staff including our technical and administration team. My thanks also to the P&C for their generosity in supporting every Showcase event including the alumni exhibition in the school's Art Gallery.

DIMITRIS BASIS CONCERT

As principal of NHSPA, there are many occasions when I am in awe of the talents of our students and feel tremendous pride in our achievements. One such occasion occurred on June 8, when the school orchestra (comprising fifty eight students) and senior choral ensemble (thirty two students) accompanied renowned Greek vocalist Dimitris Basis and his instrumentalists in a sold-out concert as part of the Sydney Greek festival.

The NHSPA orchestra which included music teachers Deborah McGowan, Philip Podreka and four alumni, mastered an extensive repertoire of over twenty songs under the watchful eye of musical director Emlyn Lewis-Jones, while choral director Ynping Mak led the senior choir to perform all songs in Greek. The standing ovation at the end of the concert was a fitting tribute to the considerable talents of our students and staff.



LEARNING TOGETHER PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCES

This year we have been trialling different approaches to providing feedback to parents in the form of Zoom meetings and face to face conferences. Parents of senior students have appreciated the convenience of "Zooming in", whereas parents in Years 7 and 8 have appreciated seeing the school and meeting teachers face to face. Student work has been on display during these meetings and Year 7 parents have had an opportunity to review some of the projects and other tasks in their child's e-learning portfolio prior to the meeting. All Semester 1 reports will be ready for parents to access via the parent portal at the end of this term.



Scene from 'Harp in the South'

AUDITIONS

Our new audition system which requires prospective performing arts students in Year 6 and Year 10 to submit a performance video as part of the process, is up and running. As usual, the standard has been very high for the limited places available. Students and parents will be notified early next term about the outcome of the audition. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Leonie Watts who has coordinated the audition process over many years and whose input into the new online system has been invaluable.

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMINATION

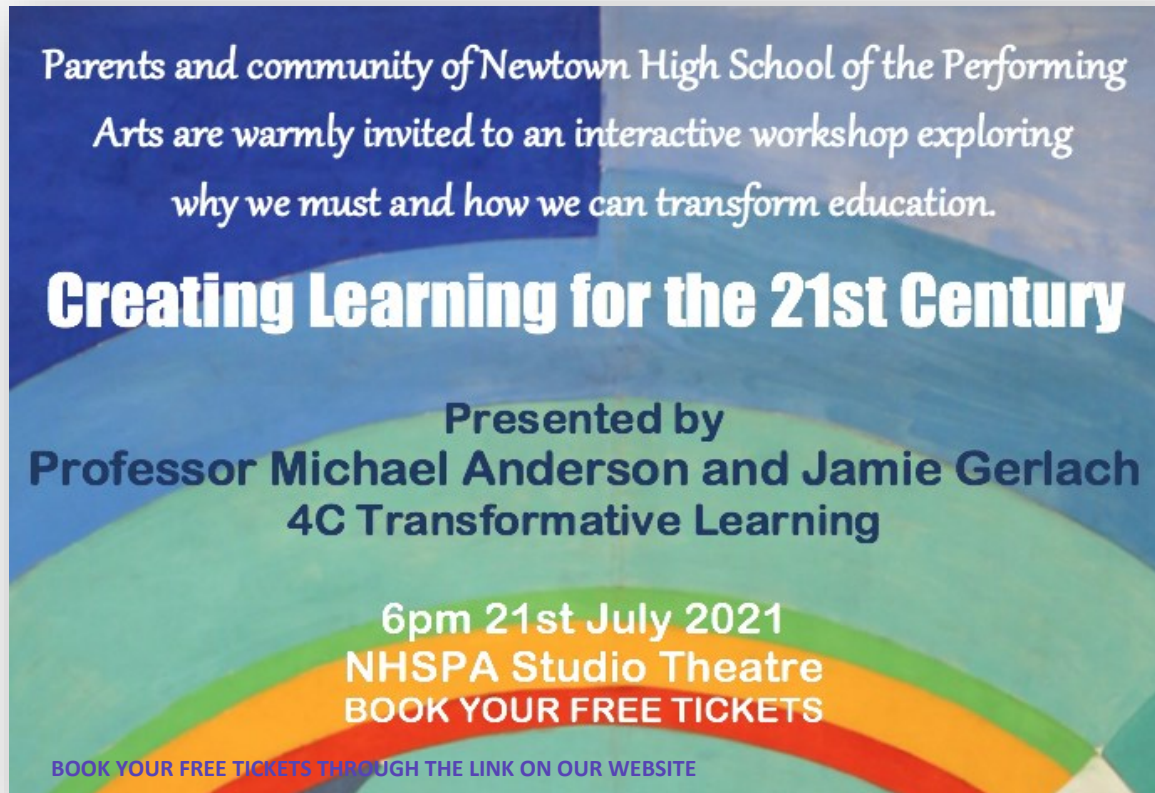
The HSC trial exams will take place on Tuesday 13 July. Parents are reminded that if students are unwell on the day of the exam, they must contact the school urgently and a medical certificate must be supplied when the student returns to school. We wish all our HSC students every success in their trial exams.

Wishing you all a very happy and relaxing holiday

SHARON ROBERTS
PRINCIPAL

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Creating Learning for the 21st Century— Parent Forum



Our schools were designed in a world that looks very different to the one we live in today. Over the past 30 years, technology has fundamentally changed how we work, live and learn. In the face of these changes many of our schools have begun to transform to make them more creative, collaborative, communicative and critically reflective places. In this interactive workshop we will explore the need for change by considering research around the evolving nature of life and work. We will then discuss how a focus on learning dispositions can prepare our young people to respond effectively to a shifting world.

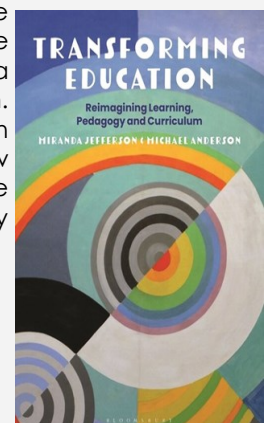
Finally, we will discuss how we can avoid false dichotomies in learning through the 4Cs and The Learning Disposition Wheel. These approaches can build innovative, deep and engaging learning that prepare our young people for the challenges of their present and our future.

Professor Michael Anderson (Co-founder & Academic Leader, 4C Transformative Learning) is an internationally recognised educational leader. He has taught, researched and published in education and transformation for over 20 years including 13 books and 55 book chapters and journal articles. His international research and practice focus on how the 4Cs can be integrated using coherent frameworks to make learning meet the needs of 21st Century learners.

Jamie Gerlach (Director of Operations, 4C Transformative Learning) has been engaged in innovative education for the past 7 years. He has designed and facilitated professional development in embodied literacy, 4C learning and school transformation. Mentoring and collaborating with school leaders, classroom teachers & student leaders. He has lectured and tutored emerging teachers at the University of Sydney in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and MBA students in University of Sydney Business School.

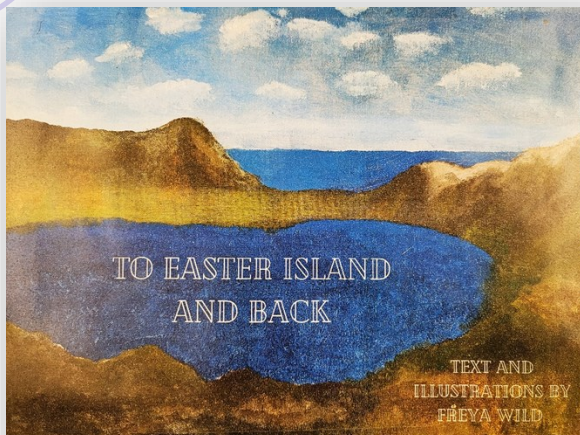
This is an exciting opportunity for parents to hear the research behind our practice at Newtown and to experience some of the embodied learning that your children are experiencing in classes. This workshop will allow our community to hear from the 4C Transformative Learning team who have been leading our staff on a journey of transformation. Participants will gain an insight into why and how NHSPA is adapting to suit the needs of 21st Century learners.

Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment!



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

In the Words of ENGLISH

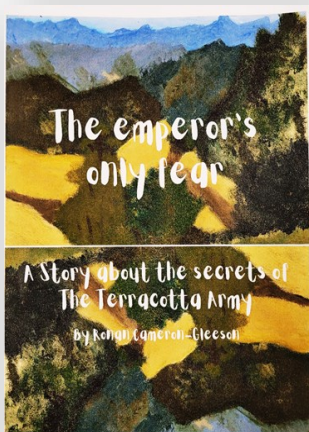


Freya Wild's Y 7 History Mystery Picture Book

The English Faculty would like to thank the Year 7 cohort for the time and effort that they have put into their History Mystery picture books this term. Their outstanding work has been a pleasure to read, exhibiting fantastic attention to detail and deep imaginative ability. The exquisite images and engaging narratives demonstrate the hard work of our students!

Our other cohorts have also been enjoying creative endeavours this term. Year 10 participated in their first in class exam in Week 9, demonstrating their ability to craft a short story through their own original compositions. Year 9 will be proudly displaying their presentation skills as they demonstrate what they have learnt about the artistry of Alfred Hitchcock, whilst Year 8 have displayed their enthusiasm for documentaries through composing a review. The English Faculty were thrilled to hear that many Year 8 and 9 students had watched additional films with their parents.

Debating continues, with Stage Four now entering the competition. We look forward to reporting on the progress of our Year 7 and 8 students in the competition! Additionally, our Stage 5 students are continuing to give their time to adjudicate Stage 3 debates at Newtown Primary School. Finally, we would like to congratulate Hannah Keogh who has been awarded Local Final Champion for the NSW Plain English -Speaking Award 2021. She spoke exceptionally at the regional round and displayed great composure under pressure. Marvellous effort Hannah!



Ronan Cameron-Gleeson's Yr 7 History Mystery



Shirley Kong sharing her Year 7 history Mystery Picture book with Bella Bracher



Stage 5 NHSPA students have been busy adjudicating debates at Newtown Primary School



Congratulations Hannah Keogh on receiving the local final champion award for 2021 English Speaking competition!

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY



Students in HSIE continue to participate in engaging activities to deepen their understanding and connection with learning across all subject areas, as illustrated in these images from Year 10 History, Year 11 Ancient History and Year 8 Commerce.

Year 9 History role play of Ancient Athenian 'direct democracy', with students divided up into 4 roles: male citizens, female citizens, metics and slaves; followed by a mock 'representative democracy' election; culminating in discussion of student voice at NHSPA 2021.



Year 11 Ancient History visit to the National Museum to explore and interact with artefacts from the Ancient World

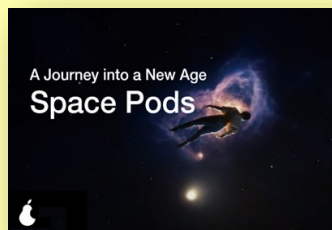


Mask wearer: Lucas Reynolds



Museum goes: Aris Argyrakis, Zoe Barton and Jesse Gibb

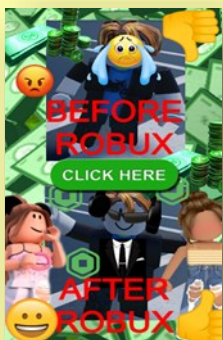
Meanwhile, Year 8 Commerce students have been learning about what makes an effective advertisement, and have put this into practice developing their own advertising campaigns which included pop-up social media ads, billboards, bus stop ads, TV ads and more!



Space Pods by Hugo Pafella Guthrie and Asher Chaudhary



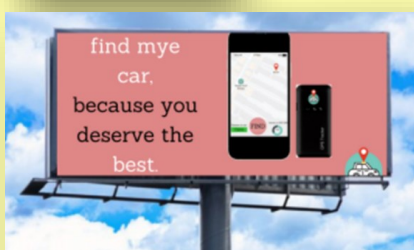
Get Vaccinated by Kai Dunstone, Hugo Foster and Leo Ford



Robux by Su-A Lee and Corrinne Wang



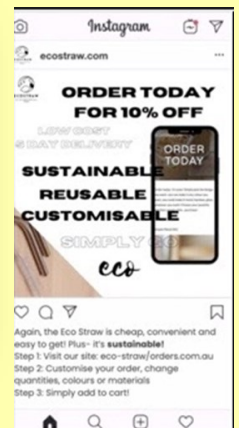
Rocket Cars by Rhea Daly, Edie Porter & Addiso Bourke



find mye car by Bonnie Kirgan, Mila Smith and Remy Beaven



Slab o concrete by Raffi Cole and Jovan Snelling



Eco Straws by Max Jackson



Princey by Polly Moran and Romona Sheikh-Saraf

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY



YEAR 7 HISTORY - MUMMIFICATION AND TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

7P History have recently been engaged in exciting hands-on creative activities in their study of ancient cultures. In the last part of this term they have been constructing Terracotta Warriors of their own design from clay and have 'mummified' dolls.

Throughout this process, they have learnt about important aspects of the Egypt and China and their explorations have allowed them to directly experience the important rituals and artisanship of these ancient

cultures and to widen their academic learning through realistic and creative endeavours.

These students deserve congratulations their efforts to apply themselves, as the processes involved have been complex and demanding. During this time they have used the Learning Disposition Wheel to guide and support each step of the process, initially considering the interactions between their natural curiosity and focus, through to discussing how teamwork and empathy will assist their efforts to think why and how, make and construct meanings and build new ideas.

As a person who has employed young people in the past, I have been impressed by their willingness to work as a cohesive group, their maturity and readiness to help others and their growing independence – important 'soft' skills that will pay dividends in the future.

Well done on a sterling (and entertaining!) effort, 7P.

A big thank you to Mr Chin for his assistance with group supervision and Ms



Priestley for organisational assistance.



Ms

YEAR 7 KINDNESS ASSEMBLY



Emily Dang, Asher Waring and Jacinta Prakash receiving merit awards from Principal Sharon Roberts and Year Advisor Dominique Sweers at the Year 7 Kindness Assembly

Year 7 came together this term to celebrate kindness and each other's success over the past semester. Year Advisor, Ms Dominique Sweers congratulated the students on the enormous number of merit awards they had received and spoke of how impressed she was that so many of these merits had been given to students who had demonstrated kindness and empathy towards their peers.

Jacinta Prakash from Year 7 student spoke to her peers about how her growth mindset has helped her this year. "No matter what the task is I put my mind to completing it to the best of my ability," she said "because I know if you have a fixed mindset then you will never try something new because you fear that you will get it wrong or won't succeed. But you can't always win, you may make mistakes and fail but that shouldn't stop you from doing new things. When you make mistakes it's a learning opportunity" she advised her peers. Jacinta concluded "no matter what comes your way just keep trying because you will succeed and trust me when you do it is the best feeling ever."

Congratulations to all our students who have demonstrated empathy for others, resilience in their learning and who have embraced learning opportunities this semester.

"No act of
kindness
however small
is ever
wasted"

Aesop

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SCIENCE .report

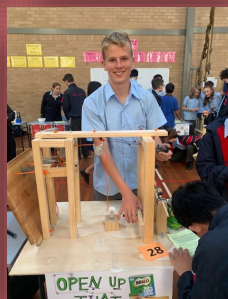


Year 8 enjoyed a whole day of science for the Machine Expo, for which they have been working extremely hard over the term. Students had to work in groups to come up with an original machine that incorporated at least three simple machines to perform a chosen function.

As always, we were blown away by the imagination and creativity shown by the students and their

resourcefulness in working out how to build their machines. Students also voted for their favourite designs and marketing campaigns and winners will be announced at the next year meeting. Congratulations to everyone for an amazing job and a fabulous day!

We would also like to wish Year 12 the best of luck for the Trial Exams. We are so proud of the dedication and resilience they have shown.



Where Are They Now ?

Harley Mann — Djinang Circus

Celebrating success in the world of Circus!...

Article from the SMH

"Mann grew up in Gadigal country, in Sydney's Dulwich Hill, and studied at the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, where one of his drama teachers introduced him to circus. He specialises in aerial rope and has performed with some of Australia's top contemporary circus groups, including Brisbane-based Circa and Casus, as well as Circus Oz.

In 2017, Mann established Na Djinang Circus, which translates to 'hands and feet' in Wakka Wakka. The idea of the company is to incorporate culture into the works and create inclusive, accessible shows, as well as exploring spiritual reasoning versus modern, scientific reasoning. He is studying his final year at the National Institute for Circus Arts."

Damon Poppleton & Arkie Moore —

Encore HSC Music 2020

Celebrating success in the world of Music!...

We congratulate former NHSPA students Damon Poppleton and Arkie Moore on their achievement of being chosen as one of the 2020 HSC Music students from NSW Public/Private Schools to be included for Encore (a program of outstanding performances and compositions by students from the HSC Music examinations presented by the NSW Education Standards Authority and the NSW Department of Education)



Abby Gallaway, Kelsi Boyden, Angus Debnam-Carey — 'Schapelle, Schapelle'

Celebrating success in the world of Theatre!...

NHSPA Congratulates a number of former students on their achievement of being involved in the musical 'Schapelle, Schapelle', recently staged in Sydney as part of the 2021 Sydney Comedy Festival. The musical was co-written and directed by Abby Gallaway, features Kelsi Boyden as the lead role, and involved many other talented musicians such as Angus Debnam-Carey. The musical got a 4-star rating in Time Out!

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

For NAIDOC celebrations, our 9/10 Extension Choir and Olivia Fox were invited to perform as part of a special event held in Paramatta. Special guests included the Secretary of the Department of Education and Executive Directors and Directors from across Department and was live streamed to the 2,157 public schools.

The choir, directed by Tanya Sparke, performed the song 'Kulba Yady', by Christina Anu (the artist was also part of the celebrations). Olivia Fox performed an arrangement of 'Raining on the Rock' accompanied by Ben Swissa, Fergus Harley-Macdonald and Fin Moore.

In a beautiful moment of spontaneity, the students met the performer Ziggy Ramo' who was keen to perform with the choir. In a very short turn-around, the choir arranged and performed 'From Little Things' with Ziggy. The video will be available on the Department website



NHSPA SOUNDS of Music

NEWTOWN: More than 350 mesmerised audience members, swayed, clapped in time and sang along with internationally-acclaimed Greek singer and musician, Dimitris Basis in his second collaborative concert with Newtown High School of the Performing Arts (NHSPA).

"You are home," NHSPA Principal Sharon Roberts said to Mr Basis after a standing ovation affirmed the stellar performance on June 8 – her remark summing up the closeness sparked at his first concert with the students in 2019, which had made him a cherished member of the NHSPA family.

Fifty-eight students from the NHSPA orchestra, 37 from the school's specially formed choral ensemble, and four NHSPA alumni accompanied Mr Basis to pay tribute to 200 years of Greek music and the inspirational musicians that had shaped it. Other musicians performing on the night included George Doukas (guitar and musical arrangements), Thanasis Pylarinos (bazouki) and Paul Meader (bass guitar), George Karantonis (singer) along with staff members Ynping Mak (choral director), Deborah McGowan (violin) and Philip Podreka (clarinet).

Musical Director Emlyn Lewis-Jones received a warm embrace from Mr Basis who said that, despite their inability to speak each other's language, the pair had formed a deep connection through their love for and performance of fine music.

Concerts with the talented students and teachers at NHSPA, he said, were firmly embedded in his heart and soul and cherished as career highlights.

Mr Basis's silky and commanding voice led the audience through 22 songs which charted the history of Greek music over last 200 years and the Greek people's struggle for freedom and independence from the Ottoman Empire.

The works showcased genres of Smyrneika (19th and 20th Century), Rembetika (turn of the 20th Century to the 1950s), Laika (1960s and '70s) and more contemporary styles for theatre and cinema.

Renowned Greek artists whose songs featured in the concert included Vasilis Tsitsanis, Manos Hadzidakis, Mikis Theodorakis, Stavros Xarhakos and Dimitris Mitropanos. Crowd favourites on the night were "Pame Mia Volta Sto Feggari", "Rosa", "Zorba" and "Sinefiasmeni Kiriaki". An encore of "Spasmeno Kavari" was a rousing finale.

Festival committee member and careers advisor for NHSPAULA George told the *South Sydney Herald* that while Covid-19 had disrupted plans for NHSPA musicians to travel to Athens in 2020 to work with Mr Basis and young people studying at the Athenian Conservatoire, the plan had not been forgotten and would be revisited when borders opened and travel was safe again.

"We will ride on the coattails of tonight to give us energy – and do whatever we can to ensure the students get there! Their love of Greek music, so evident tonight, will blossom in its ancient birth-place."

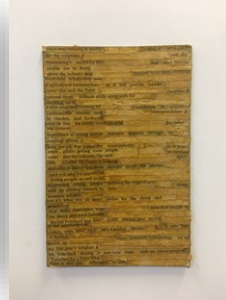
This article is from The South Sydney Herald, Published 16/06/2021

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THROUGH THE EYES OF



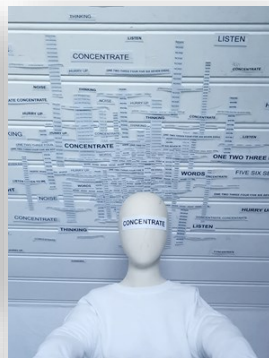
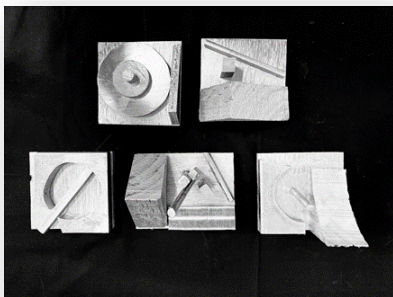
Visual Arts will be having a 'Best Of' exhibition of student work in the King Street Gallery on Tuesday the 20th of July from 4-6pm. Please come along to celebrate our students' success, here is a sneak peak of some of the works on display...



Year 11 had their Sculpture, Performance and Installation night, there have been some wonderful installations and impressive performances that were installed throughout the school on Wednesday 16th of June



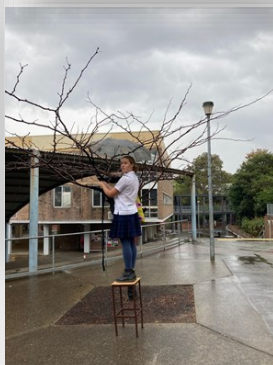
Hannah Keogh (above), Chris Wolczak & Chloe Shelsher (below)



Year 8PPP are loving colour mixing at the moment!! Their



Sarah Tuitahi, Isobel Chisholm, and a detail of Georgia Nicholl's work



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

ART continued...

Year 7 have been learning watercolour techniques and editing in photoshop to create a poster design in celebration of this year's NAIDOC Week theme: Heal Country!



The ALUMNIGHT exhibition has been a great success and the Visual Arts faculty would love to thank the P&C for looking after the exhibition on the showcase evenings, as well as the wonderful Gabrielle McCoy who has come and minded the exhibition over the past few weeks- we couldn't do it without you all!



Pearl Smith



Jack Thorn

The annual HSC Exhibition will be held in St Georges Hall on Wednesday the 18th of August. We have some fabulous artworks forming, here are some of the works in progress



Eva Fielding



Peter Judge



Jasmin Mowbray



Lovena Young