

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

What an exciting term this is proving to be. In the last couple of weeks, we have been treated to two stunning music concerts The Big Night Out featuring our accomplished senior students and Vivo which showcased the considerable talent of our younger students. It was fantastic to see students performing in string ensembles, choirs, percussion groups, and to experience the excitement of the full symphony orchestra coming together under the baton of Emlyn Lewis-Jones and Deborah McGowan. One of the most impressive items was the original compositions created and performed by our students during lockdown. Seeing individual performances on screen, highlighted just how lonely and challenging it was for our students during this time. I want to thank the music staff and guest tutors for inspiring our students to perform with confidence and pride. Our musicians are indeed fortunate to learn from some of the best in the industry.

Watch out for dance and drama showcase events in the next few weeks, tickets can be purchased from the school's website.

WELCOME TO OUR YEAR 7 PARENTS

It is always such a pleasure to welcome our new parents to the school and to give them an opportunity to meet each other and key staff in an informal, relaxed environment. This year our new parents were given a brief taste of experiential learning by Ms Giovanna Trenoweth our Head Teacher Learning and Innovation. It was great to see parents meeting each other and getting involved. A huge thank you to Year 7 Deputy Ms Nilaufer Rajwar, Year Advisors Ms Alice Chen and Ms Rachael Holland and to the Head Teachers and staff. Thank you as well to the P&C for hosting this event.

FOCUS ON LITERACY AND NUMERACY

An increasingly important aspect of teachers' work is analysing student data including NAPLAN (Years 7 and 9), Best Start (Year 7), Check In (Year 8) and RAP (Year 12). The Department's aim is to provide teachers with accurate, diagnostic information about each student so that learning can be personalised and students experiencing difficulties or who are not achieving expected growth can receive additional academic support. At the start of the term the school's Literacy and Numeracy team assisted staff to take a deep dive into our data and review teaching and learning programs. I would like to acknowledge the expertise of this team led by Jack Taylor (Head Teacher English) and thank them for their work in the lead up to this event.

P&C MATTERS

This year we have had renewed interest from parents and carers keen to become involved in the school's P&C organisation. This group plays a vital role in the life of the school by supporting various initiatives and events as well as raising funds and approving expenditure for much needed additional resources and equipment that benefit all our students. Their latest initiative was to organise a second-hand sale of uniform items donated to the school during the last couple of years. The support for this initiative was overwhelming. Students and parents flocked to snap up uniform bargains and the money raised will be put towards improving our facilities. A big thank you to Langer Ulrike, Marina Pieri and Belinda Davey for making this event such a success, I anticipate that this may become a regular event.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SCHOOL LEAVE

With the return of overseas travel, I have had many requests to grant school approved leave to students wishing to travel overseas for family reunions or extended holidays. While overseas travel can broaden perspectives and promote cultural understanding, student absence outside of the vacation period causes considerable disruption to individual learning, the learning of other students who may be involved in group presentations or performances and causes extra work for the teaching staff. For these reasons applications for extended leave are only approved for three reasons: work in the Entertainment Industry, elite sporting events or for compassionate or exceptional circumstances. This term staff illness and teacher shortages have taken a considerable toll on the operation of the school. While we are fortunate to have a small group of dedicated casual teachers we can call on to supervise classes, at times, despite our best efforts we may not be able to cover all classes. We hope there will be some improvement to this situation in the coming months.

Sharon Roberts
Principal

THE VOICE OF ENGLISH

Term two has been a wonderful term for creativity. Across all years, students have been exploring the world of writers, immersing themselves in rich literature and discovering how and why writers engage their audiences. Using the texts as mentor texts, students produced their own pieces to share with their fellow students and teachers alike.

Debating and Public Speaking always creates a whirlwind of excitement in term 2, with Ms Chen's highly committed and competitive Year 11 debating team winning two debates in a row against North Sydney Girls High and Fort Street High. Well done to Andrew, James, Sophia and Tigerlily. A special mention to Hermione MacKay, who jumped in as team advisor for the second debate. In the public speaking arena, Hannah Keogh attended the Regional round of the Plain English Speaking Awards, an outstanding achievement!

Reading has also been the trend this term with our junior years taking part in regular reading events in the classroom. We have seen numerous students in and out of the library as they search out new titles. Parents have also been reporting these reading habits are flowing through to the home and we could not be more thrilled.

An excerpt from one of our promising Year 7 writers

The sky was slashed with rich hues of blue, gleaming like a sapphire in dappled sunlight. I peered at the dew drops on the weeping willow tree, waltzing together on the branches. I smiled a smile of pity for the tree, for she had been inconsolable. The dewdrops paused for a moment, then turned their heads and slid off the leaves, laughing and glinting as they whirled about in the sunbeams.

'Grief' – By Laila Pasqualini



DEBATING
**Tigerlily. Andrew,
James, & Sophia**



PUBLIC SPEAKING
Hannah Keogh



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

HSIE HAPPENINGS

As we welcome back a caring and dedicated, Matilda Roberts to the HISE Faculty, we sadly farewell Ms van Maanen, a dearly loved teacher by all students and staff, who will be greatly missed at NHSPA

MUMMIFICATION IN 7W

Year 7 History students have been studying Ancient Egypt, learning about different aspects of the ancient society. In this lesson they got to work on mummifying a "body". The students in 7W were able to learn the process step by step, acting out each step, getting a visual and hands on experience, nurturing their curiosity and drive.



CREATIVE HISTORY PROJECT IN 7T

Similarly, students across Year 7 are currently learning through the creative history project in which they choose an aspect of Ancient Egypt to research and create their own 'secondary source' about, which they will present and explain to their classmates. Here are some of the 7T students at work.



YEAR 8 COMMERCE ADVERTISING FAILS

In Year 8 Commerce, students have been working enthusiastically on turning an advertising fail into a success. Here are some of them, sharing their projects, giving and receiving feedback and reflecting on their learning.



HISTORY SHOWS

In the last week of term 2 the annual History Shows will be taking place.

The Year 7 show is happening Tuesday 28 June and the Year 8 show is on Friday 1 July. These shows are supervised by Year 7/8 teachers and presented by James Adams who has worked with us for many years. James gives a very interesting and humorous insight into the armour, weaponry and society of the Ancient World for Year 7 and the Vikings for Year 8, with opportunities for all students to get involved. The students absolutely love this event! Details will be communicated to students via the daily notices on Sentral in the days leading up to the event.

The \$8 cost is covered in the school contributions for History – If contributions have not yet been paid this amount can be paid to Front Office.

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

KEEPING UP WITH PDHPE

FIRST AID WITH YEAR 12

Postponed in 2021, Year 12 were finally able to complete their First Aid Certificate with Surf Life Saving NSW. It was a highly informative event, with students practising CPR and learning about the correct procedures and management for injuries and medical conditions. This course complemented practical application for their current HSC PDHPE studies.



YEAR 11

Students are exploring how the body moves and why it moves in particular ways, focusing on the relationships between anatomy, physiology, fitness, biomechanics and efficient human movement.

They participated in an interactive activity where they investigated how the musculoskeletal and cardio respiratory systems of the body work together to respond to a specific sporting movement.

Year 7 started their PDHPE journey with a practical team challenges unit. Students were encouraged to assess their own abilities and contribute back to the group whilst developing communication skills through participating in a range of activities. The highlight of the unit was the NHSPA Scavenger hunt where students completed a range of questions whilst exploring the school grounds.

SYDNEY ACADEMY OF SPORT

Our Year 12 students had the opportunity to attend Sydney's Academy Sport and Recreation Centre. The workshops were delivered by Sport Analysts and gave our students access to equipment and facilities to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the HSC PDHPE curriculum theory with practice. Students participated in hot and cold recovery pools, VO2 max testing and strength gym sessions.



The new Stage 5 elective has begun with a BANG! Students are enjoying a wide range of practical activities testing their physiological abilities as part of the Physical Fitness unit. At present, they are designing an individual training program for the school cross country to investigate how training programs are created. They will be monitoring their heart rates using our Polar heart sensors class set in addition to using the Strava app to track their training.

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SNAPSHOTS FROM TAS

OZ HARVEST FEAST

This Year TAS has piloted a new Technology Mandatory unit in the Food and Agriculture strand, in partnership with Oz Harvest. This has been an exciting addition to our Technology Mandatory courses with six of our Year 7 students learning about food waste, food security and sustainability and how they can respond to these issues. This culminated in an expo with students promoting ways in which you can minimise food waste and utilise many good ingredients that so often end up in landfill.



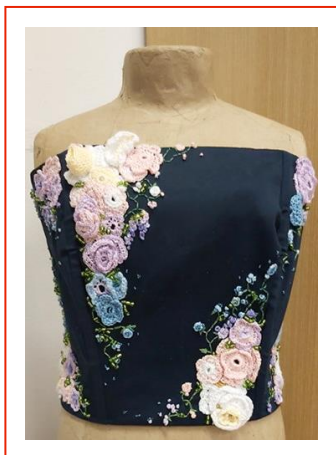
YEAR 9 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This term, students have been studying the evolution of Australian Cuisine beginning with First Nations people and the dietary changes that took place following the arrival of British settlers in 1788. Students have also researched how many Australian chefs are experimenting with fusion cuisine. Pictured are some of the students enjoying a 'Mexican pizza', a traditional Italian pizza with a hot, spicy Mexican beef topping.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Using the Edison Robots and creator kits Year 7 have been learning computer science, developing skills in writing computer programs and getting creative as budding future innovative inventors.



TEXTILES AND DESIGN

Year 11 students have just recently completed their first Preliminary Project. Students have undertaken the construction of either a waistcoat or corset utilising complex manufacturing skills. Our textile students continue to amaze us with their skill and creativity given that the majority undertake the course without any prior knowledge or experience. We are all looking forward to seeing how the cohort embraces the HSC Major Textiles Project!

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

DANCE

HSC DANCE COMPOSITION NIGHT FOR FLOOD RELIEF

Congratulations to all our year 12 HSC Dance students and their Composition dancers on a fantastic evening performance in May. Parents and friends came along to see the solo 'works' year 12 have choreographed and taught to their dancer, performed on stage in St Georges Hall. Thank you to Ben Turner and the technical production crew of students who assisted in making this evening of excellence. We raised \$912.23 that was donated to flood relief this week! We wish our year 12 dancers all the best in their final weeks of term 2 as they prepare for their HSC trials and final Dance practical exams in weeks 4 & 5 of term 3.



ON THE CALENDAR

LIGHTHOUSE DANCE PROJECT

Thursday 9th June and Friday 10th June
A 2 day program for senior students across the performing arts high schools in Sydney including NHSPA that aims to educate dancers in their tertiary career options in Dance. Representatives from tertiary dance institutions around Australia such as Sydney Dance Company's Pre-professional program (SDCPY), Western Australian, Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), Adelaide College of the Arts (ACA- Flinders University) and The Australian College of Physical Education (ACPE) are invited to teach workshops and talk to senior secondary dancers about the courses that are on offer invaluable insight into the possible pathways they may choose in the future.

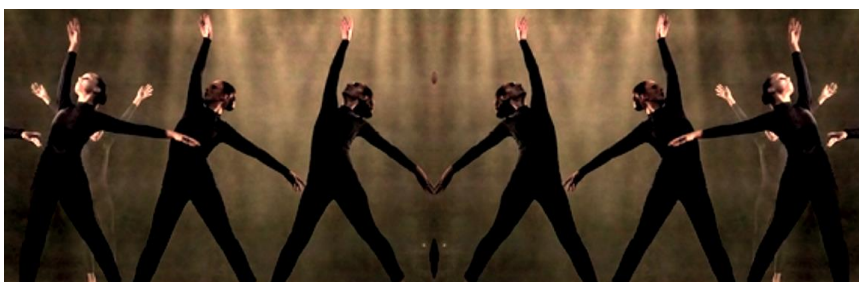
**Tickets for Dance Showcase available
via the Seymour Centre website.**

IN THE SPOTLIGHT DANCE FESTIVAL ITSDF

JUNE 16-24, Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre
A number of our co-curricular companies and ensembles were successful in being programmed into ITSDF 2022. This festival showcases dance from primary through to high school within our school region. Tickets are available for purchase through the Seymour Centre website. Check with your dancer to confirm their performance date and time before purchasing tickets. We wish all our dancers the very best.

DANCE SHOWCASE SATURDAY JUNE 18

Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre, 7.30pm
An evening of excellence in Dance, showcasing our Co-curricular, and Classical Ballet Companies and Ensembles. Include faculty choreographed pieces along with works from industry professionals Gilli O'Connell, Victor Zarallo-Munoz, Holly Doyle, Sophie Holloway and Mitchell Christie, who has been commissioned to create a work for our Boys Ensemble 2022.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THE WORLD OF DRAMA

PREPARATIONS FOR SHOWCASE SEASON ARE IN FULL SWING!

Preparations are well on the way for our first major showcase in Week 9, where we will feature 3 works by Year 9, Year 9/10 composite, and Senior Drama Companies.

This Place is a Shelter (Gonda Company)

An original work that explores the relationship we have with a place that *holds* us, or *what* makes a home a home, which led us on a journey of joy, heartbreak, frustrations and triumphs and a realisation that no matter where one considers home, the complexities that come with it, there will always be a place that *you can return to*.

Joan (Van Munster Company)

With faith, courage, and strength Joan leads France to victory against the English! The company has adapted Bernard Shaw's Classic play, *Saint Joan*, which explores the life and death of a village girl from France, burnt for heresy, witchcraft, and sorcery, and questions if this is in fact was why?

Woyzeck (Kavanagh Company)

This explores the idea of *How far can you push one man until he snaps?* A re-imagined version of the classic expressionist work by Georges Buchner has been shaken up, stirred and reshaped by the cast for the 21st Century.

REHEARSALS



THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC

MUSIC CONCERT SERIES



Sienna Langenheim
SASSPA Conference,
attended by, Minister
Sarah Mitchell and
Deputy Secretary
School Operations
and Performance for
the Department of
Education, Murat
Dizdar.



It is with great pleasure and relief that we return to live performances, marked by the Music Concert Series in Weeks 5 and 6.

The Big Night Out series featuring *Symphony Orchestra, Senior Choir, Senior Extension Choir, Wallis Percussion Ensemble, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Senior String Ensemble and Jazz Orchestra*, were truly inspiring performances that only our students can truly bring to the fore, even after being challenged in through lockdowns in 2020/2021.

Featured was also the recording of Flynn Poppleton's symphonic composition **The Fallen Battle**.

The **Vivo Music Concert** Series, featured the Junior and Intermediate Choirs, Extension Choirs, Cheah and Zangari Guitar Ensembles, WOMP, Corelli String Ensemble and Concert Band, with Wallis Percussion 2020 and Jazz Orchestra 2020's work in lockdown also acknowledged.

The return of the enjoyment of live immersive music with its full dynamism, breadth of colour and light, could not be possible without the dedication of the musical directors at NHSPA and external: Tanya Sparke, Jeffrey Cheah, Giuseppe Zangari, Alistair Wallis and Jason Isaac.

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THROUGH THE EYES OF VISUAL ARTS

Year 7 have been painting a range of colourful and expressive Australian landscapes that will be on show later this term. The paintings are from part of their first unit of study on the environment.



Year 8 students are developing their hand-building skills to create coil pots, while Year 9 have been exploring the possibilities of collage and artworks made from found materials, using sophisticated composition and aesthetic value.

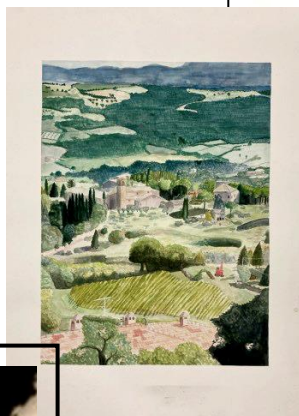
Works will be exhibited in the King Street Gallery on Thursday 23rd of June.



Year 10 students have been studying Idealism/Realism, exploring the subject matter of anatomy, feathers and bones while working with charcoal, chalk, graphite, ink and drypoint etching.

Year 11 Visual Arts

The *Places and Spaces* exhibition currently in the King Street Gallery showcases an incredible range of students' drawings featuring various locations, architecture and scenery.



Year 11 Photography

Images of the school were taken with homemade pinhole cameras.



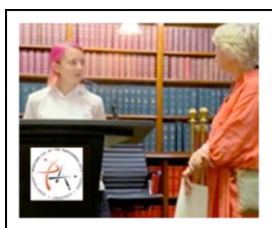
VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Australian Champion Gymnast

Congratulations to Angelina Boland, who recently competed at the Australian National Championships in Gymnastics, (representing NSW) and came home with 3 GOLD medals and a SILVER, becoming this year's Australian Champion for Rhythmic Gymnastics in *Ribbon and Ball*!

During this year, two of our students will perform as feature artists at the Southern Stars Arena Spectacular. Congratulations Georgia and Bella!



Soroptimist International (SI) is a worldwide volunteer service organisation for women who work for peace, and in particular to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

For the past 15 years, through this grant, SI Sydney has supported our young women in Year 10, to pursue their studies in years 11 and 12, so that they may continue to reach their future dreams.

Congratulations to our 2020 and 2021 recipients of the grant, Sophia Foster, Cassie Spillane and Sophia Stratigos! Labour Member of the Legislative Assembly and Member for Blue Mountains, Trisha Lee Doyle, presented the students with their award at Parliament House.



YEAR 10

SUBJECT INFORMATION AFTERNOON

Includes a presentation by the DP of Curriculum re: NESA requirements for senior studies and subject information from all faculties re: courses / levels of study offered at NHSPA, course outlines and external courses that are possible in VET or Languages.

Details of the day's schedule will be sent to all parents of Years 10, 11 and 12 early in Term 3.

After a positive start to the year, preparations for the NHSPA Careers EXPO, UAC (Universities Admissions Centre) Talks for Y10 and Y12, and Year 10 Subject Information Day, are well on the way to go ahead on Thursday August 18.

THE EXPO EXHIBITION will have representatives from Universities, Colleges, TAFE, NSW Health, ADF, Apprenticeship and Traineeship providers and more! They will be available for you and students to discuss future pathway options (Year 11 / 12) and what Year 10 need to consider before making their subject choices for the HSC?



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

FROM OUR P&C

On May 9th, NHSPA P&C hosted the year 7 welcome. Thank you to all year 7 parents/carers who attended. It was an enjoyable and informative evening. The P&C served pastizzi, doughnuts, tea and coffee, while parents had a chance to mingle with each other. Thank you to all NHSPA teachers and staff and P&C parent volunteers for helping make this evening a success.

On the same night, we also held our first ever 2nd-hand uniform sale for year 7 parents. It was a huge success and because of this, a whole school sale was held for parents and students on Friday June 3rd for second hand uniforms and performance blacks. This reuse initiative preserves our planet's valuable resources and saves you money, all while raising funds for NHSPA P&C to invest back into the school.

It was great to see the students making purchases for themselves. There was real sense of community and as well as reducing the impact on the environment. The P&C raised around \$4,000 at these two sales.

Thank you to the school community for supporting this important initiative.

Thank you also to all the P&C parent volunteers who assisted to make these two events such a success and to the school office for collecting donations and their assistance. We hope to make this a regular event.

As usual, we are running the always popular cafes for Drama, Dance and Music showcases.

This adds a real ambience to the showcases. Their success depends on parent volunteers and yummy baked goodies so please support the upcoming showcases.

Parents and carers are most welcome to attend our P&C meetings. The next meeting will be held on June 14 at 6:00pm and will be a hybrid meeting.



We welcome new members and donations which will support school initiatives. If you would like to join or make a donation, you can do so by **either:**

making a transfer to NHSPA P&C Committee

BSB: 062-212. Account No: 00904422

Please include your email address in the reference field

OR

-or-

Visiting <https://square.link/u/JGGs9tB5> for credit card payment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any issues or enquiries you may have:

newtownhighschoolperformingarts@pandcaffiliate.org.au