

THE VOICE OF NEWATTOWN

HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

EDITION 3 2022

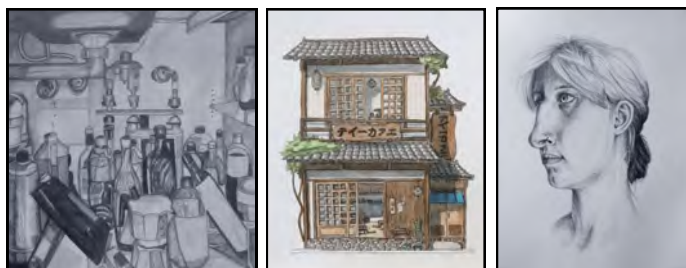
FROM OUR PRINCIPAL...

MAJOR WORKS ON SHOW

Term 3 is always an exciting and eventful time, with our HSC students completing their major works and preparing for their practical performances and project submissions in the coming weeks.

The work exhibited by our talented writers, performers, artists, and designers reflects their commitment, and dedication to their courses. It is always a pleasure to talk to proud family and friends attending HSC Showcase events and to hear from the students about their concepts and inspiration for their works. Congratulations to all HSC students on the completion of their projects and to their teachers who have put in long hours to support the students to achieve their best.

I look forward to farewelling our Year 12 cohort at their graduation on September 23.



SCHOOL STAFFING

Most parents would be aware of the severe staffing shortage faced by all schools across the state. Unfortunately, this issue, combined with teacher absence due to illness, is impacting not only our learners but also on the smooth running of the school.

Please be advised that we are doing everything we can to ensure that classes are covered with a teacher who has subject expertise. However, despite our best efforts this is not always possible. It is hoped that the situation will improve next term.

YEAR 7 PHONE FREE FRIDAYS

There has been a considerable amount of media coverage recently about the distractions caused by the use of mobile phones in classrooms and in the playground. For this reason, the school has been trialling a phone free Friday initiative to encourage students to reduce their use of phones, particularly at recess and lunch. Feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive and Year 7 have adjusted well to not accessing their phones during the day. To determine our next steps, parents, staff, and students will be consulted and findings will be communicated next term.

YEAR 10 CAREERS EXPO AND SUBJECT SELECTION

Year 10 and 11 information sessions held last week, provided a valuable opportunity for students and parents to learn about the HSC credential and to make informed decisions about courses and patterns of study in the senior years. This year our students were fortunate to attend an "in-house" Careers Expo to assist them to focus on future education pathways and possible career options.

A big thank you to our Careers Advisor, Ms George, for organising the Expo and to Deputy Principal, Peter Shields, for his informative presentation on HSC requirements. Thank you as well to the Executive who were on hand to discuss course offerings and subject information.



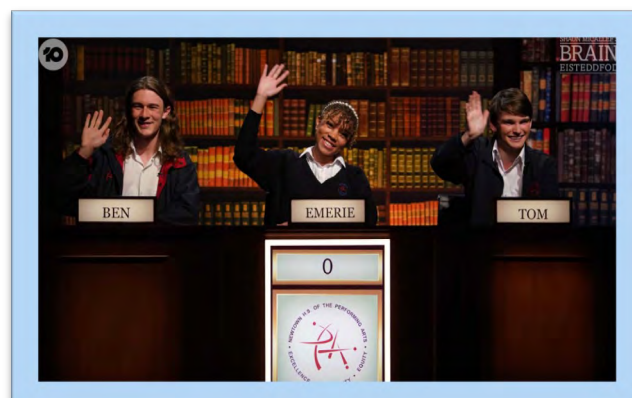
Shaun Micallef's Brain Eisteddfod on Channel 10

Be watching Channel 10 this Thursday 8 September at 7.30pm when our school team of **Emerie Boone, Ben Clarke, James Kwan and Tom Hillard** take on the team from Suzanne Cory High School on Shaun Micallef's Brain Eisteddfod.

The show tests year eleven students from across Australia on their foreign language skills, knowledge of Australiana, mathematics, physics, art and more, aiming to find the brightest sparks in the country!

If you can't watch Thursday night – catch it on 10 Play!
#BrainEisteddfod

Best of luck to the NHSPA Team



Sharon Roberts
Principal

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BAND AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

The NHSPA Jazz Orchestra won Gold in the *Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival* at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. After nearly two years away from state-wide competitions, it was wonderful to see the ensemble gaining recognition for their hard work in maintaining their high performance standard.

Their section, *Premium Stage Band*, was the highest level for a stage band and included ensembles from both public and private schools across the state. One of the 4 pieces they performed was an incredibly complex Australian work in 7/4, called 'Cass'.

The audience's reaction to the students' challenging repertoire was outstanding and the adjudicator gave special mention to the ensemble's professional level of musicianship and attention to detail when awarding them with their gold plaque.



NHSPA Jazz Orchestra: Mira Browne, Jack Christensen, James Huynh, Tom Borbilas, Sebastian Mackenzie, Rhys Moore, Flynn Poppleton, Roman Schenoni, Alessandro Carozza, Ben Clarke, Charles Codsí, Mackenzie Cullen, Jude Cusbert, Fergus Harley-Macdonald, Finn Moore, Hugo Schmidt, Jasper Avtarovski, Jesse Gibb, Sam Kable, Henry Murray, and Christopher Weinstein.



CANTABILE CONCERT: Symphony Orchestra

Each year the NHSPA Symphony Orchestra (directed by Ms McGowan and Mr Lewis-Jones) are asked to accompany the NSW state primary schools choir for their performance at the Cantabile Concert. Covid has interrupted this schedule and on the 15th August we were back in the saddle after two and half years of non performance outside of the school.

The brand new acoustically designed concert hall of the Sydney Opera House welcomed our students as the first school orchestra to perform in the new space. The orchestra was very excited by this opportunity and played brilliantly receiving wonderful accolades. Deborah McGowan conducted the *Bacchanlia* by Saint Saens to fulsome applause from the 2,400 people in the audience. You can watch a snippet of the rehearsal here:

[NHSPA Orchestra SOH.MOV](#)

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

What makes Newtown such a unique school are the opportunities we provide for all students to explore their creative talents through our extensive co-curricular program. As there are no additional funds to run such programs, we are reliant on annual fees charged to parents.

Fees collected are used to cover the cost of the employment of outside tutors, many of whom are leading practitioners in their field. Funds are also used to provide additional resources such as equipment, licence and copyright fees and other materials. Parents who have outstanding co-curricular fees are requested to settle their account by the end of this term so that we can plan for next year's exciting program, which includes a full-scale musical!

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THE WORDS OF ENGLISH

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DEBATING

English is immensely proud of the ongoing commitment and achievements of our public speakers and debaters. Aaliyah Dizdar, Year 8, and Matthew Pieri, Year 9, represented our school in the Junior Legacy Speaking Competition. In the first round of competition, there were 220 students from across the state who attended. Matthew was one of the 53 finalists chosen to proceed to the regional round of this competition. We would like to congratulate both Aaliyah and Matthew on their success.

Our combined **Year 9 and 10** debating team have progressed through to the zone competition, and we wish them all the best as they prepare to debate against Kirrawee High School. We look forward to providing an update on their progress next term!

CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

Classroom libraries will begin appearing in Term Four, with Year 7 and 8 students having the opportunity to borrow books from their classrooms. A curated selection of novels, contemporary and classic, fiction and non-fiction and graphic novels have been sourced, catering for a wide range of readers.



Additionally, the Renaissance Reading catalogue was consulted to ensure students can follow their reading progress as they immerse themselves in the new worlds that these libraries will provide.

Looking for your next read? Have a peek at some of the books below which will be popping up in our classroom libraries, or perhaps take inspiration from one of our Year 7 English classes.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HSC STUDENTS!

The English Faculty would like to congratulate our HSC students on the completion of their Trial HSC Examinations, and our Extension 2 English students on the completion of their Major Works.

Your dedication to improving your writing skills has been commendable, and we know that you will go on to achieve great things. Best of luck in your final examinations Year 12!



COLLABORATIVE LEARNING SPACES

The English Faculty is excited to announce that one of our English classrooms has become a creative and collaborative hub. This has been a welcome transformation of one of our learning spaces and is designed to encourage the purposeful sharing of ideas.

We look forward to offering more opportunities for student creativity and collaboration moving forward.

P&C NEWS

The P&C assisted at the student led Multicultural Day by running the sausage sizzle and the second hand uniform shop which were both a huge success. Thank you to all parents who came along and helped as well as students who ran their stalls with enthusiasm and efficiency. It was a wonderful and enjoyable day for the school.

The NHSPA P&C BIG yearly staff 'thank you' lunch will take place on Wednesday 14 September. The P&C would need lots of delicious food donations from parents which can be dropped off at the school on the day.

This is truly a special event held by the P&C to show our gratitude for the wonderful efforts of our hardworking and dedicated teachers and staff and thank them for all they have done for our children in the last few years.

Please join us at our next P&C meeting either in person in the common room or by ZOOM on Tuesday 13 September at 6.00pm. As Susan, a Year 7 parent said at the last meeting, "this is the best hybrid ZOOM meeting I've ever been to!"

The P&C will also be holding a second-hand senior uniform sale for Year 10 students moving into Year 11 in Term 4, date tbc.

Contact details:

newtownhighschoolperformingarts@pandcaffiliate.org.au

NHSPA P&C Executive

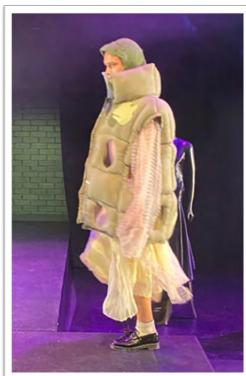
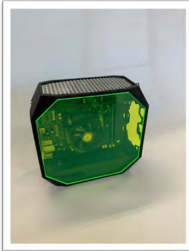
VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

DESIGNS SNAPSHOTS FROM TAS



Term 3 has been a hectic term with Year 12 Design and Technology completing their HSC Major Works for final submission. Students exhibited their work on Monday 29th August,

and this was a celebration of a year's worth of hard work. The feeling of achievement, excitement and relief was felt by the students, parents, and Ms Milos. Snapshots of some of the major works is evidence of the innovation and huge commitment that is required to produce both the product and folio.



Year 12 Food Technology have been a diligent group of students and continue to work hard in preparation for their final HSC exam.

Year 12 Textiles and Design kicked off a night of fashion and textile items on Wednesday 17th August, demonstrating a broad range of well manufactured and creative textile designs for their Major Textiles Project.

Congratulations to all our Year 12 students and we wish you all the best for the upcoming HSC exams.



THANK YOU to the Directors of the National Theatre of Australia, *Belle Buttrose, Larry Buttrose and Kim Cunio*, for their generous donation of a lighting desk, sound desk and theatre costumes

Year 7 Agriculture & SEED Partnership

The SEED team has worked hard to secure a grant for a sustainable garden. With the guidance and coordination of Mr Pico and Ms Gray, work has been

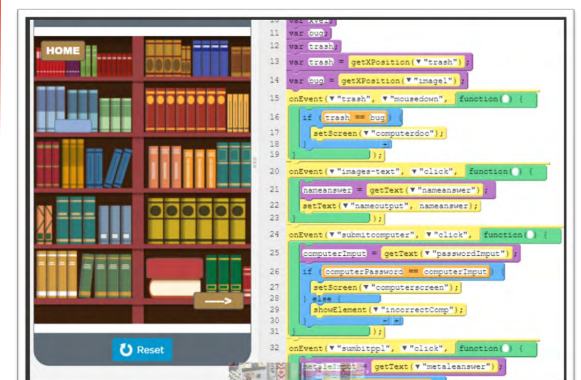
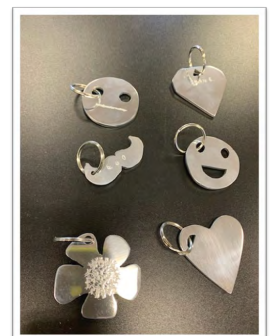
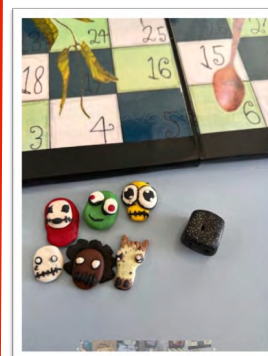


undertaken in partnership with the SEED team, 7TE1 and 7TE3. The garden has been planted outside St George's Hall and is bursting with a range of produce colour and aroma. Year 7 can't wait to start cooking with the produce!

Technology Mandatory

Students in Year 7 and 8 continue to be enthusiastic designers and have undertaken numerous design challenges in Technology Mandatory for units in jewellery design, engineering, textiles, robotics and digital technologies, board game design and food.

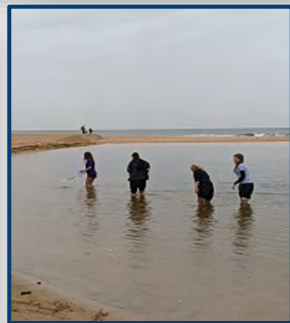
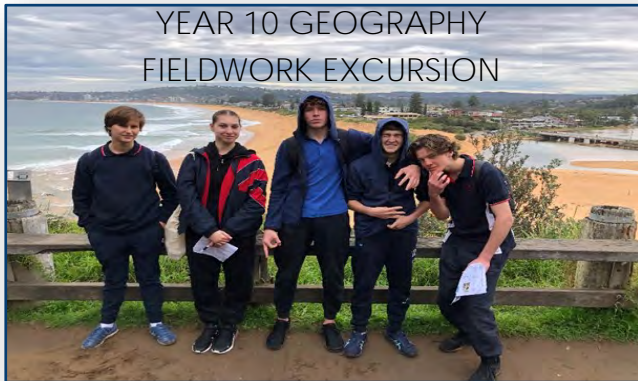
The creativity and attention to detail is amazing but even more so is the joy of watching the students hard at work as they create these pieces.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

HSIE HAPPENINGS

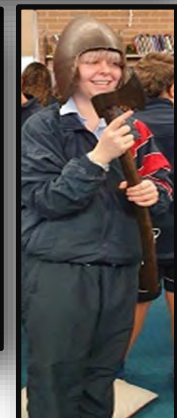
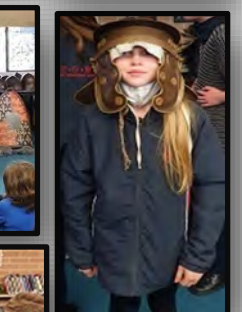
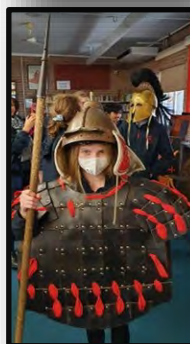
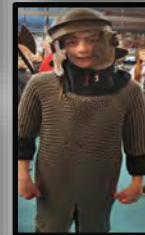
YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY
FIELDWORK EXCURSION



YEAR 12 THEN AND NOW...



YEAR 7 AND 8 HISTORY SHOWS



Students in HSIE continue to participate in engaging activities to deepen their understanding and connection with learning across all subject areas, and what better way to communicate this than through these collages of images from the **Year 10 Geography fieldwork excursion**, **Years 7 and 8 History Shows** and **Year 12 students preparing for the upcoming HSC exams** (and I've snuck in some from my Year 9 class of 2019!).

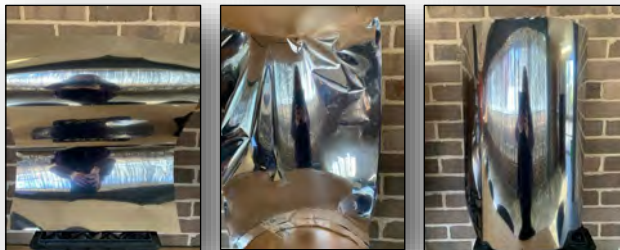
We wish our Year 12 students the very best of luck and remind you of Thomas Jefferson's famous quote: *"I am a great believer in luck and I find the harder I work the more I have of it"*. We've absolutely loved teaching you from Year 7 and right throughout your high school years! I for one always look back fondly to when I taught you in Year 9 - you were a fantastic bunch then and you still are, and we will miss you terribly!

Ms O'Neill and the HSIE Faculty

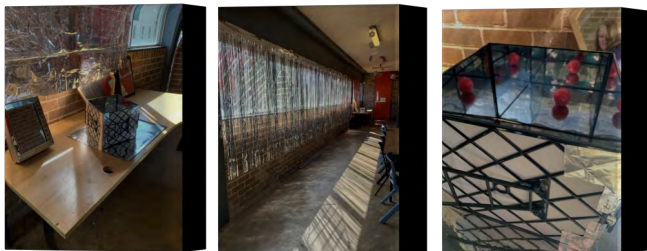
VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SCIENCE FACTS

It's been a busy term with a flurry of activities. We celebrated Science Week a few weeks ago with the theme "Glass, more than meets the eye".



The hardworking Science Club, with the help of Mrs Abrahams and Dr Prendergast, built a hall of mirrors for the school to enjoy, showing the different ways light responds to different reflective surfaces. Many students also participated in an escape room in class, solving clues hidden around the room, all on the theme of glass to crack the code before time ran out.



Year 10 has been learning about genetics and inheritance. Some photos of the Potato Family experiment are below that helped students to see how different traits can be passed on from generation to generation.

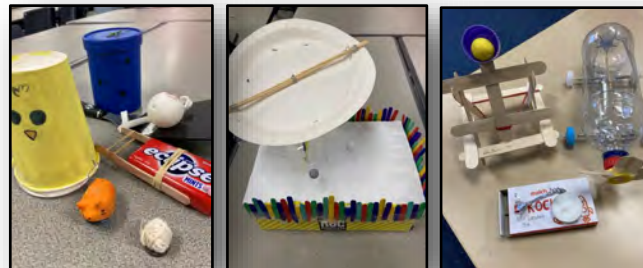
Potatoe People



Despite a slightly stormy day, **Year 11** Biology had a fun and interesting day at Shelly Beach Cronulla on the rock platform, learning all about this ecosystem and how human activities have continued to impact this environment.



Studying the Cronulla Rock Platform



Toys Toys Toys!!

Year 7 have produced some very creative toys as part of their study of energy transfers and transformations and are proudly showing off their designs in class. It is always amazing to see the innovative things they can come up with using only materials found around the house.



Year 8 has completed its study of forces that culminated in the Machine Expo. Some fabulous and creative machines were on display with some catch marketing campaigns to go with them. Congratulations to those students who won the Most Useful Machine, Most Creative Machine and Best Marketing Campaign awards. They were well deserved. They have also been looking at how we can communicate complex ideas through models, creating their own 3-D models of cells.

Complex Machines



Specialised Cells



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THROUGH THE EYES OF VISUAL ARTS

Over the past few months our students have been busily working on producing a range of exciting artworks. Last term we had the pleasure of hosting a local artist Scott Owen who ran a senior still life painting workshop for aspiring painters in **Years 10 and 11**. A selection of their work is currently on display in the King Street Gallery window.



Year 11 Visual Arts

In late Term 2, Year 11 exhibited their Sculpture, Installation and Performance works in and around the school campus. The evening was a roaring success, with all students contributing to the high calibre of works.

Currently, the students are working on their vanitas/still life paintings, which will be on display next term.

Over the school holidays Erin Choy, Emily Harris, Eden Letch and Arden Skinner attended the National Art School Higher School Certificate Intensive Studio Practice and produced a range of wonderful artworks.

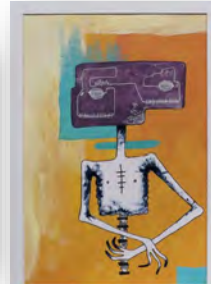


Year 12 Visual Arts

A huge congratulations to all Year 12 students who have put an immense amount of effort, time and creativity into their HSC Bodies of Work that was reflected in the spectacular HSC exhibition held in Week 6 in St Georges Hall. Thank you to everyone who attended the night. It was a joyous occasion and the students really appreciated all the support from friends, family and teachers.

The students are now preparing for the final external examinations and we wish them all good luck with their future endeavours!

We are also on the hunt for more 35mm film SLR cameras and will warmly accept any donations.



Teaser Alert:

We may have an exciting artist visit later this term

BONJOUR LOTE

Year 10 French with special guest, Monsieur Bradley, enjoying some crêpes whilst learning about French culture.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

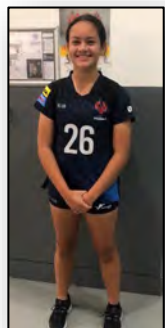
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Excellence in VET Award

Congratulations to Owen Hirschfeld, who will be attending Parliament of NSW to receive an Excellence in VET Award this week. These awards are awarded to students who have excelled in Work Placement during their final year of study.



Owen completed his work placement at New Theatre, where he took on the role of Lighting Technician, for the full run of the play, *The Lovely Bones*. He also stepped up to Stage Manager during the run when there was an absence amongst the crew.



NSW State U14s Volleyball Team

Congratulations to Bella Laga'aia, who has been selected to be a player in the NSW state under 14 Volleyball team that is travelling to Nationals in Bendigo in September. Please join us in wishing her all the best!

ALUMNI SUCCESS STORY

Bree Masters, a former NHSPA student, has seen international success since finishing school with us in 2012. She is very proud of our school and loved her time here. Bree hopes sharing her story will inspire Newtown students to work hard and ever give up on their dreams...



Whilst still at NHSPA Bree was Athletics, Swim and Cross-Country Champions, and Bligh Champion in Athletics. She represented Newtown at State level becoming the 400m State Champion and making the top 3 in the 200m and 100m sprints. Bree went on to win over 25 Australian Titles in Life-Saving Sprints and Beach Flags. She

represented Australia in Surf Life-Saving many times becoming World Champion in Beach Sprints (opens) and World Champion in Juniors for Flags and Beach sprints. Bree holds the record for the most gold medals won at a single world championship on the beach (6 Gold).

In 2019 Bree changed to track and made the Australian Track Team, winning many track events in her first year. Although very narrowly missing out on the Olympics in Tokyo by 1/100th of a second, she persevered and has recently represented Australia in multiple international athletic events (2022 World Athletic Titles in USA & 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham).

Bree competed in both the 100m and the 4x100m relay at the Commonwealth Games, placing 6th and 4th respectively. In the World 2022 Titles, Bree ran 30th in the world and was the only female selected to compete for Australia in the event!

WORLD OF DANCE

Year 12 Dance HSC Practical Examinations

Congratulations to all our year 12 Dance and Classical Ballet students who have completed their final HSC practical examinations.

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts is the only school in NSW where students have the opportunity to take Classical Ballet at HSC level and we are proud to be able to support our exemplary Classical Ballet dancers.

Congratulations to our 2022 Year 12 Dance cohort who have been awarded 47 HSC Dance 'Callback' nominations. 'Callback' recognizes exemplary performances by HSC candidates during the HSC practical examinations and our dancers were awarded 19 Core Performance, 11 Core Composition, 18 Major Study Performance and 1 Major Study Composition nomination with 9 dancers being awarded nominations in all three areas. This is a fantastic achievement and we congratulate each and every one of our dancers on their efforts.

We are proud of their dedication to Dance as they continue their studies of the set repertoire for their written exam next term. *Good Luck year 12!*

Year 8 Dance Day

Earlier this term, dancers in Year 8 spent a day together sampling the variety of Dance electives offered in year 9 and 10 at NHSPA. The day was a huge success with dancers learning Classical Ballet repertoire from *Don Quixote*, taking jazz class with Alumni Holly Taylor and being treated to some Bob Fosse influenced Musical Theatre choreography by Miss Mavromatis to 'Steamed Heat'. Students and teachers all had a lot of fun and overall the day was very inspiring.



State Dance Festival

This week is 'Bloom' - State Dance Festival and a number of our co-curricular Dance and Classical Ballet Companies and Ensembles were selected to perform over the week. These are invaluable performance opportunities for our students and we wish them all the best in their performances.

Schools Spectacular

Dancers involved in Schools Spectacular will be commencing rehearsals next term and the final performance dates are: 24, 25 & 26 November

Dates for your Diary

End of year Showcase – Tues 29 November. (All Dance and Classical Ballet company and ensemble members)

NHSPA Gala Showcase – Wed 30 November (Selected Dance and Classical ballet Company members TBA)

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

KEEPING UP WITH PDHPE



Year 8 Gala Day Year 8 thoroughly enjoyed their annual Gala Day. Students selected a particular sport; including European handball, Soccer, OzTag, Netball, AFL and Basketball and competed against the other Bligh Zone schools at an array of different venues. It was a wonderful day assisted by Year 9 PASS (Physical

Activity and Sport Studies) and Year 10 student coaches and referees.



Year 10 attended the Bstreetsmart excursion to Qudos Bank Arena as part of their "Personal Safety" course unit. Developed by the Trauma Service of Westmead Hospital students watched a crash scene scenario and learnt the processes that need to be undertaken by emergency services.

Throughout the day, students engaged with a variety of information stalls. Some of our students entered the Bfilmed competition that is held every year by Bstreetsmart. To enter, participants must send a short film no longer than 3 minutes. The film must have a message relating to road safety for youth as drivers, passengers, or pedestrians (e.g., texting, drugs/alcohol, fatigue, distraction). Our students were creative, with multiple submissions making the top 5 finalists. Amy Forchet, Edie Krone & Evie LeMay's group won the competition receiving a trophy and \$2000 towards the school. Amy Forchet spoke very well to a crowd of 8,000 students and staff. To watch videos <https://bstreetsmart.org/bfilmed/>

YEAR 9 "YOU BE THE COACH"



Currently studying "You Be The Coach," students have collaboratively constructed physical activity lesson plans to teach students from Newtown Public School. By working in small groups, **Year 9** students have learnt numerous skills required to be a sports coach such as organising equipment, structuring session plans and appropriate feedback for the younger students. So far the students have found the teaching experiences highly valuable.



Year 9 PASS Are currently investigating the impact of technology on sport. Students have engaged in practical lessons wearing heart rate monitors to analyse data in relation to their aerobic capacities. With each practical lesson, students are challenging themselves to improve their physical fitness levels within a variety of sporting contexts.



Sport

Keep updated with current sporting achievements by following the official Newtown High School of the Performing Arts Facebook page.



Year 11 Recently participated in an F45 training session. This excursion complimented students currently studying the "Fitness Choices" unit of work. Throughout coursework, students have discussed the variety of physical activity and sport options available and suitable to varied population demographics. Students were put through their paces and monitored their efforts by wearing Heart Rate Monitors.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

YEAR 9 LEADERSHIP CAMP



Year 9 Leadership camp is the first camp Year 9 have attended and commenced with a 6am start at school followed by a 5-hour bus ride to Lake Burrendong. The girls went camping the first night, pitched their tents, created their own campfire, cooked dinner and made damper while telling each other stories around the campfire. The boys enjoyed a games night in the recreational hall.



The second day was full of activities including pedal karts, mountain biking, grass skiing and archery. All students showed grit and resilience by participating in all activities despite the nonstop rain that we

had all day. The boys cooked their lunch on the BBQs, attempted to make fires in the rain, played trivia that night while the girls enjoyed the games in the recreational hall. Before the boys built forts for their camp out in the recreational hall for the night.

Day three involved problem-solving activities in groups and a game of archery tag. Students were given a bow and foam arrow to aim at the opposing team. It was then time to head back home, a 5-hour bus ride back.



It was an amazing experience to share together. Thank you Year 9 and a massive thank you to all the teachers who came along; Mr Pico, Ms Johnson, Mr Podreka, Mr Bradley, Ms O'Neill, Mr Eckersley, Ms Abrahams, Dean Adams and Ms Di Camillo.



STUDENT-WRITTEN ARTICLE ABOUT YEAR 9 CAMP



Camp was a very unique, fun and challenging experience. While there were many challenges such as a broken down bus and activities in the rain, those were completely



overshadowed by the amount of fun activities we did. From building a campfire and bivouacking, to grass skiing down a hill. The environment at Lake Burrendong was wildly different from what most of us are used to, we were lucky enough to see lots of Australian wildlife like kangaroos and spiders!

Ebony Govender and Manni Diao



WEAR IT PURPLE



Friday 26 August was the annual Wear it Purple Day. We held a celebration here at NHSPA, organised and ran by our **NHSPA LGBTQIA+ (& allies) student group.**

Celebrations included a bake sale, face painting, and a photo booth, along with live performances from some of our students. Students, teachers, and staff all wore purple to show their support and **the school raised \$845 to be donated to LGBTQIA+ Youth origination Minus18.**

That afternoon a couple of our Year 10 students, Bugs Peitzman and Valentino Robins, were invited to perform for the Lord Mayor Clover More at the City of Sydney Wear it Purple Afternoon Tea. Bugs and Valentino performed 'Valerie' which was a huge success!

