

The Parkway

NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

“Remis Velisque”

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August, 2011

Parkway Number 7



The next P&C Meeting will be held on Monday September 5, 2011 at 5.30pm. Please meet in the school foyer.

ALL WELCOME.

Parent Teacher Night 3.30pm – 5.30pm 13th September

FOOD AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

Congratulations to Year 12 2010 and their teachers on an outstanding achievement in the HSC. All courses offered in our subject area scored above state average with six Band 6's awarded.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY STUDIES (CAFS)

Results were 10.93 above the State mean which made CAFS the best performing subject at Newcastle High School in 2010. Two students achieved a Band 6 which placed them in the top 5% of the State. 50% of the students achieved a Band 5 compared to 23.73% of the State. This means that 8 out of 12 candidates achieved results that placed them in the top 28% of the state. All students in Community and Family Studies achieved a Band 4 or above. An outstanding achievement!

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Results were 3.96 above the State mean. Two students achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 8.23% in the State. Courtney Hollings' Major Independent Project was nominated and selected to be part of the Design Tech exhibition. This is an outstanding achievement as to be selected for this exhibition the project needs to be of an exceptional standard. 86% of candidates achieved a Band 4 or above.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Results were 2.30 above the State mean. Two students achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 7.13% of the State. 50% of students achieved a Band 4 or above.

HSC RESULTS AND THE FUTURE

Many students who study subjects in our area have excellent ATARs . Tina Perrina, the dux at Newcastle High School studied Design and Technology. Other students who scored ATARs in the high 80's are currently studying at university in the following areas: Nuclear Medicine, Nursing, Business, Teaching.

As mentioned previously, Courtney Hollings' major design work was selected to be exhibited in the Design Tech Exhibition. To be selected for this exhibition the students' work must be of an exemplary standard. The Design Tech exhibition is currently on display at Wallsend Library. There are only two students' work from the Hunter Central Coast region on display at this exhibition. It was magnificent to see a student from Newcastle High School be recognised at this level. See below for the article that appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald.

Student genius on show

By ALISON BRANLEY

A DRESS that goes from basic to ballroom, a fin-less surfboard and an iPhone application for learner drivers are some creations from the state's next generation of designers.

The works feature in the regional tour of DesignTECH, an exhibition of the best design and technology major works from last year's Higher School Certificate students.

Twenty-seven works are on display at Wallsend District Library until August 19.

James Perkins, from Great Lakes College Tuncurry Senior Campus, created a program for iPhones that helps learner drivers log their driving hours.

Zachary Griffiths, of Xavier Catholic College Ballina, designed a surfboard to give surfers extra spinning and sliding skills.

Former Newcastle High student Courtney Hollings, of Medowie, was inspired by the classic little black dress to produce a basic garment that could be altered to create a work, casual and formal look.



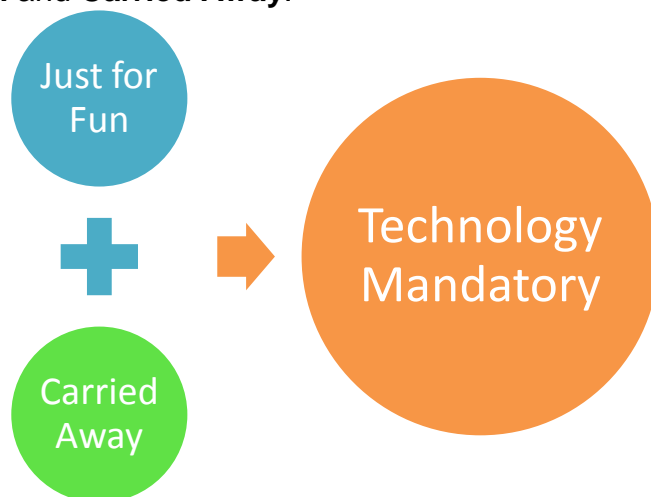
VERSATILITY: Courtney Hollings with her gown. – Picture by Simone De Peak

The Food and Textile Technology Faculty is a dynamic and innovative faculty catering for the needs of our students. Our faculty has been able to achieve excellent results by engaging our students in many diverse and creative courses. The following is an overview of the courses we offer.

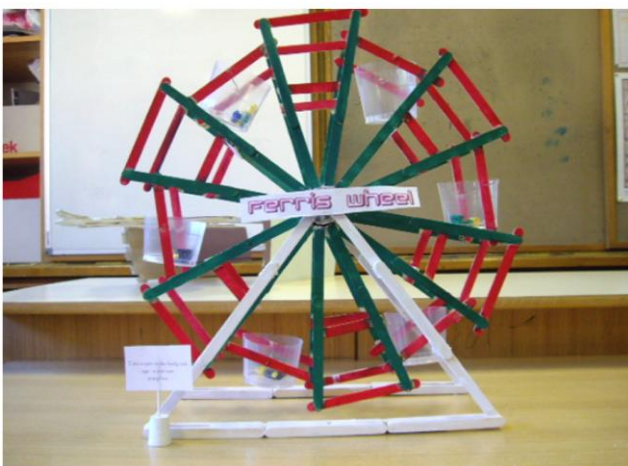
Year 7

All students complete Technology Mandatory in Year 7, completing four units of study throughout the year. Two of these units of study are covered in the Food and Textile Technology area over one semester. The other two areas are completed in the traditional Industrial Arts area.

The aim of Technology Mandatory is to develop students' ability to design, produce and evaluate quality solutions that respond to identified opportunities and needs – this is achieved by giving students design projects. The two units we offer are **Just for Fun** and **Carried Away**.



Just For Fun Students look at how the built environment can affect the natural environment and the responsibilities of designers to consider ethical and environmental aspects when designing. Students do this by designing their own theme park or an aspect of their theme park. An excursion to Luna Park is part of this unit of work.



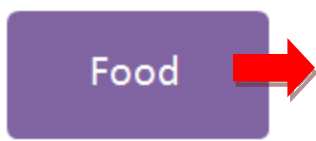
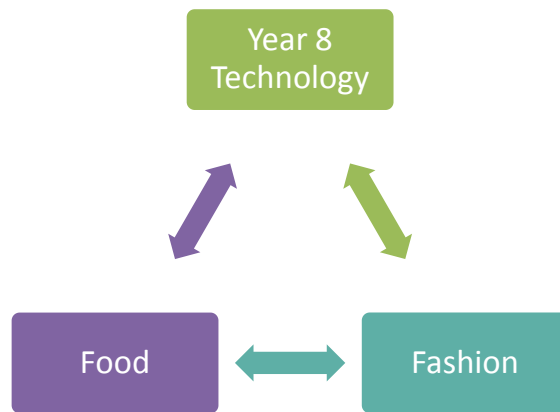


Carried Away is a unit where students are introduced to the world of textiles. Students develop their design skills by designing and making a carry bag.



Year 8 have two types of courses on offer:

1. Technology



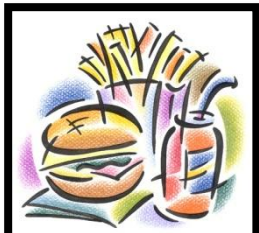
In this unit students are given the chance to design, make and taste their own recipes as they tackle three selected design briefs – A Great Start to the Day, Snack Attack and Teenage Tucker.



This Fashion unit is a hands-on course to further develop the skills learnt in Year 7. Students create and manufacture textile items that reflect current fashion trends.

2. Interest Based Courses

Sweet Delights – Tickle your taste buds by planning and preparing a variety of sweet foods for a number of occasions



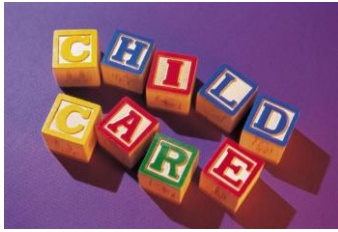
Food on the Run – Use technology to make snacks which are quick, nutritious and fun



Year 8 Interest Courses



Food Around the World – Travel the world with food, preparing and tasting dishes from a variety of other cultures



Child Care

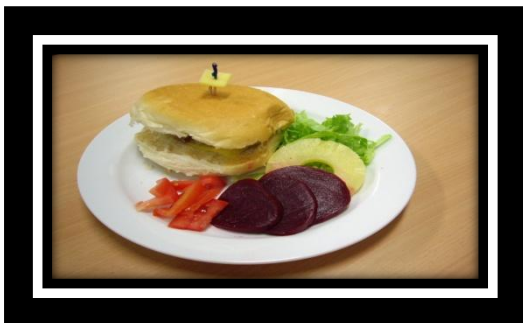
Students with an interest and concern for the welfare of young children enjoy this course. Topics include the unborn child, infancy, food for toddlers, children's health.

Practical applications involve both food and textile activities.



Food Technology

Food Technology involves students investigating food through practical hands on applications and processes. A range of themes for study includes food trends and food fads, food for special needs and food service and catering.



Textile Technology

Textiles Technology provides students with a broad knowledge of the properties, performance and uses of textiles in which fabrics, colouration, yarns and fibres are explored. Completion of projects is integral to developing skills and confidence in the use of textile materials, equipment and techniques.



These courses encourage students to be proactive, competent, creative, responsible and reflective learners able to take part in further study, work or training.

Years 11 and 12

Below is a list of senior subjects offered in our area. Our students achieve outstanding HSC results with many scoring in the top 10% of the state or achieving the best results in courses from this faculty. Our students often achieve marks that are well above state average.



FOOD AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

HSC SUBJECT SELECTION

Community and Family Studies

This course develops an understanding about society and its complex nature. Community and Family Studies draws upon selected components of family studies, sociology, development, psychology and students' general life experiences. It can have a direct and positive influence on the quality of students' lives, both now and in the future, by:

- allowing students to explore and form positive attitudes about themselves and others
- to develop an understanding of their relationship within their families and other groups
- To learn to work cooperatively and to appreciate the importance of effective communication
- Encourages students to become proactive members of society
- Develops students' knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to effective decision-making leading to confidence and competence in solving practical problems in the management of every day living.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY STUDIES – HSC RESULTS

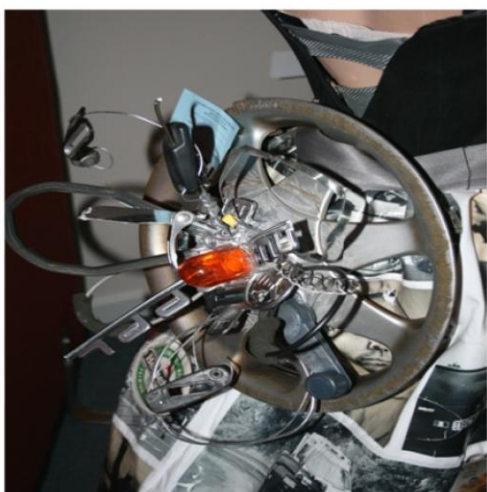
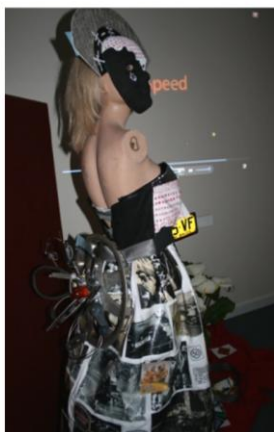
- In 2009, 14% of students achieved a Band 6, compared to 6% of the state. 50% of students studying this course achieved a Band 5 or 6.
- In 2008, 30% of students achieved a Band 6 compared to 9% of the state. 69% of candidates achieved results which placed them in the top 20% of the state.
- In 2007, 2 Band 6's were achieved (10%) compared to 7% of the state. Ten Band 5's (50%) were achieved compared to the state average of 27%
- In 2006, one student achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 7% of the state. 40% of students achieved a Band 5 compared to 29% of the state.
- Results in 2005 were 1.46 points above state average, one student gaining a Band 6, placing them in the top 4% of the state.
- In 2004, 2 of our students achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 3.79% of the state. 6 of our students achieved a Band 5. Therefore, overall 72% of our students achieved a Band 5 or 6 compared to 22% of the state. Results were 10.91 points above state average.

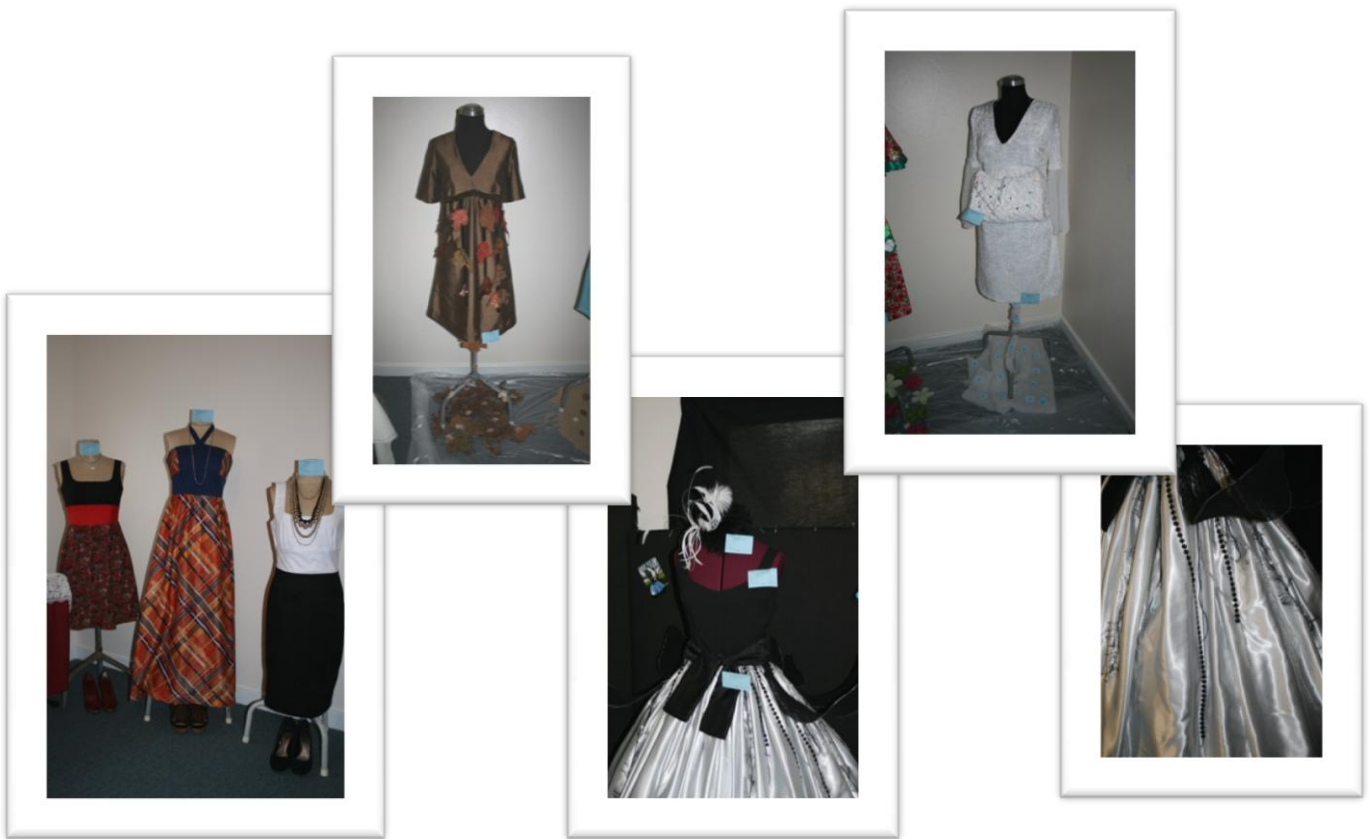


Design and Technology

This is a course for designers of tomorrow. This course provides creative and innovative students with the opportunity to study design and production as they face design challenges. Students will be required to develop, manage and complete a major design project where a design folio and practical project are undertaken. This contributes to 60% of their final HSC result.

In Design and Technology at Newcastle High School students' major works often get selected to be exhibited in the Design and Technology Exhibition, for work to be selected for this exhibition it needs to be of a very high standard.





DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY PAST HSC RESULTS

- 2009 – 2 students achieved Band 6. 100% achieved a Band 4 or higher
- 2008 – 80% of students achieved Band 5 results to 28% of the state.
- 2007 – 60% of students achieved a Band 5 compared to 18% of the state.
- 2006, five students achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 3% of the state. Nine students achieved a Band 5 which placed them in the top 20% of the state.
- In 2004, 265 of our students achieved a Band 5
- In 2003, one of our D&T students achieved a Band 6 which placed her in the top 3.13% of the state.
- In 2002, two students were placed in the top 15% of the state.

Food Technology

An innovative program of activities involving students in many practical applications while developing an understanding of food issues in today's society. Production, processing and consumption of food and an appreciation of its impact on health, the economy and the environment are areas addressed in this course.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY PAST HSC RESULTS

- In 2009, 45% of students achieved a Band 5 compared to 22% of the state.
- In 2008, 25% of students achieved a Band 5 compared to 21% of the state.
- In 2007, 44% of students achieved a Band 5 compared to 20% of the state.
- In 2006, one student achieved a Band 6, placing them in the top 85 of the state. Six students achieved a Band 5. All students came in the top 66% of the state.
- In 2005, results were 12.5 points above state average, the best performed subject in the school in this regard. 8 out of 9 candidates achieved a Band 5 placing them in the top 26% of the state.
- In 2004, 3 of our students achieved a Band 6 placing them in the top 6% of the state. 13 students achieved a Band 5. Overall 60% of our students achieved a Band 5 or 6 compared to 24% of the state.
- 2003, students performed above the state mean. 31% of these students achieved a Band 5.
- In 2002, two students achieved a Band 6. This placed them in the top 3.85% of the state. Only 122 candidates in the state received a Band 6.
- In 2001, one student achieved 93% placing her in the top 6% of the state and a Band 6
- **SINCE ITS IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS HAVE BEEN ABOVE THE STATE AVERAGE**

Exploring Early Childhood

The foundation of society depends on children's experiences. Studies in this course highlight the importance of the early childhood years. Students are really made to think about the responsibilities of parenthood as they care for *Baby Think it Over*, a computerised baby which stimulates a new born child.



EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Our exchange students: Rino Ogasawa and Haruka Suzuki are seen here with their NHS buddies in Year 10, Emma Curtis and Melanie Fraser.



Benjamin Burguete who comes from a small town near Bordeaux in France with his host sister, Renae Burgess.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The term is in full swing as you can read from the wide array of activities that students and staff have been involved in over the last month.

Thank you to the parents and friends who attended the highly successful Trivia Night on the 5th August. A special thank you to the Newcastle Leagues Club who provided the venue and to the many sponsors who donated prizes that ensured the success of the evening. They are listed in this bulletin. Without the support of the community and the parents this vital fund raiser would not have been possible. Finally, a thank you to the P&C team who organised the event; many people assisted but the three key people involved were Sharon Liolio, Alison Taylor and Caroline Smith. Sharon and Alison are leaving us this year, and they have trained some "new" parents to take over the organisation for 2012.

Year 12 students have completed their trial Higher School Certificate exams and their assessment marks are being finalised and submitted to the Board of Studies. The trials were moved forward this year in the hope that Year 12 would remain better engaged in their learning and attend school until the end of the term. There is a lot that can be learnt in the last weeks!

Many students have actually commenced their examinations with the submission of major works, projects, performances and oral examinations all taking place now. Year 12 students have all been given details regarding their last week of Term 3, the final week of formal classes for Year 12. It is critical that students respect the rights of the other students at school and do not disrupt their learning. I am confident that this cohort will exit the school with the same dignity and grace that previous years have displayed. Miss Cameron, the Year 12 Advisor, and a group of students have been planning for the Year 12 Graduation Formal which will be held on Tuesday 20th September at Customs House. A Year 12 formal is a voluntary event, staff and the school give up lots of time and resources to organise such events, and the school community made the decision that Year 12 students who are attending the Graduation Formal need to have paid all their school fees. This school community does not accept that students can afford to pay hundreds of dollars to attend a formal, but cannot make a contribution towards the cost of their education. Study seminars have been organised for Year 12 students during week 1 of term 4.

Along with farewelling Year 12 this year the school is also farewelling Mr Mark Smith the Head Teacher of the Human Society and Its Environment Faculty. Mr Smith has been at the school since 1980 and his departure marks the end of an era. A farewell function for Mr Smith has been arranged for Friday 4th November at the Delaney Hotel. Please contact the school if you would like to attend or know of former students or families that may wish to attend and wish Mr Smith good luck as he moves onto the next stage of his life. A panel has been formed to select the new head teacher HSIE.

Later this term the school will be welcoming Ms Amy King to the staff. Amy has been appointed a School Support Officer. She will be working as a social worker

assisting students with community based issues which are impacting on their learning.

Also joining us next term is Ms Sharon Sager who has been appointed Head Teacher Welfare replacing Ms Regan. Ms Sager has been teaching at Wadalba Community School prior to her appointment to NHS. I would like to acknowledge the work done by Ms Cameron in her role as relieving Head Teacher Welfare over the last two terms.

Recently the school has been fortunate to have many international students in attendance for short periods of time. I would like to thank the many families who have hosted these international guests. I was delighted to be on the panel that selected Lachlan Meyer from Year 10 to be part of the Newcastle delegation to Ube, Japan. Lachlan joins students from Kotara High School and travels to Japan in the next school holidays. Several other NHS students did themselves credit during the selection process.

Year 10 Trial School Certificate exams commence on Monday 5th September and finish on Wednesday 7th September.

Year 11 students who attended the Jindabyne excursion brought credit to themselves and the school. The Year 11 end of Preliminary course examinations commence on Wednesday 7th September and finish on 16th September. Students have all been issued with timetables and a copy of the examination rules. During the examination period students are only required to be at school during the times they have exams.

Two Year 11 students, Alissa Lucas and Bridie Halse, played key roles in the Hunter Central Coast Education Week launch at the Newcastle Cathedral. Both girls were excellent ambassadors for the school.

Year 11 DER laptops are about to come out of warranty. If students have any issues with their laptops please notify Mr McLellan, our TSO. All these laptops have been recently upgraded to the specification of the newer models.

The school has been buzzing with Year 5 students from our primary partner schools over the last few weeks. These students are being mentored in a writing project by our Year 8 students. This project is being overseen at our end by the school's STLA Ms Ferguson, who is doing a fantastic job making sure the right NHS students are meeting with the right primary students. The whole project is part of the Middle School Literacy initiative that has been developed using resources from Merewether Public School.

The ME project has kicked off again this term, with students who have been identified as having an interest in advanced manufacturing and metal trades visiting several local industries.

Hunter New England Health has mailed home to all parents/carers with students in Years 7 to 10 details of the survey that they are undertaking as part of the Healthy Schools Health Futures project. Students will be surveyed during Week 9.

The students involved in public speaking continue to have success in a range of competitions. Lydia Corcoran recently represented NSW in Rostrum Voice of Youth National Titles held in Perth. Lydia sent me this email;

Just writing to let you know about my astounding weekend at Nationals! The experience was amazing! The lovely people that I will be friends with for life, the skills I have learnt, regarding both public speaking and just becoming well informed on global issues and general knowledge.

I really appreciated being given the opportunity to speak at such a high level. I found it extremely beneficial and I felt so privileged to be given the chance. I didn't win but I definitely felt as though I had succeeded to some extent. I may not have walked away with "the trophy" but I definitely walked away with pride. I loved every moment of it and would send out my encouragement to others to have a go because truly there could not be a better feeling. Mrs Oswald is such an amazing teacher and should be of great value to the school. She accompanied me during my journey to Perth and trained me to an exceptional standard. I wouldn't be where I am at the moment if it wasn't for her commitment. I feel extremely privileged to have her as a coach. On the whole, everything about my experience was absolutely amazing! I will just keep working hard in the hope that I may be given the opportunity once again.

Thank you, Lydia

The school is collecting both Coles and Woolworths dockets and vouchers. Bins are in the foyer for students to place these in. Last year we received almost \$4000 worth of sporting gear, so it is worth the effort of bringing in the vouchers to get the equipment.

Year 10 SRC students are planning a mini Spring fair on Saturday November 12th. If you are able to help and would be interested in running a stall please contact Ms Allington.

Please read the information contained in the bulletin regarding head lice. It is important that Ms Cameron be notified of head lice infestations in students.

Two very important events are coming up for parents and prospective parents. On Tuesday 30th August, Year 7 2012 parents/carers are welcomed into the school. Tuesday 13th September 3.15 to 5.30pm is the Semester 2 Parent/Teacher afternoon. By holding these interviews now teachers hope that any issues regarding student performance can be addressed before the end of year reports are completed in mid Term 4.

Student behaviour has been of concern recently. Too many students have been engaging in dangerous and destructive behaviour that could have serious consequences for many people. It is very disheartening to many people that the newly renovated toilets have been "trashed". Graffiti attacks on the school have been frequent, causing damage both externally and internally. Windows are being

broken often. Costs of these repairs are considerable and are borne by the school. Truancy is also increasing with students jumping the fences. This is a particularly dangerous practice. Many of these incidents have resulted in me having to make notifications to the police and the School Safety and Response Unit. Risk Assessments are now required for many school activities that were previously taken for granted as several events such as school dances are seen now to pose high risk factors if they continue to be held in their present format.

This week is Literacy and Numeracy Week so hopefully your child will be coming home with reports of the activities that teachers have been doing in classrooms to draw attention literacy and numeracy.

Mark Hewitt

IMPORTANT DATES

P&C MEETING	5 SEPTEMBER – 5.30PM
TRIAL SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMS YEAR 10	5 SEPTEMBER – 7 SEPTEMBER
PARENT TEACHER NIGHT	13 SEPTEMBER -3.30 TO 5.30PM
YR 11 PRELIM EXAMS	7 SEPTEMBER – 16 SEPTEMBER
YR 12 FORMAL	20 SEPTEMBER
YR 12 GRADUATION ASSEMBLY	22 SEPTEMBER
FINAL DAY OF TERM 3	23 SEPTEMBER
FIRST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS	10 OCTOBER
MINI SPRING FAIR	12 NOVEMBER



We would like to hear your views on the future of National Park. Participants will discuss usage, possible community events, traffic and issues.

You will also have the opportunity to discuss the extension to paid on-street parking in the area.

When: Monday, 12 September 2011 6pm-8:30pm

Where: Newcastle Netball Clubhouse, National Park, entry from Union Street, Cooks Hill

RSVP: Wednesday, 7 September 4974 2823



LOTE Report

OUR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

During Term 3 NHS has had the great pleasure of welcoming exchange students from Japan and France into our school.

At the end of August we farewell Sophie Belbeoc'h and Benjamin Burguete from France and we thank their host sisters, India Wilson and Renae Burgess, and their families, for taking such good care of them during their stay in Newcastle. Benjamin kindly spent lessons and his free time with Year 11 and 12 French students helping them perfect their spoken French. Especially for Year 12, it has been such a gift for them to be able to practise on a regular basis with a native speaker their own age just before the HSC oral exams on Saturday, 27th August. I thank Benjamin for his interest and generosity.



From August 10th to 17th 7 students and 2 teachers from **Ube, Japan**, enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of 9 NHS families. A big thank you to the following NHS students, teachers and their families who offered to host our guests for the week and showed them such a good time:

Kiara Holt, Emily Pease, Haileigh Mangovski, Tyson Leota Wilton, Sophie Farmer, Genna Prudius, Clare Rutsch, Mr Guinane and Mrs Hines.

All students will receive a General Merit certificate in recognition of their community spirit. Strong friendships were made and at the train station on Wednesday morning there were many teary eyes.

UBE STUDENTS AT Newcastle High School.





Japanese Excursion September 2012

Every two years we arrange a 10 day school trip to Japan for students of Years 8-11. We are due to go again in 2012 and planning is already underway. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 6th in the staff house from 4-5pm for any interested students and their parents. A representative from GET Tours will be in attendance to outline our travel plans and answer other questions. Please see Ms Engel if you are interested.

NB: Students and parents should be aware that students are invited to participate on all our overseas trips after they have completed an application. Students must prove themselves worthy of representing NHS and Australia when overseas with the school.

Meredith Engel, LOTE Teacher

GUIDE TO LEAVING SCHOOL

If your child is finishing school at the end of this year and would like to explore their options, check out the Department's leaving school information page at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leavingschool/index.php. Here you will find a host of information about further study and training, apprenticeships, work and taking a gap year. Young people now must be in work or study or a combination of both until the age of 17.

MUSIC REPORT

Music has been an active part of our school and our music students have participated in many activities and events. Some of our regional activities included Star Struck and Hunter Singers and community events included Newcastle Conservatorium HSC Music Day, Lizotte's performance, Senior Performance Evening, Hamilton Public School Harmony Day excursion and participation in JJJ Unearthed and Youthrock!

Star Struck was an amazing production once again this year! Our students were involved in choir, Aboriginal dance and we even had Lauren Day of Year 12 as a featured soloist! The choir students from our school did an amazing job of representing our school with pride. Our Aboriginal dance group were very prominent on the big screens and will most definitely feature on the Star Struck DVD. Lauren performed 'The Boy from New York City'. Our school hosted rehearsals for featured artists from across the region every Saturday last term. We are very lucky to have excellent facilities such as the Cultural Centre and Music Studio. Star Struck DVD's are available from the Star Struck website www.starstruck.nsw.edu.au or Mrs Hudson can give you an order form.

The Star Struck staff were fantastic and gave up so much of their own time to support our students, without the dedication of our Newcastle High School teachers we wouldn't be able to participate in these events. A big thank you to Elke Ryssenbeek, Tara Allington, Chris Gill, Mark Kempton, Ada Briggs, Michael Hardy, Belinda Wright and Mark Hewitt.

Jade Crosswell has successfully auditioned for Hunter Singers, the regional choir for Hunter/Central Coast. The group have been operating for 21 years under the expert direction of Kim Sutherland. Hunter Singers have toured Europe, New Zealand, Canada and America and are touring the USA in 2012 to participate in the World Choir Games, perform at Disneyland and see the sights of New York! They are a very prestigious group! Anyone who is interested in singing can audition on Tuesday evenings, Mrs Hudson has audition forms or you can access information from their website at www.huntersingers.com.au

Our Senior Performance evening at the end of Term 1 was another opportunity for our students to showcase their work in preparation for the HSC. The students are encouraged to participate in as many performance opportunities as possible to gain experience for their HSC.

Year 10 Music and Art students combined to present performances and workshops with the students at Hamilton Public School for their Harmony Day celebrations. Our students were a credit to our school and many students from Hamilton are very keen to get to high school to participate in our excellent creative programs.

Students presented a series of concerts to entertain future Newcastle High students when they visited our school for transition and orientation.

James Wallace and Campbell Burns along with Olivia Favos (Kotara High School) have been making use of our recording studio and preparing original songs for

Youthrock and JJJ Unearthed. The Youthrock competition gave our students a great performance perspective at Wollongong Entertainment Centre in front of other musicians and students from the state.

Lizotte's was an amazing night! Our Year 12 rocked the house and impressed our receptive audience! Phoebe Liolio compered the evening and did a fantastic job. It was great to see former NHS music teachers Jo Gray and Chris Danvers there to support Music students they have encouraged and taught over the years. We had a great number of staff also attend the evening. A great sense of pride in our students and our school, and excellent feedback from Lizotte's staff regarding the excellence of our school, shows we have a fantastic learning environment and team of staff, students, parents and community at Newcastle High.

We have another performance at Lizotte's coming up on the 24th of October. We are continually offering and creating opportunities for our students. Please see Mr Gill or Mrs Hudson if you are interested in participating in the school band or choir! Keep an eye out for more exciting news and events from our CAPA Fun Faculty!

Natasha Hudson

Year 8 Visual Arts Taronga Zoo Excursion

Thank you to all the students who attended the excursion to Taronga Zoo and made the trip a wonderful experience. Both the students and the staff had a great day and, due to its success, we hope to plan another one in the future. Also, thank you to the members of staff who helped to plan and organise the excursion.



Over the course of the day, the students had taken many photos and completed drawings of the animals in the zoo. Students will use these photographs and drawings to design and create a variety of different art projects for their classes later in the term. We look forward to seeing the interesting and fun artworks students will create.

NEW ONLINE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOR PARENTS

Principals, teachers and school administrative staff are encouraged to point parents to a new purpose-built resource that includes a website, mobile applications and social media channels.

The School A to Z online school community provides practical advice about homework, tips on learning, wellbeing, technology and resources to help parents and carers support their child's social, physical and mental development.

Free mobile applications

The resource includes a free mobile application for iPad and smartphones that features hundreds of definitions about maths and English terms, illustrated examples and instructional videos, information on common assignment topics, educational maths and spelling games.

Deputy Director-General (Schools) Greg Prior said School A to Z would be a useful resource for parents and encouraged principals and teachers to promote the site to their school communities.

“The website has something for all families from homework help to information about student wellbeing, health and digital citizenship,” Mr Prior said.

School A to Z includes:

- forums on Facebook and Twitter to allow parents to share experiences, tips and hints online
- printable homework help sheets
- A-Z lists of English, maths and technology definitions
- assignment starters on popular classroom topics
- translation aid for users from non-English speaking backgrounds.

The website site also offers a school guide area and a technology section with information and resources on how to keep kids safe online, along with a healthy lunch box recipe section and information on health and wellbeing.

A DEC initiative

Corporate Communication staff led the development of the School A to Z project, which involved the Department's curriculum experts, teachers and parents from across NSW.

The concept was developed in response to parent concerns about not being able to confidently support their child's learning at home.

Visit the [website](http://www.schoolatoz.com.au/) <http://www.schoolatoz.com.au/>

Download the [School A to Z app](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications) <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications>

Like us on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/schoolatoz) <http://www.facebook.com/schoolatoz>

Follow us on [Twitter \(#SchoolAtoZ\)](http://www.twitter.com/schoolatoz) <http://www.twitter.com/schoolatoz>

P&C UPDATE

Welcome to another P&C update. Thank you to everyone who supported our 3rd annual Trivia Night on Friday 5th August, the night was a huge success and we raised over \$4000.00. This will go towards smart boards for the school. Many thanks to Alison Taylor, Sharon and George Liolio, Caroline Smith, Jan Boyd, Karina Bellingham and Rene Smith for all their hard work in getting the event organised. I would also like to thank all the businesses listed below who supported and contributed to the success of the night.

Newcastle Leagues Club, Junction Tavern, Ron Elliot Pharmacy, Marketown Optical, Nextra Marketown, Xerox, Mary Ellen Hotel, Tenderspot Butcher, Kenricks Hair, Officeworks, Edward Cross Photography, Body Worx Physio, Chrome Mens Grooming, Newcastle Kayak, Supercheap Auto, NHS Canteen, Good Guys, Exchange Hotel, Jewellery Affair, Sebel, Henny Penny, Stockton Hair Villa and Bunnings Kotara.

Congratulations to Sharon Liolio who has been selected to receive a 2011 Public School Parent of the Year Award. Sharon has been actively involved with public education for many years and is a worthy recipient.

Our canteen which has implemented the Fresh Tastes @ School Strategy continues to provide a wonderful selection of home cooked and nutritional foods. Many thanks to Michelle, Jenny and Eileen.

The next fundraiser for the year will be our Sydney Shopping Tour. This is booked for Saturday 29th October departing from Newcastle High School at 7.30am. Please come along and support this next event. Lots of fun, frivolity and FUNdraising. Please see advertisement in the bulletin for all the details.

Our next P&C meeting will be Monday 5th September at 5.30pm. Everyone welcome to come along.

J. Woodcock
P&C President

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED PRIZES TO OUR TRIVIA NIGHT



Newcastle Leagues Club

Chrome Mens Grooming

Junction Tavern

Newcastle Kayak

Ron Elliot Pharmacy

Supercheap Auto

Marketown Optical

NHS Canteen

Nextra Marketown

Good Guys

Xerox

Exchange Hotel

Mary Ellen Hotel

Jewellery Affair

Tenderspot Butcher

Sebel

Kenricks Hair

Henny Penny

Officeworks

Stockton Hair Village

Edward Cross Photography

Bunnings Kotara

Body Worx Physiotherapy

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES AND.... THANK YOU TO the Trivia Night Committee – Ali, Sharon, Caroline, Karina and Renee!

\$4000,00 was raised on the night. Well done to everyone.





Saturday 29th October
 Departs 7.30am NHS

For shopping details and costs contact

Michelle in Canteen on 4969 2370 or Jenny Woodcock 0418 473 873

Tickets \$50 per head for a full bus. Book your seat now with a \$10 deposit.

Shopping Outlets

Victoria's Basement Dolci D'oro Breville

The Manchester Warehouse FSW Shoes

Studio Ten Clothing Urban Rituelle

A fun shopping day to support Newcastle High School

SPORTS REPORT

Athletics After qualifying to attend the Hunter Region carnival in late July, the following students have qualified to attend the NSW CHS Carnival at Homebush in September:

- Sarah Bugbird will compete in the 16 years 1500m (after finishing 2nd at Hunter Region)
- Angus Drew will compete in the 16 years 100m, 200m and 400 m (after winning these 3 events at Hunter Region)
- Jarrod Sansom will compete in the 14 years 800m (after finishing 1st at Hunter Region)
- Jarrod will also participate as a member of the 14 years boys relay team with Leroy Bartlett, Jacob Montgomery and Lawrence Woodcock (after finishing 2nd at Hunter Region)

Softball As mentioned in the July bulletin, Tim Voigt and Nick Jones represented in the Hunter region Softball team which competed at Woolaware in the NSW CHS Championships in August. The team finished 2nd overall, which is the best result for the Hunter Region.

Rugby League In the July bulletin we mentioned that the Open Boys Rugby League team had just been beaten in their Round 4 match against Forster in extremely wet conditions. Unfortunately these boys were unlucky to be beaten 14-6 but fortunately we managed to get a team photo of the boys in the new jerseys before they took to the field. So we have included the photo in this bulletin. (see below)

Gymnastics Congratulations to Thea Post who competed at the NSW CHS Gymnastics championships and finished 1st overall in division D. This is an excellent achievement. Well done Thea.

Mr P Wagner/Mrs N Blatchford
Inter-school Sports Organisers



JINDY 2011

Thirty-seven students as well as Mrs Dennis, Mr Smith and Mr Wagner attended the Jindabyne excursion this year. The early start 4.45am Sunday morning saw a lot of excited but still only half awake students ready for the trip south. As 5.00am arrived, one student was still asleep in bed at Stockton. After a number of phone calls and a very rushed (but completely legal) 'flight' from Stockton to Newcastle High school we managed to depart more or less on schedule.

On arrival, rooms were allocated - boys and girls had a lodge each which were different to the other 6 common lodges. Both had an excellent common room with a fridge and basic kitchen facilities. We were again very lucky with our accommodation.

Sunday afternoon saw us collect our skis and boards after some time trying to get our feet into the right size boots. Anybody who has worn ski boots before will understand the reaction of those who were putting these on for the first time.

Mr Smith and Mr Wagner had the unfortunate pleasure of having the boys lodge drying room right next to their kitchen and common room. Gas masks needed to be issued. 18 boys' smelly socks, gloves, ski clothes and boarding boots all gathered into one very heated room made for an odour that was unbearable. Misbehaving students could have been locked in there to reinforce the need for better behaviour. Fortunately, there was no need for this. Although, Tuesday night almost saw a need for the drying room punishment when the boys were found 'converting' (kicking), from their bedroom floor, their empty milk containers (plastic fortunately) through their second storey window (open window fortunately). The problem did appear worse than it really was. However, after establishing the kicking statistics it was agreed that it might be full time.

Thursday night saw another close call. Mr Wagner knew something was 'in play' when the normally hungry group of 8 boys moved in and out of the mess hall with unusual speed. Being 'on the ball', Mr Wagner arrived in time to prevent any major 'room games'.

The boys did a fine job in keeping their rooms tidy enough for them to leave them in excellent condition when departing on Friday.

The girls' lodge on the other hand was far more civilised but did have its own peculiarities. These included the never ending line of 'reserved spaces' for the 2 showers (yes, that's right - 19 girls, 1 teacher and 2 showers!) indicated by the row of towels and toiletry bags slowly progressing up the long corridor; The 'bottom warming' routines in front of the fire place each morning and evening (singing sometimes included). The numerous phantom snorers *despite* the known fact that girls don't snore. The comparing of the day's injuries and bruises (the outright winner was Mrs Dennis). The daily routine of 'face-painting' which the girls were miraculously able to maintain all week without being late once. And the usual

emotional ups and downs that 19 girls in a confined space for 5 days can expect to encounter.

On the slopes we had some 'star' skiers and boarders. Just ask them. After 5 days of 2 hour lessons each morning and 3 hours of practice time in the afternoon, we had some very capable skiers and boarders. 3 days of sunshine and 2 days of overcast weather with winds and snow meant that we all got to see the extremes of the weather in the mountains and also experience snow falling. This also made for excellent skiing conditions. This probably accounted for the minimal number of injuries that we experienced. 2 visits to the Perisher Medical Centre for 2 girls were not good, but the strained ligament injuries were not of major consequence. However, it did mean that they missed out on skiing for the rest of the week. Mrs Dennis did have a favourite tree that she liked to 'recline' in. Ask her about it.

BUT the same cannot be said of poor Mr Smith. After a morning of pleasant warm up skiing (on the first day) the dreaded T-bar took its toll. Mr Smith hooked up with Mr Wagner but on leaving the T-bar had a big tear inflicted onto his right calf. Mr Wagner waited for a photo opportunity but Mr Smith and the rescue Ski-doo escaped by sneaking around the back way and avoiding detection and thereby any permanent record of this ride (unfortunately). A disappointed Mr Smith spent the rest of the week back at camp on the floor in pain. This was to be his last Jindabyne trip after organising some 43 or so Year 9 and Year 11 excursions since 1985. What a finale!

A stellar effort by Mr Smith! He needs to be thanked for being prepared to forego his weekends, comfy home conditions and time with his family, to give students the opportunity to experience another part of Australia and to encourage an appreciation of the great outdoors over the last 16 years. He must have spent quite a few hours at the Jindabyne Medical Centre (with students and his own injuries) and could easily write a book on the changes and happenings at the camp over the years. I'm sure there would be many very interesting stories. Thank you Mr Smith. (Maybe you can catch up those lost 4 days in a special return visit next year).

As teachers, it was a pleasure to take away a group of students who were well-behaved, cooperative and appreciative. A good time was had by all and hopefully they will fondly recall the many memories from Jindabyne 2011 for years to come.

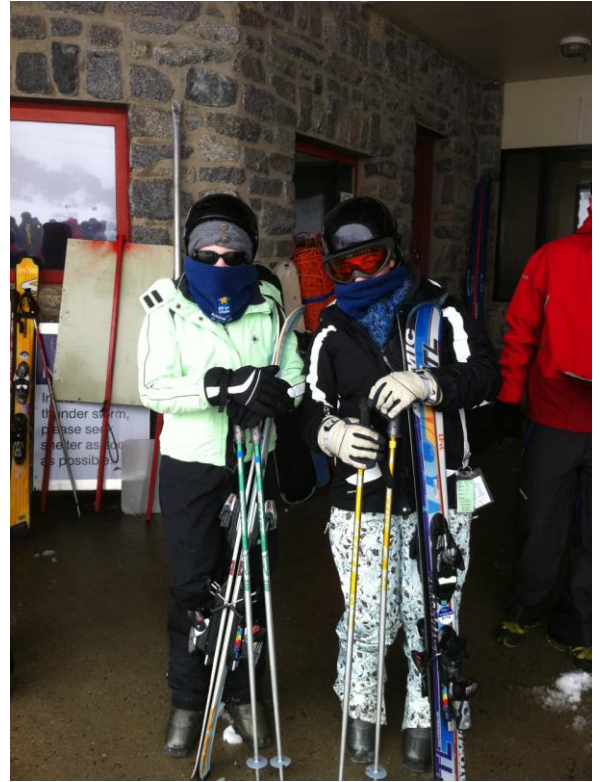
Written by
The Abominable Snowman



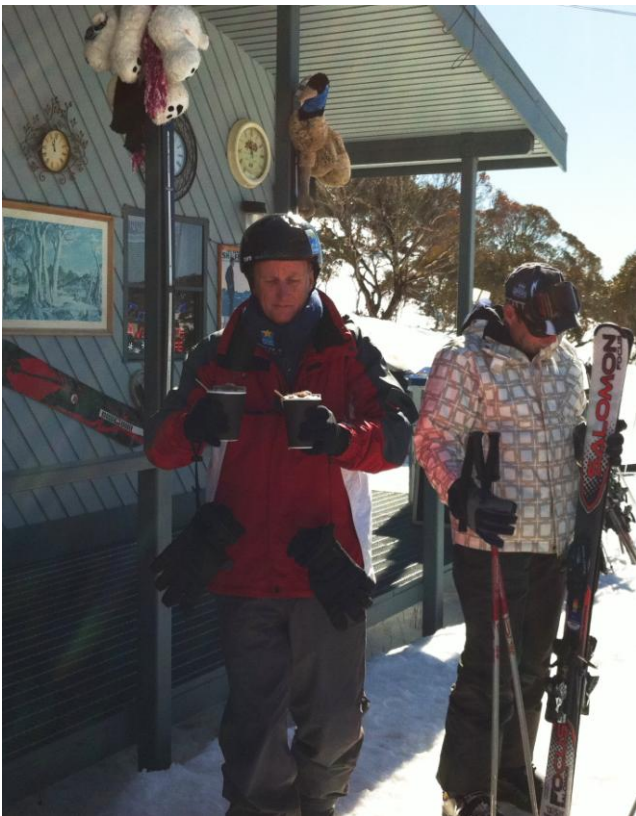


IMAGES FROM JINDY 2011





IMAGES FROM JINDY 2011



SCHOOL CERTIFICATE ABOLISHED FROM 2012

The NSW Government has announced the School Certificate will be abolished from next year. Therefore this year will be the last year Year 10 will sit for the School Certificate. The Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli, said the decision was made after consultation with principals, teachers, parents and all school sectors.

"The message from stakeholders was that the School Certificate no longer meets the expectations of employers. It has not responded to changes such as the increase in the school leaving age, and the introduction of NAPLAN testing," he said.

Mr Piccoli said he had requested the Board of Studies conduct further consultation to make recommendations about an alternative credential. This year's School Certificate external tests will be conducted on schedule in November.

SUPPORT OUR PBL GOTCHA PROGRAM!!



Each week students are recognised by teachers for their positive behaviours that display respect responsibility and participation around the school.

At a draw on Friday's Assembly one student receives a voucher for a local business or activity and a second student receives a school canteen voucher.

Do you have a business or contact who would like to donate prizes or vouchers to help recognise these positive behaviours? We actively publicise our supporters in signage and in our bulletin!

Any support will help promote the positive contribution of Newcastle High School students to our school community.



We are a Positive Behaviour for Learning School

Dear Parents and Care Providers,

I am writing to advise you that we suspect that nits/head lice are present in the hair of some students within Year 9. Please check your child's hair for nits/lice tonight using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health (<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/headlice/treatment.asp>) a copy of which is attached.

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website (details above) or through the Department's website at

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>.

I appreciate your assistance in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Cameron
Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

NSW Public Schools Head lice - The facts

Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools.

- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

Treatment

- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)
- school communities may need to hold 'check and treat' or Nitbuster days where everyone learns about and starts treatment on the same day.

Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

School Holiday Workshops

4th to 7th October 2011

Senior Students

- Senior writing course (Year 10 to 12)
- Senior approach to literature workshop (Year 11 & 12)
Paper I – Area of Study
 - English pre-HSC workshops (Year 12)
Paper II Modules (Advanced & Standard)
- Practice exam & feedback session (Year 12)
Maths, Biology & Chemistry

Taught by experienced senior teachers, HSC markers

Also

- Creative writing workshop (Year 9 to 11)
- School certificate preparation workshops
History & English
 - History workshops (Year 10)
- Junior maths revision and extension (Year 7 to 10)
 - Writing for fun (Year 6 to 8)

ARRENDELL SECONDARY EDUCATION CENTRE

11 Scott Street, Newcastle 2300

Phone 49292522

CAREERS – Charles Sturt University

For all inquiries about Charles Sturt University courses, please contact info.csu on:

T: 1800 334 733

F: (02) 6338 6001

E: inquiry@csu.edu.au

W: www.csu.edu.au

Are you looking for a career in Pharmacy?

Pharmacists represent the major component of continuing healthcare for the community. Charles Sturt University (CSU) is looking for students who have all-round skills to become the future pharmacists of Australia. CSU's Bachelor of Pharmacy incorporates diverse practice such as community or hospital pharmacy, dispensing, medication management and health counselling to equip graduates with skills for immediate employment. Ample opportunities for employment exist for graduates as there is a recognised demand for skilled practitioners, particularly in rural and remote areas. Although your ATAR mark is a requirement, applicants must also complete a supplementary form and attend an interview to ensure every student holds the necessary academic and personal characteristics to succeed in this industry.

PREP – an early entry program

Applications for the CSU Principal's Report Entry Program (PREP) program close on 19 September so it's a good time to find out more about this opportunity. PREP is a great way for academically talented students from high schools in the non-metropolitan areas of NSW, ACT and Victoria to get their foot in the door at Charles Sturt University (CSU). To be eligible, a Year 12 student needs to be identified by their school principal as a consistent achiever with the potential to succeed in university studies. CSU offers many courses to undergraduate students. For more information, visit www.csu.edu.au/oncampus/getting-to-uni/prep

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF !

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist, wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Host an international high school student in February 2012 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in February for one or two semesters from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan, the U.S.A. and Canada. They will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money.

Call S.C.C.E now on 1800 500 501, email scceaust@scce.com.au or visit our website (www.scce.com.au) to be part of this rewarding experience. Request our booklet of student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship



Has your child had pain or injury with sports or study?

Don't let it become a permanent problem! Bring them in for a **FREE ASSESSMENT** at BodyWorx Physiotherapy.


Session includes:

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- ✓ Treatment Management Plan
- ✓ Computerised Foot Assessment

Call 4952 7033 to book now!



*Private Rooms ⇨ 1-on-1 Care with Hands on & Exercise Based Approach ⇨ Non-gym Members Welcome
⇨ On the Spot Health Fund Rebates ⇨ Physiotherapy ⇨ Custom Orthotics ⇨ Massage Therapy*

 **4952 7033**

Inside Fitness First, Westfield Kotara

(You do not need to be a member of Fitness First to come to our clinic)

CRS AUSTRALIA FOR JOB SEEKERS



Australian Government
CRS Australia

Are you a mum or dad on a Centrelink payment and need training to get back to work?

Do you have a disability, injury or health condition and want a job?

CRS Australia can help by connecting you with training programs that meet a diverse range of needs. Courses are nationally accredited and cover a broad range of industries.

To be eligible you must be:

- a person with the care of a dependent child aged less than 16 years of age
- in receipt of a Parenting Payment Single, Parenting Payment Partnered Newstart, Youth Allowance (other) or Special Benefit.*

Call Brad at our Newcastle office on **4960 4300** to find out more.

*Additional eligibility criteria may apply

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Sam Reynolds
(NBC, CBS, MTV, Discovery)

Learn different styles & techniques

Learn the art of improvising & song writing

Lessons tailored to your individual needs

Studio conveniently located on
Beaumont St

Limited spaces available

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www.samreynolds.com.au

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2011

DAILY FROM SEPTEMBER 26 - 30 2011

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Price: \$135

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BIBLE TALKS, FOOD, FUN, PEACE & QUIET.**

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FAQ's and contacts:
www.sunsw.org.au / (02) 9638 9000 / info@sunsw.org.au

www.sunsw.org.au



Would you like to meet other
Grandparent and kinship carers?



Merewether GAPS Group

Come along and enjoy:

- Social support and meet new friends
- Share your grandparent and kinship carer experiences
- Support each other in a casual and friendly environment
- Visiting guest speakers
- Tea & coffee provided (bring a sandwich for lunch)

All Free

WHEN: **EVERY MONDAY**
DURING SCHOOL TERMS
(Commences Monday 15th August, 2011)

TIME: 12.00 pm - 2.00 pm

WHERE: Meeting Space in the Church
St Augustine's Church
Cnr Llewellyn & Winsor St, Merewether

CONTACT: Doreen Herron
Phone: 49588261 Mobile 0435002741
Email: dhe81066@bigpond.net.au



If you are not a grandparent or kinship carer and would like to lend your support please contact
Doreen Herron: Phone 49588261 or Mobile 0435002741 Email dhe81066@bigpond.net.au

Anglican
Parish of
Merewether



Introducing...

Newcastle Ballet Theatre

After professional careers in the United States that spanned over a decade, **Kristy Tancred & Rider D. Vierling** are proud to bring **Newcastle Ballet Theatre** to the Hunter Region.

Commencing in 2012, with studios in Cardiff Newcastle Ballet Theatre will be offering a wide range of classes for beginners to pre-professionals and adults.

Classes Include:

- *ACB Syllabus and Open Ballet Classes
- * Boys Classes
- * Pas de Deux
- * Contemporary
- * Jazz/Hip Hop
- * Pilates
- * Stretch/Conditioning

- * Tiny Tots ballet
- * Adult ballet classes
- * Private Coaching

* **Full Time Training Program** designed for the serious student wishing to have a career as a professional dancer or teacher.



ENROLMENTS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN
See website for Enrolment form and details.
Ph: 0434 417 454 / 0401 214 042 / 0408 892 343
email: nbt1@live.com.au
www.newcastleballettheatre.com.au