

The Parkway



July, 2013

Parkway Edition No. 6

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Monday, 5 August at 5.30pm in the Staff House
Guest Speakers: Mr Nick Willis, Head Teacher & Mrs Renee Wells Mathematics Faculty
ALL WELCOME
P&C email: nhsbandc@mybiznetonline.com

MATHEMATICS

It's busy, as always, in Maths! It is a particularly big term for Year 12 who are preparing for their upcoming HSC. All Year 12 classes should have received their trial HSC examination papers back with feedback on where they can improve, remembering that there is one task remaining where they can potentially improve their rank. Keep working hard and seeking assistance in your sprint to the finish line!

The Maths Breakfast Club



The Maths Breakfast Club has been a success since its commencement in Term 1, with a variety of students from all year groups and levels of achievement attending each week to gain assistance with their classwork or extend themselves (often prior to an assessment task!). We were particularly impressed with the number of keen students who attended on the first Wednesday back for Term 3! The Maths Breakfast Club is open to all students from 7.45am each Wednesday morning until the assembly begins, with

Maths staff volunteering their time to assist students as a free 'tutoring' service. There is no need to book in advance. Thanks to Mrs Wells for her continued efforts in running our breakfast club and supplying some toast, milk and juice for the students who attend.

We have again subscribed all students to www.mymathsonline.com.au. The username and password are on posters in each of the maths classrooms around the school. We encourage students to consolidate their learning in class with some of the exercises that mymaths provides. The content on mymaths is suitable for all levels of maths from Years 7-12.

In addition, just a reminder, that we also have many resources available for students on the school Moodle (<http://web1.newcastle-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/newcastle-h/>). There are HSC past paper questions by topic suitable for exam preparation and we are adding more resources. If your child doesn't have access to the Moodle, most faculties (including Maths) have a Moodle administrator who can create an account or reset passwords.

Some students are forgetting to bring their calculators each lesson. In addition to the basic requirements of an exercise book and pen, a calculator is an essential piece of equipment. Calculators are available for purchase from the office at a cost of \$20.00. Batteries can easily be replaced if necessary by removing the back cover with a small screwdriver.

Subject selections for Year 10 into 11 come around quickly - it was great to speak to the many parents who were able to attend the information night last term. We encourage students to choose a course suited to their level of achievement and commitment. For clarification, Mathematics General splits into two pathways for Year 12. The content and assessment tasks are the same for Year 11, however we encourage students to consider their HSC pathway as they make their selections as the Mathematics General 1 pathway does not contribute towards an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank). Most students seem confident about their choices, but please encourage your child to seek assistance from their maths teacher if they are unsure about their selection.

We have had some success with our Mathematics General Year 11 Driving Focus Study Assignment, with some quality tasks being handed in. A recent conversation with a parent offered positive feedback regarding this real world task. We have also had some quality 'Angles' tasks being submitted this week from Year 7 students. It is great to see these efforts from the newest members of our school.

Maths GATS Day at The Junction Public School

The Maths GATS Day provided an opportunity to forge stronger links with one of our local primary schools through organised GATS activities with a maths focus. Mrs Wells attended The Junction Public School to work with the future students of Newcastle High School to extend these students and encourage higher order thinking in mathematics.

Da Vinci Challenge

A group of Year 9 students participated in a GATS activity where they were given challenging problems to solve in groups whilst competing against other schools in the region. Our students enjoyed the alternative approach to learning mathematics and the opportunity to test their skills against students from other schools.

eBike Challenge

Students from Year 9 have been participating in a regional program which requires them to work as a team to design and construct an electric bike to be raced against teams from other schools in August at Cameron Park.

The team is also required to design and implement a business plan to attract sponsorship and promote their team. Our major sponsor, the Newcastle Old Boys Association, has donated the funds to purchase a bike and support other associated costs. There are six prizes available in the challenge and the team is hoping to secure at least one of the available prizes whilst also having fun on the day.

Mr Nick Willis
Head Teacher Mathematics



YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION

On the evening of Tuesday, 23 July a transition information evening was held at the school to give parents/carers of Year 6 students heading into high school next year the opportunity to find out what our school has to offer. Our Principal, Mark Hewitt, gave an overview of the school and enrolment information packs were provided to all attendees. The feedback we have received has been extremely positive.



Key Dates for the Year 6 to 7 Transition Calendar for Parents:

- Thursday, 8 August and Friday 9 August – Half Day Taster Lessons (day depends on school – further information to be provided)
- Wednesday, 4 December – Orientation Day

Parents/Carers will receive invitations and information in the mail regarding these activities.

The Year Advisors for Year 7 2014, Mr Craig Main and Ms Deanna Longobardi, and I will also be visiting primary schools and talking to Year 6 teachers to assist in supporting them through this process.

If you have any questions regarding the Year 6 to 7 Transition, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Shannon Sager
Head Teacher Welfare
Year 6 to 7 Transition Coordinator

NAIDOC Week 7-14 July 2013

Every year we celebrate NAIDOC Week to acknowledge the unique contribution made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to Australia's national identity. The week is important to Australians from all walks of life and provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the histories, cultures, achievements and aspirations of Aboriginal people.

This year's theme for NAIDOC Week, “*We value the vision: Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963*” has special historical significance. The two bark petitions the Yolngu people of Yirrkala in Arnhem Land sent to the Federal Parliament in 1963 were the first traditional documents recognised by the Commonwealth Government. The bark petitions sought recognition of the Yolngu people's rights to their traditional lands on the Gove Peninsula and set in motion a process of legislative and constitutional reform for Aboriginal people.

The name NAIDOC stands for the National Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders Day Observance Committee, which originally organised national activities during NAIDOC Week.

Newcastle High School celebrated NAIDOC Week during Week 2. Activities included a performance for Year 7 and 8 students by the Beatty Clan and an excursion to see the play ‘My Girragundji’.

JINDABYNE – YEAR 9

On Monday, 27 May sixty-two Year 9 students from Newcastle High School journeyed to Jindabyne for five days with four teachers.

The activities were so much fun and everyone enjoyed all of them. We did two activities each day including; high ropes, rock climbing, mountain biking, CPR (we got our certificate), initiative challenges, The Amazing Race and archery. After high ropes our group sat down and chose a picture that best described our experiences on the high ropes. It was really good to reflect on our experience. At night we participated in other activities like 'Jindy Markets' and trivia which were both really fun and hilarious.

The snow was by far one of the most memorable parts of the trip. It was a about a forty-five minute bus ride to Thredbo. We got there and it was absolutely bitter and freezing. Out came the gloves, beanies, scarves, snow gloves, hoods and sunnies. We went on the chair lift up to the start of the Mt Kosciusko walk. We didn't do that walk because the conditions were too dangerous, so we played and had an amazing time in the snow. Then we got back down off the chair lift and did a walk at the bottom of the mountain.

The instructors were great! They were all really nice. They all went out of their way to ensure that we had a fantastic time.

Our rooms were great! There were eight beds. We could have worn summer pyjamas and still been hot. The heaters were set for freezing winter snowy days. It was so hot inside!

At our Jindabyne camp, the food was great! I think we were all pleasantly surprised when we walked into the dining hall at 5:30pm on the first night to see a beautiful range of food from salads to lovely chicken roast and potatoes. For breakfast there was a huge range of nutritious foods like cereal, baked beans and eggs and upon occasion, pancakes. YUM!

We had heaps of free time. Most people spent the time at the basketball court playing Master. Whenever it was free time, about twenty five to thirty of us were keen for an encouraging game.

Everyone had a fantastic and unforgettable time. On behalf of all of Year 9 who attended the camp, I would like to sincerely thank the four teachers who gave up their own time to come on camp with us: Miss Nowak, Mrs Wells, Mr Doherty and Mr Bromfield. We wouldn't have had this great experience without them so THANKYOU!!

Lucy Maher
Student



RYDA

Year 11 students recently attended the RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) program that highlights road safety messages for seventeen to eighteen year olds as they begin to drive or ride in cars driven by their peers.

The program was compulsory and satisfies HSC requirements.

Under the theme “My Life My Choices”, the empowering messages are designed to give the young participants cause to stop, reflect and consider their decisions as a passenger or a driver.

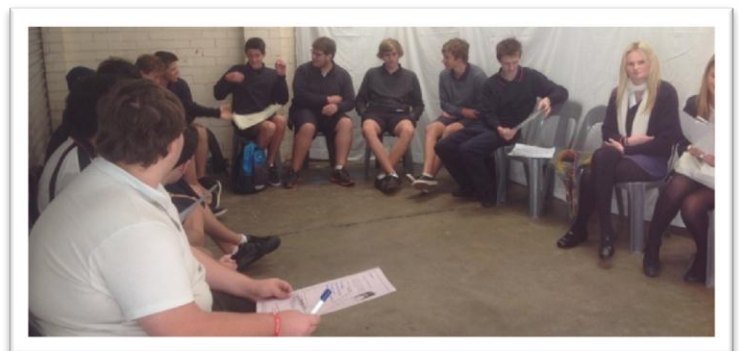
The sessions covered:

- Stopping Distances
- Hazards, Distractions & Risks
- Plan B – Alcohol, Drugs & Fatigue
- Road Choices
- Crash Survivor
- My Wheels



This program is coordinated and run by Rotary volunteers with involvement from police, local businesses and health care organisations. Our school is one of a select number of local schools who have this opportunity to participate in this very worthwhile program.

Students enjoyed the day and were great ambassadors for the school ensuring our continued involvement in 2014.



Student Feedback:

“It was a fantastic learning experience, one that I will remember and take into consideration for as long as I am on the road” Teelah

“My life, my choices, was the main motto and I believe the course has enabled us to make safer choices on the road” Jess

“I’m getting my P’s soon and this day taught me many lessons on how to be safer” Oliver

“It was a great day and a great unforgettable experience” Jess B

“It made me keen for my P’s” Lachlan

“The day gave me a whole new insight into the effects of dangerous driving on people” George

SPORTS REPORT

Hockey

After a bye in Round 1 and a forfeit in Round 2 (because the other school was too scared to play us!), our open girls’ team had a narrow loss in Round 3 to Cardiff High School. Our inexperienced team has many new yet enthusiastic players, biding well for the future. Mrs Dennis commented on the ‘solid games’ from young Natalie Cox (Year 7) and Kirra-Lee King (Year 8). Some good runs down the wing and good teamwork between Jessica Plumsted (Year 11) and ice hockey player Jordon O’Donnell (Year 11).

Rugby Union

There have been a number of U/18, U/16 and U/14 games. Mr Carswell has reported on these. Good luck to the U/14 Boys who are still in the Buchan Shield after their success in Coffs Harbour.

Surfing

The Hunter Regional Surfing Competition was held on 6 June at Dixon Park. Mr Guinane accompanied a senior and junior boys' team. Both teams made it into the semi-finals. The senior boys' team of Leo Hamilton, Gabriel Vial, and William Mansfield were defeated by SFX (who were the eventual winners).

The junior boys' team of Oliver Hamilton, Harrison Godden and Jye Pascoe made it through to the finals but unfortunately lost to Kotara High School.

In the individual events, Gabriel Vial and Oliver Hamilton both made it through to their respective individual finals.

AFL

Mr Doherty accompanied the U/15 boys to the Swan Shield – AFL Gala Day at Seaman Oval Warners Bay. Mr Doherty has included his report in this bulletin. Well done boys!

Football

After a successful win in Round 3 against Dungog the boys progressed to Round 4 (last 8 in Region) and played Toronto High School. After a hard fought 0 – 0 draw at full time, the boys unfortunately went down 1 – 0 in the “golden goal”. Mr Main commented that Alex Hills saved a penalty to keep the boys in the game and had a stellar game in goals.

Congratulations to:

Monique Collin (Year 8) – who has been selected to compete in Division C at the NSW CHS Gymnastics Championships at Glendale in early August.

Brayden Milford (Year 8) – who as a member of the Hunter Region Team, has been selected to compete in the NSW CHS Softball Championships at Mayfield in mid-August. Good luck Monique and Brayden.

Josephine Pinkerton (Year 7) – finished 57th at NSW CHS Cross Country Championships at Homebush.

Sarah Bugbird (Year 12) – finished 45th from 120 runners at NSW Cross Country Championships.

Athletics

Seventy-five students attended the City Zone Athletics Championships in a range of track and field events. Mr Newman was pleased with the students' efforts on the day. Congratulations to our Zone Age Champions:

- Josephine Pinkerton (12 yrs)
- Tomeeka McKillop-Davies (13 yrs)
- Anthony Nguyen (14 yrs)
- Abbie Gray (14 yrs)

Good luck to the nineteen competitors who have qualified to compete at the Hunter Region Athletics Championships on 24 and 25 August.

Mr Paul Wagner / Mrs Nicole Blatchford
Inter School Sports Organisers



COLES RECEIPTS

Thanks to all the parents/carers and students who collected Coles docket for us in 2012. The value of the sports equipment we received (pictured below) totals approximately \$950.00. We are then able to redirect the money we would have spent on this equipment to other areas in the school.

Hopefully you can continue to support us if the Coles scheme runs again this year.

Mr Paul Wagner
Head Teacher PDHPE



NHS HOUSE SPORT

All Year 7-10 students are divided into four Sport Houses based on their surname.

Students whose last name ends in:

A-D: become members of **CLARK House (RED)** – named in honour of former NHS student, Australian cricketing legend and current AIS general manager, **BELINDA CLARK**.

E-K: are aligned with **FEARNLEY House (BLUE)** – named in honour of local Paralympian, marathon-man, adventure guru and Newcastle High Patron, **KURT FEARNLEY**.

L-Q: join **RICHARDS House (YELLOW)** – named in honour of four time world surfing champion and Newcastle icon, **MARK RICHARDS**.

R-Z: link with **WATT House (GREEN)** – named in honour of former NHS student and one of Australian's most successful Paralympian swimmers, **PRUE WATT**.



Representing their Houses, all students will compete in round robin competitions in a variety of team games over the school year. The winning House will receive the inaugural Smith House Champion Trophy, donated by the generosity of former HSIE Head Teacher, Mr Mark Smith and his family.

Individuals demonstrating outstanding sporting ability and/or the school's code of Respect, Responsibility and Participation are recognised each week in the form of a pink sporting Gotcha.

TERM 3 HOUSE SPORT UPDATE



Mr Christian Carswell

NHS House Patrons, Kurt Fearnley and Mark Richards, presenting the U/18's Sporting Champion Award to Jessie Hanlon and 2014 School Captain, Maddison Hallet.

Fearnley House, channelling the unrivalled enthusiasm of House Patron and Living Legend, Kurt Fearnley, have stormed to the top of the House Sports competition. Dominating the Athletics Carnival and the awards ceremony, Fearnley have covered themselves in confetti, Gotchas and 'likes' on Facebook.

FEARNLEY House, with one hand on the prize: 3825

RICHARDS House, a close second: 3700

WATT House, sitting on bronze: 3630

& waiting to pounce aka Stephen Bradbury-style

CLARK House: 3595

REGIONAL SURFING COMPETITION 2013

This year the Regional Surfing Competition was held on Friday 6 June, at Dixon Park Beach. The surf during the day was consistently excellent and provided the surfers with ample opportunities to impress the judges with their performances.

Newcastle High School entered both a junior and senior boys team. Leo Hamilton, Gabe Vial and Will Mansfield surfed in the junior team and Oliver Hamilton, Harrison Godden and Jye Pascoe surfed in the senior team.

The surfers competed in two heats during the day and the top four teams moved through to the semi-finals. Both teams qualified for the semi-finals. In the senior semi, the boys were matched against SFX, the eventual winners. The junior surfers made it through to the final but unfortunately went down to Kotara High School. Only the winning teams moved through to the State Competition.

The competition also provides for individual performances and Gabe Vial and Oliver Hamilton both made it through to the respective individual finals. Both surfed well but just missed out on qualifying for the State Competition.

All of the surfers were fine ambassadors for Newcastle High School and have confirmed the strong tradition of surfing in our school is alive and well.

Congratulations boys.

Mr Andrew Guinane



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THE HEAVENLY COLUMN

Newcastle High Rugby Union players continued to cover themselves in boundless confetti during Term 2.

The **U/18 boys**, featuring a large number of Year 11's and Year 10's, finished a brave fifth in the Waratah Shield. NHS's first fifteen will get a chance to scribe their tags in the history archives, when Merewether High visits in Term 3 to contest the annual Challenge Trophy.

Our **U/14 boys** were thrilled to record their first game in revered Newcastle colours at the spiritual home of Newcastle representative rugby, No. 2. In front of a captive audience, our young chargers took on the might of Hunter Valley Grammar, narrowly finishing second. During the HVG fixture, Newcastle players were honoured to receive their new jerseys from our valued **Merewether Carlton Junior Rugby Club** sponsors. Rosalie Taggart, Dennis Neader and Steve Rich, representing Taggart Partners and Monteaths & Powy, presented our flash new tri-coloured strip.

However, 2013 will always be remembered as the year of the **U/16 boys'** team. Warming up with an unlucky third in the Hunter 7's competition, the lads vanquished all before them in the Hunter 15's – without a point scored against them. Onto Coffs Harbour and the CHS Buchan Shield Northern Finals. No problem - emphatic winners! And as a result, these young men have evolved into rugby gods and NHS is one of the top 8 CHS High Schools in NSW. They will contest the final in Sydney early in Term 3.

Girls will also get their shot at the 'game played in Heaven' in Term 3.



Newcastle High U/16's Northern Buchan Shield winners, flanked by managers Tony 'The Bus Chauffeur' Southward and Steve 'The Bus' Manning.

NEWCASTLE HIGH AFL 'CHAMPS' OF HUNTER REGION

During Week 7, Term Two the Newcastle High School U/15 boys' AFL team competed in the Hunter Region Championships at Seaman Oval, Warners Bay.

Our day kicked off with a game against Hunter Sports High, the reigning champions. While only having four players who played for an AFL club, we were sure that we would be packing our bags early. However, much to our surprise we had many naturals to the game with Kye 'Plugger' Zanardi at full forward taking home four goals during the match, as result of being confined to the goal square and taking some opportunistic marks. Lachlan, 'the man child', Milton dominating the ruck winning every jump and working hard in the centre - Lachlan could be the greatest rugby union convert to AFL since Mike Pike. All the boys pitched in with plenty of hard running to create opportunities for free flowing and open AFL. NHS also worked hard when they didn't have the ball and a number of bone crunching tackles were produced by Pat 'the General' Langlois and Zaker 'the Human Cannonball' Zafarzade. NHS took home the victory with an astonishing 50 to 12 point win against Hunter Sports High - a margin of a 38 point win!! Due to our hard work, skill, determination and courage we were through to the next game.

To our luck, in the next game Lambton High had to forfeit, which put us straight through to the grand final!

Even though it had started to pour with rain, NHS boys were keen to get back out there!

The Grand Final had finally arrived and all the guys were jumping out of there stockings to get out there and take on Tomaree High. Captain Milan 'Juddy' Lettau was unlucky and lost the toss once again, but luckily redeemed himself with a great game in the mid field with some unbelievable speckies and tough work under the packs. The Newcastle boys were up at half time 27-20 with Dozzer's (Mr Doherty) inspiring speech at half time lifting the boys to put on some more points and show everyone that they were the better team. With a great second half from Ollie Hendricks, who floated across half back in a fashion reminiscent of Dustin Fletcher, and Harry Sorby gaining more possessions than Dane Swan. Newcastle High marched to victory by holding off a good second half effort from Tomaree High for a 44-32 victory.

It was a great day for the boys who are now Hunter Region Champions and now play the winner of the North Coast Region in Term 3. A big thank you to all the parents who came and supported us and special thanks to Harley's family who provided a delightful surprise of Subway and Powerade and of course thank you to Mr Doherty for leading us towards history-making greatness.

Kye Zanardi and Milan Lettau

BOCCIA

Claire Bertholli, Emily Rogers, Lyndal Mountfort, Siobhan Daley, Bhargavi Sharma, Elsie Crockett and Misty-Lee O'Brien-Shelton competed in the Boccia School Knockout Competition on 23 July and were Newcastle Regional Winners. The girls will be attending Homebush on 4 September to compete in the Grand Final. Well Done Girls and Good Luck!



HOUSE CAPTAINS 2013

FEARNLEY HOUSE



Alex Hills



Mimi Ellicott

CLARK HOUSE



Marlii Carroll



Derrick Dinh

RICHARDS HOUSE



Haileigh
Mangovski



Dylan Noble

WATT HOUSE



Mercedes
Wildschut



Jarrod Sansom

SENIOR STUDY AFTERNOON

Towards a Better HSC

As an initiative to support our Year 12 students in preparation for their trial Higher School Certificate examinations, Newcastle High School offered a program of guided and supervised study during Weeks 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Term 2.

Each session operated in the school's library from 3:15 to 5:30pm each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon after a recharge for students of biscuits and coffee and tea.

Sessions allowed for private study and, in some cases, some direction provided by supervisors in areas which included:

- Supervised quiet study
- Guidance by staff on organisational tips, writing essays/extended answers, time management and a variety of ways to study
- Small group work where staff assist students in completion of past examination papers, offer advice and guidance (faculties provided past trial HSC papers for students to access and review)
- Teacher led review of sections of coursework as needed or skills in analysing questions/tasks
- Computer support for students on accessing BOS, CSU or online learning resources

Generally, both staff and students saw a very positive outcome from this program. Students commented that they were able to complete two hours of work before they got home and this set them up to move forward that night.

MEDICAL / CONTACT DETAILS

Student medical forms

During Terms 3 and 4 we will be updating our medical records systems to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on your child's health.

If you have a child with a medical condition you will receive a copy of the new medical forms in the mail. We request that parents/carers complete these forms and return them to us as soon as possible.

The good news is we have already started collecting some of this information, which means less for you to do.

The new forms will help us collect your child's important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean we'll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.

We appreciate your support as we start collecting the information. In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our Head Teacher Welfare, Mrs Shannon Sager, during school hours on 49693177 or alternatively by email, newcastle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Newcastle High School has gotten off to a tremendous start for Semester 2. Last week the school welcomed our 2014 Year 7 parents/carers and students at an Information Evening on Tuesday night - the Cultural Centre was packed and the excitement in the atmosphere was a sure sign of the confidence that the local community has in our school. We currently have 208 applications for Year 7 2014 which is excellent. With this level of support from the community we will be able to continue the programs that make Newcastle High School the unique school that it is. Thanks particularly to our current P&C executive and staff who supported the evening and also to our current student leaders who were excellent ambassadors for the school and their families. The comments from the incoming parents were very reassuring.

The school celebrated NAIDOC week in a variety of ways. The school community raised the Aboriginal flag, we hosted a morning tea for community members, and students had the opportunity to see several unique cultural performances. Jack Banks-Gore and Caiden Brown played a key role in these events and are certainly well on their way to becoming the elders of the future. Thanks Mr Hardy and Mrs Shute for their work in delivering this program.

The school is undergoing a period of readjustment with the promotion of Mr Andrew Jones to Principal at Dubbo College Senior Campus. Whilst we all congratulate Mr Jones on his new appointment, he will be missed here at NHS. Mr Jones was appointed to Newcastle High School in 1998 and has made a significant contribution to the school over the past fifteen years, especially during his time as Deputy Principal. I was really impressed by the genuine and sincere farewells that many students gave Mr Jones. Mr Sean Bromfield is relieving the Deputy Principal position while I await direction on how the DP position will be filled. Mr Andrew Doherty is relieving as Head Teacher Science for Mr Bromfield. Thanks again to the teachers who are performing these extra duties.

This year the school, in consultation with staff, parents and students decided to trial electing student leaders outside of the traditional 'two female, two male' principle. I believe this process is more truly democratic, but the small number of boys does alert us all to an issue of student leaders among the male students. This process will be reviewed during the next months before the next election.

These new student leaders are being successfully mentored by the outgoing student leaders of 2013 who are now able to devote greater efforts to their HSC study.



Congratulations to our 2014 student leaders who were elected at the end of last term. The School Captains are Maddison Hallett and Billy Breaden. The Vice Captains are Teelah Ellicott and Amelia McComb. The 2014 SRC members were also elected. These student leaders are:

Year 11 – Jessica Bangle, George Diplaros, Claire Bertholli, Jordan Fahey, Elliott Dooley, Oliver Hamilton, Paige Lutkie and Jess Munro

Year 10 – Lydia Corcoran Eagleton, Alex Hills, Marlii Carroll, Jaeger Collins, Chelsea Hollings, India Wilson, Renee Thomas and Irini Kassar

Year Advisors recently held merit assemblies for all years. These assemblies have created a wonderful opportunity for the school to acknowledge success among the student body and have this success recognised in front of peers. I have been impressed with the number and diversity of the students who have been awarded merit certificates at these ceremonies and the talent that has been shown has just been mind-blowing. We have lots of future stars amongst our student body. Congratulations to all merit certificate recipients and thanks to our performers.

The school has moved into the world of social media and NHS now has a Facebook page. It was fitting that one of the first posts on this page was the announcement of the new student leaders for 2014. We already have over 290 'Likes'. Details of the Facebook page are included in the bulletin. If I can get with Facebook, you all can! The purpose of this page is to get good news out into the community about our school. It is disappointing that a small number of students have made inappropriate comments. Everyone needs to be aware that this is a public forum and inappropriate comments and behaviour will be addressed.

Year 12 completed their trial HSC examinations in the last two weeks of Term 2 and has now settled into an undisturbed Term 3 to thoroughly prepare for the HSC. Many students have major works, projects and performances due in the coming weeks that are a major part of their HSC courses. Good luck to these students. Students are very fortunate that a number of staff have offered their time to keep the Senior Study Program operating on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 3pm and 5 pm. Again, thanks to the staff who are giving up their time to support these students. Many members of staff came to school during the break to allow students to access resources to work on their HSC projects and to study.

During Week 10 of this term Year 12 students follow Thema Modified Program that allows them to celebrate their exit from school. Details of the school's expectations for the term have been given to all students. It is an expectation of this school that students clear all their debts before they leave school and these monies must be paid before students can purchase tickets to the formal.

Planning is well underway for 2014 with Year 10 students commencing their subject selection processes for Stage 6. At this stage, we haven't drawn up the subject lines and we will not be able to include all the subjects that were in the initial selection once lines are established. Student choice is what drives the subject lines as we attempt to accommodate the greatest number of student choices. We have a great record of meeting about 90-95% of student choices. Again, I would like to stress how important it is that the current Year 10 students remain at NHS for Stage 6. We do offer a comprehensive curriculum and students achieve excellent results.

On Wednesday, 14 August we are holding a Subject Selection Evening for students in Years 7 and 8 to make choices for their subjects for Years 8 and 9. Details will be given to the students early in Term 3.

Recently, at very short notice, our senior students were able to assist Hamilton South Public School with their athletics carnival. I was delighted to receive this email back from the staff at Hamilton South Public School:

I would like to express my appreciation for your help with our Athletics Carnival. I realise it was extremely short notice and I am absolutely grateful for your assistance.

The students you sent were mature, focused and extremely helpful. I would appreciate it if you could let the following students know how appreciative Hamilton South pupils, parents and teachers are of their efforts; Billy Braden, Jess Munro, Teelah Ellicott, Maddison Hallett, Renee Thomas, Chelsea Hollings, Maddie Cvetanovski and Jordan O'Donnell...Thanking you Suzy Heagney

The Under 16 Boys' Rugby Team has made it to the last six teams in the State. The next round of the CHS Buchan Shield Final will be held in Sydney on Wednesday, 14 August. Thanks to the parents who travelled to Coffs Harbour at the end of last term to support this team. Great effort! The school Boccia team has made it to the state finals and they too will be off to Sydney in the coming weeks.

Mr Mark Hewitt
Principal



CAREERS

TRY A SKILL

Well done to all those students who participated in the Careers Expo, the Year 10 Senior Expo and Try a Skill excursions. Student participation and behaviour at all these events was outstanding.



Year 10 Senior Expo Day

Year 10 students will need to make their Year 11 subject selections online. This is done through their school email account and needs to be completed by the first week of Term 3.



Years 11 & 12

Year 11 students involved in the Rotary Job Ready Program will be provided with further information early in Term 3 about their job application and interview.

The "Schools Visits Day" was held in Week 1, Term 3. HSC students had an opportunity to register online to participate in seminars held at Newcastle University on Wednesday, 17 July.

BiG Day In Newcastle – an IT Careers Conference - The BiG Day In is an IT Careers Conference organised, run and hosted by students for students. Over 1,320 high school students (Years 10-12) and university students have participated in the last four BiG Day In conferences. A BiG Day In conference was held this year at the University of Newcastle on 25 July. The ACS Foundation invited speakers from companies such as NIB, Greater Building Society, HunterNet and more to talk about the future of technology and how students can get involved.

WEP Student Exchange – Attention Year 10 & 11 Students - make the most of your summer break and spend it overseas! Live with a welcoming host family, attend school overseas and make friends from around the world. Applications for short-term WEP student exchange programs are closing in August 2013. To request an information pack, please visit www.wep.org.au, call 1300 884 733 or email info@wep.org.au.

Projects Abroad – Overseas Volunteer and Work Experience – Students and parents/carers recently had the opportunity to attend a Projects Abroad Open Day to meet with staff and volunteers to discuss programs and the practicalities of overseas volunteer work. Programs are available for school leavers and for Year 10 & 11 students during their summer break. Further information can be obtained online: www.projects-abroad.com.au/about-us/meet-us/ or by phoning 1300 132 831.

Early Offer Year 12 scheme (E12), The University of Sydney – Your Principal can nominate up to twenty E12 students per school. Students are encouraged to submit an application which their Principal will need to support. This online application will be open from Wednesday, 7 August and closes on Friday, 6 September 2013. To find out who is eligible, the benefits, the twenty-five courses available (Law, Pharmacy, Architecture and Economics now included) and how the scheme works please go to: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/e12>

Discover Engineering 2013 (Tuesday 6th August 2013) at Engineers Australia office 122 Parry Street, Newcastle West between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. Australian "Engineering Week" aims to build the profile of engineering as a career choice amongst school students, teachers and parents as well as build the awareness of engineering within the community. Engineers Australia as part of "Engineering Week" is proud to present a night of 'Discover Engineering'. Ph 4926 4440.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Women in the Army Information Session

When: Saturday 17th August
Time: 11am
Where: Defence Force Recruiting, 528 Hunter Street
Newcastle
RSVP: Friday 16th August
rsutcliffe@dfr.com.au
or (02) 4974 5427

Mr Chris Alexander
Careers Adviser

Women in the Royal Australian Air Force

When: Saturday 3rd August
Time: 11am
Where: Defence Force Recruiting, 528 Hunter Street
Newcastle
RSVP: rsutcliffe@dfr.com.au
or (02) 4974 5427

Stories from Student Support Officer – Amy King



SHINE Program

During Term 2, twelve of our Year 7 girls participated in the Shine Program with our Chaplain Mrs Livingstone, and the community presenter Victoria Bonsor. The students met each week to learn about having confidence, etiquette, body image, and self-worth. These students have been challenged by participating in fitness exercises, learning manners at our Staff House High Tea, stepping outside their comfort zones and developing humour walking the catwalk. These girls have shared lots of laughter, learning and meaningful discussions.

On Friday, 21 June the students celebrated their graduation with a special tea at the Crown Plaza. The girls fell silent when they saw the beautiful food before them and were presented with their certificates. These students have been an absolute pleasure to work with. Thanks girls!

STEALTH ARTS STUDENTS

During Week 6, our Stealth Arts Students struck again. They surprised the school with a Birthday Party for “Queen Elizabeth”. Students curiously crept into the Cultural Centre and found some Royal Party games: Pin the Ears on Prince Charles, and Pass the Parcel. They sang Happy Birthday to the Queen and enjoyed some birthday cake and cupcakes. Numerous students and teachers were also knighted by ‘Queen Liz’, and have certificates to prove it. Thank you to our creative Stealth Arts Students for creating a fun positive event in our school for our students to engage in once again. Thanks also to our partners at The Loft Youth venue, they are an incredible resource for our students and we are disappointed to hear of its imminent closure.



“Sir Bromfield” receiving his certificate of Knighthood



Pin the Ears on Prince Charles

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



Three of our Year 10 SRC students attended the World Vision Global Leadership Summit at the Town Hall in May. These students are going to spearhead our 40 Hour Famine campaign this year and are passionately aiming to beat last year's efforts. We are working together to come up with creative methods to involve staff and students in understanding and responding to poverty. These SRC students are truly a representation of the many students in our school who have spoken to me about their genuine desire to help in our community and our world.

I am proud to be a part of a school with so many generous and thoughtful students.

Another opportunity our students benefited from is the “**Welcome Stranger**” camp; a multi-cultural camp that three of our Year 10 students attended. These students participated with young people from all manner of cultural back-grounds and were able to voice their opinions and ideas about racism and discrimination. Our students reported that they made many new friends and appreciated the new experiences which included being interviewed by a video crew.

We have been privileged to have a “**RAGE: Renegotiating Angry & Guilty Emotions**” group run this term. A number of our junior boys have been participating in this group each week and have said they have learnt some techniques that they have used at home or school.

Most of the opportunities I have written about have been offered to students free of charge. We have so many community services and generous community members who contribute to our school for the benefit of our students and their families.

NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL - COMMUNICATION

Keep in touch with what's happening at school!

Our school website provides the school community with up-to-date information including “News and Announcements” and a Calendar of upcoming events.

<http://www.newcastle-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>



Like us on
Facebook

Like Newcastle High School's Facebook Page! Support your school and receive regular updates of what's happening at school on your Timeline.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Newcastle-High-School/254419001356940>

ATTENDANCE

Our new SMS/email service is now operational

From Thursday 21 February parents/carers will receive SMS messages to advice of whole day student absenteeism.

Parent/Carers can utilise this SMS service to **reply** to an absentee SMS notification received from the school to provide explanation of an absence.

Important points to note:

- parents/carers **can no longer initiate** SMS/text communication with the school relating to absenteeism;
- explanation of an absence should be provided to the school within a period of seven days;
- if you are unable to reply to the school using the SMS service, a written note of explanation should be provided;
- if you anticipate that your child will be absent for more than five days, depending on the circumstances, you will either be required to provide a Doctor's Certificate (for illness/injury) or make application to the Principal for exemption from attendance (eg. family holiday).

Alternate options:

There are a number of alternate options available to advice of your child's absence from school:

- Call administration on 0249693177 and information can be taken over the telephone;
- Provide a handwritten letter of explanation; or
- Email the school at newcastle-h@school.nsw.edu.au

Please contact the school's administration office if you have further queries relating to attendance or our new SMS service.

UPCOMING DATES Term 3, 2013

Subject Selection Evening	14 August
Parent Teacher Afternoon	10 September
Year 12 Formal	17 September
Year 12 Graduation	19 September
Term 3 Concludes	20 September



SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN



The Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust is a not-for-profit organisation. AVCAT administer scholarships to help children and grandchildren of the Australian ex-service community with the costs of full-time tertiary education. The most deserving candidates are selected on merit and who, without our help, would be unable to start or complete studies without financial difficulty.

**For more information or to apply, contact
AVCAT
T 02 9213 7999 or 1800 620 361 (voicemail)
E avcat@dva.gov.au www.avcat.org.au**

**“THE LONG TAN
SCHOLARSHIP WAS
INVALUABLE HELP,
IT ALLOWED ME TO
CONCENTRATE
FULLY ON
BECOMING THE
BEST DOCTOR I
COULD BE”**

APPLICATIONS OPEN AUGUST 18



**AUSTRALIAN VETERANS'
CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST**

TELL THEM FROM ME – Student Feedback Survey



NHS is taking part in a pilot of the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used this survey to help improve how they do things. A letter with further information will be sent home this week.

BE BOLD STOP BULLYING AUSTRALIA



Learn about the simple, yet powerful, actions we can all take to prevent bullying.

<https://www.facebook.com/beboldstopbullyingau>

Bullying hurts. It can have a lasting and damaging impact on lives – sometimes more than we realize. The goal of Be Bold Stop Bullying Australia is to raise awareness of the simple, yet powerful actions that parents, young people, and educators can take to prevent bullying. The organisation hopes to inspire millions of bystanders to take action by speaking up when they see bullying and to grow a community committed to ending bullying



Piano and Musicianship Tutor

Private lessons for children and adults

- Just for fun or AMEB exam preparation
- Assistance with HSC Musicology

For information contact Laura MacGurin (B.Mus)
0424 368 902 or email: lauramacemail@gmail.com

\$25 per ½ hour private lesson in Hamilton area



NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

“Remis Velisque”

Parkway Avenue, Hamilton 2303

Telephone: (02) 4969 3177

Facsimile: (02) 4961 2912

e-mail : newcastle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.newcastle-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

