

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

During week 8 ,Term 2, I attended the NSW Secondary Principals Council Annual Conference, with over 300 secondary principals across NSW. The program consisted of a number of international guest speakers that challenged the way secondary education is delivered in the 21st century. Some of the highlights of the learning for me were:

Keynote 1: Eric Sheninger (@E_Sheninger)

Challenged the audience to think differently about school and in particular the use of technology in schools. A couple of quotes I found interesting were:

"We needed to trust our kids with technology and encourage them to use technology/devices"

"I found our school was working better for the adults than for the kids. Some of our rules were in place because it made things easier for us but not necessarily best for student learning."

Keynote 2: Ewan McIntosh (@ewanmcintosh)

Very engaging speaker who also challenged the idea of traditional schooling. He spoke about the importance of collaboration and creating a culture of trial and error, being brave enough to make mistakes and not getting it right all the time. Ewan also spoke about the impact of evidence and as professionals always reflecting on the learning happening in our classrooms. There was one particular idea that I thought was interesting and it was having a room where all members of the school community can go and give feedback about the school. It's not a 'whinge' space but a place where anyone can go with an idea or solution. We currently have a learning wall set up in the staff house and I encourage parents, students and staff to contribute to this space.

Another interesting point was a quote from Yong Zhao saying "classroom design impacts pupil learning by 25%". At Newcastle High School, we have an Innovative Teaching Team, which is encouraging faculties to change the way classrooms look. Our Maths and HSIE faculties are the first to accept this challenge, by providing multiple learning spaces in the one room and creating a learning environment that promotes creativity, communication and choice. Below are some pictures of the transformations.

A big thank you to the students and staff that have been giving up their weekends and holiday time to work on the classrooms.



Principal's Message

Keynote 3: Laura McBain (@laura_mcbain)

Laura, from High-Tech High School, in the United States (<u>http://www.hightechhigh.org/</u>). This school is centred around project based learning. She spoke about making learning 'real' by connecting students to the world and by connecting it to a real life issue or solution. At High-Tech High School, they have no staff spaces, rather lots of learning spaces that can be accessed by staff and students.

Keynote 4: James Nottingham (@JamesNottinghm)

My favourite speaker of the three days. James was funny and engaging and had some really practical ideas on how schools operate. I really liked the image he used to demonstrate the learning process.



James spoke with regard to what we value at school and that often we acknowledge achievement, which is great, however, should schools focus rather be on acknowledging progress. At the end of semester 1 each faculty nominated a student that had made significant progress in each year level and it was great to acknowledge those students as well as the students achieving a high level of achievement.

Overall the conference was an amazing learning experience that confirmed the vision staff have created for Newcastle High School moving forward. I am excited about the learning opportunities that will be available for staff and students at Newcastle High School in the future.

In the last week of term 2 we celebrated NAIDOC week with a variety of activities. On the Tuesday we had over 170 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal primary school students visit Newcastle High School and participate in cultural activities facilitated by our students and staff as well as some special guests. A big thank you to Belinda Wright our Aboriginal Education Officer and Mrs White for their coordination of the events. A highlight for me, was the learning circle, set up at lunchtime on Tuesday, this event ended up becoming a huge Aboriginal dance involving students and staff.



Also, Congratulations and good luck to Patrick Langlois and Manoli Papaspiropoulos who will be travelling to Scotland in September with the Australian Futsal team.

Nathan Towney Principal

Deputy's Report

It's great to be back, for the second half of the year.

All time spent learning is important, however, Year 11 students are rapidly approaching the end of their Preliminary HSC courses and will soon be into their final twelve months of school. During this time all assessment tasks contribute to the final HSC result, so now is the time to make every moment count, at school and at home. Some Year 11 students will soon be attending camp at Jindabyne, where they will participate in group work and initiative building activities, not to mention skiing or snowboarding.

So far in 2016, I've attended two camps – one for Year 7 and one for Year 9. In each case our students were great representatives of the school, attracting comments from camp staff, on their good manners and enthusiasm.

Year 9 handled a train delay on the way to Milson Island with patience and good humour, again attracting compliments from their fellow travellers. I would like to thank all the staff who worked hard to organise and attend both camps: Mr Carswell, Mr Main, Ms Longobardi, Ms King, Mr Gill, Ms Robertson and Ms Herron. It's a shame that Ms Longobardi, who organising much of the Year 9 camp, wasn't able to attend. The team building and life experience gained on these trips is invaluable learning for our students.

I would like to say that it has been a pleasure for me to work at Newcastle High School. Mr Towney, Ms Outram, the staff and student body have been generous with the support they have provided me as I settle in to the job.

Tim Gorrod Deputy Principal



Year 9 stacking milk crates - the record was 19!







Year 7 on the flying fox



Year 7 lining up to get muddy

Key Dates

Term 3		
Week 1	18 July	Return to School for staff and students
Week 226 JulyYear 6 Informa28 JulyThe Parkway N		Year 11 Retail Workplacement Year 6 Information Evening <i>The Parkway No.5</i> Staff Development Day
Week 3	1 - 5 August 3 August	Year 11 Jindabyne Year 8 & 9 Elective Information Evening
Week 4	8 August	P&C Meeting
Week 5		
Week 6		
Week 7	1 September	The Parkway No. 6
Week 8		
Week 912 September 13 September 12 - 16 SeptemberP&C Meeting Parent Teach Year 10 World19 - 23 September 20 SeptemberPreliminary E Year 12 Form 21 SeptemberWeek 1022 September Year 12 Prese		Preliminary Exams P&C Meeting Parent Teacher Interviews, Years 7 - 11 Year 10 Work Placement
		Preliminary Exams Year 12 Formal Vaccination Program - third visit Year 12 Presentation Assembly Last Day of Term
Term 4		
Week 110 OctoberReturn to School for stafWeek 113 OctoberThe Parkway No. 7HSC CommencesHSC Commences		
Week 2	17 October 18 October	P&C Meeting Year 5 Information Evening
Week 3	24 - 28 October	Year 11 Hospitality Work Placement
Week 4		
Week 5	7 - 11 November	Year 10 Hospitality Work Placement
Week 614 NovemberP&C Meeting17 NovemberThe Parkway No. 818 NovemberYear 11 Reports issued		The Parkway No. 8

Year 8 & 9 Information Evening



Subject Information Evening

Year 8, 2017

Parents/Carers and Students are invited

to attend an information evening

at Newcastle High School

on

Wednesday, 3 August 2016

From 5:00pm

This is an opportunity for parents/carers and students, currently in Year 7, to learn about the Year 8 curriculum for next year.

A general information session will run in the Staffhouse at 5:00pm and again at 5:30pm.

Specialist staff will be available to answer questions about specific electives in the Cultural Centre between 5:00pm and 6:00pm.



Subject Information Evening

Year 9, 2017

Parents/Carers and Students are invited

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Wednesday, 3 August 2016

From 6:00pm

This is an opportunity for parents/carers and students, currently in Year 8, to learn about the Year 9 curriculum for next year.

A general information session will run in the Staffhouse at 6:00pm and again at 6:30pm.

Specialist staff will be available to answer questions about specific electives in the Cultural Centre between 6:00pm and 7:00pm.

Mathematics Faculty Report

We have made a real breakthrough with our students in Mathematics this year, with a wall removed between two classrooms, allowing team teaching and group learning, with students taking a real ownership in their learning.



The style of teaching and learning in the space had changed dramatically with up to 60 students and at times four teaching staff including: teachers, Norta Norta tutors and Ms Jaremus who is an intern, funded by the Great Teaching Inspired Learning reform. The space is being trialed, with a Year 11 combined group and a Year 10 combined group, with students and teachers learning a lot along the way. We are now working on painting the area and purchasing new, flexible furniture to facilitate the new teaching and learning occurring in the space.

Some staffing changes have occurred for 2016 with Ms Carcary gaining a permanent position at Callaghan College, Wallsend Campus from Term 2, 2016. She has made some fantastic contributions to the school and will be missed by her colleagues and her students. Mr Walker has taken her place this year and has made a great start, including talking a small group of students to represent Newcastle High School in a problem solving day at Hunter School of the Performing Arts. Additionally Mr Guinane is on leave for 2016, with Mr Oprea successfully taking his place. Mr Ho is working with Ms Kadarusman and her classes for this term as he completes his teacher training.

We have formed a collective, with a number of other local Hunter Schools, to get a great price on Mathspace, which is being used in classes and as a homework tool for students. If your child doesn't remember their login details, please encourage them to ask their teacher.

Breakfast club is still active in its fourth year, with a core group of students from all year levels attending at 7:45am on Wednesday, each week, to both receive support from Mr Crichton and our interns in areas of mathematics, that they either require assistance in or to extend their learning. It would be great to see more of our HSC students utilising this resource, to address any areas of weakness, as they reflect on their Trial Exam results. Please encourage your child to come along, no bookings necessary.

Mathematics Faculty Report

Problems, Puzzles, Pictures and Patterns

On the morning of 28 June, six excited and eager Year 8 students gathered at the Hunter School of the Performing Arts. They were there to participate in a talented mathematicians workshop with hundreds of Year 8 students from a range of schools across Newcastle. The workshop, titled *"Problems, Puzzles, Pictures and Patterns"*, gave the students an opportunity to participate in interactive lessons on strategic problem solving.

Motivated by a sense of accomplishment (and chocolates!), the students represented the school extremely well in achievement and attitude. They are to be congratulated for this, and for their desire to participate in such a program, which they all thoroughly enjoyed.



Imogen Reid and Brooklyn Perry, who are working so quick the camera doesn't have time to focus!



Holly Morschel and Aleesha Snowden take a break from their geometric puzzle.



Renae Pace and Zachary George, who appear to have run out of ideas!

Mathematics Faculty Report

There is no such thins as a "MATHS BRAIN"

I would like a dollar for every time I heard someone say "I'm no good at maths. I don't have that kind of brain."

Or, "She's always been good at maths. She is naturally good at it."

The problem with these commonly held beliefs is that they are just NOT TRUE. Nobody is born knowing how to do mathematics. Even Einstein had to learn his times tables at some point.

At the same time, nobody is born unable to learn maths. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way, many people develop the opinion that they are not good at maths, that they're unlikely to improve, that they just don't have a "Maths Brain". This belief is an example of a Fixed Mindset.

The graphic below summarises the difference between a Fixed and a Growth Mindset.



As parents and teachers, we need to encourage a Growth Mindset in our children and discourage a Fixed Mindset. Recent research has shown that people who believe that they can learn anything, if they put in the work, practice and effort, actually strengthen their brain as they make mistakes along the journey of learning. This development of the brain continues to occur, eventually leading to the mastery of a new skill.

Those who believe they have a pre-determined capacity in a particular area (eg. Mathematics), are frustrated and disheartened by mistakes, are less likely to persevere, are unlikely to master a new skill.

So, the first step towards helping your child improve their math skills is to encourage them to BELIEVE that they can get better at maths. Then we can work together to provide the guidance and resources needed to strengthen their understanding of maths.

If you'd like to discuss these concepts further or would like other ideas about how you can support your child's learning, please feel free to contact me at school.

You may also find the following TED talk interesting:

How you can be good at math, and other surprising facts about learning | Jo Boaler https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=3icoSeGqQtY

Valerie Kadarusman Head Teacher Administration Students

Careers

University of Newcastle - School Visits Day

This event was run recently as a Year 11 excursion. Fifty students registered online to participate in seminars held at the University of Newcastle (UoN). They undertook workshops and seminars and were able to ask questions and discuss course options with university staff. Thanks to Mr Doherty and Ms Lidden for their participation on the day. Student feedback has indicated that the day was worthwhile and inspiring to our students. Year 12 students who were not able to attend, due to their Trial HSC commitments, will be able to attend the August UoN Open Days.



August UoN Open Days are available to all students, parents and the public. Detailed information will be distributed to our senior students. The dates are:

Saturday 20 August (Newcastle Campus) and Saturday 13 August (Ourimbah Campus).

Year 12 Post Trial Interviews

To support our HSC students, we will conduct student interviews early in Term 3. These will be attended in small groups. This will be an opportunity for each student to discuss their progress and develop a plan to ensure we are working together to achieve their goals. Interviews will be conducted by Ms Leigh-Gordon (ex-principal), Mr Alexander (Careers Advisor) and Ms Kadarusman (Head Teacher Students). The Principal, Deputy Principal and Year Advisors may also be involved when available.

Careers

Stage 6 Senior Course Expo

This event was a special day for Year 10 students, designed to assist them in planning future preliminary and HSC courses. Teachers and head teachers who coordinate courses within the senior school provided information in seminars and answered questions about Year 11 and 12 courses, in addition to careers information. Students commented that the day was relaxed, enjoyable and informative.





Year 10 Parent and Student Information Evening

This recent event aimed to provide students, parents and carers with an overview of HSC requirements in addition to discussing courses with the year advisors, teachers, head teachers, careers adviser and TAFE and university representatives. Thanks to everyone who participated in this annual event.



Chris Alexander Careers Adviser

Sports Report

The end of term 2 was a busy one for Newcastle High School, with many sporting teams competing in a range of competitions.

The Open Girls Netball team went down to Hunter Sports High School in the semi finals of the Hunter Region. Unfortunately, injuries had ravaged the side for the match, however, still an excellent effort from the squad this year. The team's brand new uniforms looks brilliant on the field.

The boys Futsal squad, sent seven teams to the Newcastle Zone Tournament. The boys under 14's teams tried hard on the day, however, were unable to make the finals. The under 16's had one team make the semi finals and another went on to win the final.

The girls Futsal squads entered a team in each age group. The under 14's were unlucky to be beaten in the final. The 16's fielded an inexperienced side and tried hard all day and the 19's were outstanding and were eventual winners of the competition.

The under 13's boys Rugby League team, competed in the Newcastle Zone of the Knights Knockout. They defeated San Clemente High School 18-4, Kotara High School 56-0 and St Pius High School 34-10. Captain Aaron Cotterill lead the side and scored six tries on the day. Henry Fletcher, Jack Watkins and Beau Dwyer were also outstanding and Cooper Southam was impeccable with the boot.

The team was drawn to play Dungog High School under lights at Raymond Terrace in the quarter finals of the Hunter Region. An exciting game ensued with the scores locked at 24 all at full-time. Unfortunately, Dungog High School progressed due to scoring first on the night.



Sports Report

Hunter AFL CHS Gala Day

On Wednesday 15 June, 2016 the Newcastle High AFL Team competed in the Hunter CHS Gala day. Newcastle played Morriset High School in the first game and had a dominant win over an under manned Morriset team. Seb McComb and Sam Cottom showed their experience and skill to clear the ball from the centre and kick a number of goals. This set up a match against a strong Kotara team that contained some Northern NSW AFL representatives.

The match against Kotara was highly competitive and very physical. The match swung with multiple lead changes throughout the match. Hard work in the centre from Rory Scott and Harrison Palmer supplied the forward line with opportunities to kick a winning score. Toby Bartsch and Luke Dwyer provided strong defence to repel the Kotara attacks. Jethro and Oscar Kunze worked well together on the wing and half back flank to provide options to get the ball out of the backline. Important late goals by Josh Taylor and Matt Campbell resulted in a narrow one goal win to Newcastle High. This put Newcastle into the Hunter region Grand Final against Hunter Sports High.

The Newcastle High side competed very hard against the big and skilled Hunter Sports High side. Rory Scott, Luke Dwyer and Harrison Dwyer worked consistently in the centre, with Toby Bartsch being a stand out defender. The Hunter sports team ran away with a five goal win with the Newcastle High team not throwing in the towel.

A big thank you to all the boys who played on the day. They all represented Newcastle High with great heart and were great ambassadors for the school.

Mr Doherty



Stars of the Newcastle High School Under 15 AFL Team: Rory Scott, Sebastian McComb and Toby Bartsch

Sports Report

On Monday 20 June, girls in the 14's and 16's futsal teams competed at the Northern NSW Gala Day, held at Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium. Both teams played well and tried extremely hard. The 16's team suffered losses in the round games and did not proceed to the semi finals. The girls in this team were fairly inexperienced at futsal, showed exceptional however. levels of sportsmanship and gave every game their all. Special mention to Hayley Moore and Jessica Forman who played up in goals for this team. The 14's girls had a number of experienced futsal players., they played as a team in the round games, resulting in wins against other very strong teams. As a result, the 14's progressed to the semi final, however, were knockout by competitive Callaghan Wallsend High School.



On Monday 16 May, the Newcastle High School Girl's Hockey Team played a State Knockout game against Taree High School. Taree High School came out strong with a team of practiced hockey players. However, Newcastle High School remained strong competitors throughout the game, with maximum effort displayed by all. Despite the team's best efforts they went down 5-0 to a very experienced team.

Special mention to Kalista Hunter who played in goals and made some excellent saves! Well done to Kaitlin Duck, as a Hunter Representative she displayed leadership and set a high standard of determination.



Bill Turner Trophy

Round 1 defeated by St Pius High School 8-0 (Away Game)

Although the girls were outclassed on this occasion their sportsmanship and effort is to be commended. Led enthusiastically by Jessica Forman who helped direct the girls all over the park.

Open Girls Soccer

Lost to Warners Bay High School 2-1 (Home Game)

Newcastle High School was first to score in the opening minutes of the game and held off Warners Bay High School until the second half. The game went into extra time, where unfortunately Warners Bay High School scored. The team were skilfully organised by Kalista Hunter who seemed to be everywhere.

Student Support

Term 2, Student Support Activities

Term 2 saw 42 students participating in small group programs, which included:

Rock & Water (Year 9 boys) Students participated in physical challenges and discussions to practice the art of finding centre and maintaining personal balance, rather than reacting to situations. Thanks to Young Healthy Minds Workers, Mark and Cassie for running this group.

Drum Beat (Year 7 boys) Students learned rhythms to play on the Djembe Drum, discussed the roles harmony and team work play in their lives, and created their own rhythms to the song "We Will Rock You" which they performed at the end of term. The students reflected that they enjoyed the opportunity to discuss topics freely, and also the physicality required for the drumming.

Connect Boys & *Connect Girls* (Year 7) These groups practiced solving tricky social situations, discussed how to respond in conflict, practiced thankfulness and talked a lot about friendships.



Relationships and Conflict Resolution (Year 9 girls) Students learned about different types of responses to conflict, I statements and looked at how to identify healthy and unhealthy relationships.

Confidant	Proud	Loyal
Honest	Tolerant	Wise
Calm	Light-hearted	Thankful
Leader	Capable	Independent
Understanding	Kind	Creative

Student Support

Youth Arts in Recovery Excursion

The Youth Arts In Recovery event is an initiative of the Community Youth Development Project. Numerous Youth Services including Carers NSW, Headspace, Family Planning and Newcastle Art Gallery provide art workshops for students to participate in. Students move through the activities at their own pace and enjoy getting to experience a sense of flow and absorbing themselves in their chosen workshops. Comments from the students on the day reflected that they found it an effective tool to provide relief from exam stress, and that they enjoyed being able to work slowly and take their time with their art. Students noticed that even when lunch was ready, there was no stampede for food. Eighteen students from Years 8 - 11 attended this excursion and it was a pleasure to see them experiencing the benefits that creativity has for mental health and general wellbeing.



Safe Partying - Year 10

Year 10 participated in, Safe Partying Wellbeing Day, in Week 5. We had guest speakers from Salvos Oasis and Family Planning, and students participate in workshops covering topics such as safe partying and standard drinks, gender diversity, consent, and sexual health. Participants in the Duralong Drug Rehabilitation Centre also visited and shared stories about their experience and battle with addiction. This day is a great opportunity for students to develop a greater understanding of risks, and also strategies for staying safe.

Pancake Thursday

Students have been enjoying free pancakes for breakfast each Thursday morning, thanks to the Salvos Oasis workers and volunteers, who run Drop House, a drop in centre for youth in Hamilton. Many of our students have enjoyed engaging with this service outside of school, and now students are enjoying starting their day with a little free breakfast. Pancake morning has created a wonderful positive start to our Thursdays! Drop House is located in Cleary Street Hamilton, and is open for young people to drop in each Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 4:00pm-6:00pm. It is also connected to Oasis, where a host of services including Anger Management and Drug and Alcohol casework are available. If you wish to find out more about this service, you can find it on their website www.drophouse.com.au

Student Support

Lunchtime Activities

During Term 2, our students enjoyed testing out a variety of activities available to our students outside of school. These workshops have been provided for free, to allow all students the opportunity to experiment with new and interesting hobbies. It has been great to hear that after partaking in these lunchtime activities, some of our students have already signed up to participate in Fencing and Circus.

In week 7, we had a visit from John, the ringmaster at Circus Avalon. He brought in equipment and allowed students to try their hand at riding an unicycle, spinning plates, juggling, and yoho diablos. Our Cultural Centre turned into a Circus before our eyes. Students were also giving one another tips and help to master the activities.

In week 9, Connal from the Games Workshop brought in WarHammer sets, so students could learn and practice playing the intricate game. Connell also provided students with their own miniature solders which they painstakingly painted during lunch.

I have flyers available in my office for both Circus and the Games Workshop for any interested students or parents. *Amy King, Student Support Office*



GATS Day

Year 5 GATS Gala Day

On Wednesday 22 June, sixty year 5 students from local primary schools participated in our GATS Gala Day. As well as completing the GATSmazing Race and activities, designed to stretch their 'grey cells', the students enjoyed a delicious GATSronomic BBQ, cooked to perfection by our own Special Unit chefs. Thank you to all our Newcastle High School GATS staff and students and to all the Year 5 students who participated so enthusiastically in our program.



Rachel McNeilly GATS Organiser Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists. He is passionate about delivering national and international evidence-based workshops and seminars that make a difference to the health and wellbeing of young people.

The Hunter Institute of Mental Health presents:

Living Well through the Higher School Certificate with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

FREE community event. Bookings essential.

Monday 22 August, 6:30pm—9:00pm Newcastle City Hall, Concert Hall

Senior students, teachers, parents and carers are invited to hear from one of Australia's leading authorities on teenage behaviour and learn about studying smarter, dealing with stress and anxiety, how to keep things in perspective and live well during Year 12 and the Higher School Certificate.

This event will be relevant for Year 11 and 12 students and teachers as well as parents, carers and others who are supporting young people.

Information and tickets: www.stickytickets.com.au/40584

For event enquiries, contact us on: p: 02 4924 6900 e: himh@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

This community event is proudly supported by nib foundation





HSC STRESS LESS

A series of workshops for year 11 and 12 students to help navigate through the stress of the HSC

> The workshops will run every Monday from 4:30-6:30pm for 4 weeks

The first group will commence on the 5th of September Please call or email to register your attendance

Hunter PRIMARYCARE

For more information call headspace Newcastle on 49294201 or email intakeheadspacenewcastle@hunterprimarycare.com.au

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OPAL Card - Concession Card

Please be aware that as from 1 August, 2016 concession tickets will no longer be sold on Newcastle Buses or Ferries.

School students aged between 16 and 18 years must carry a SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENT CONCESSION CARD (as shown below) to be eligible to purchase a child/youth cash ticket.

We would appreciate your assistance in providing your students with this card as soon as possible to avoid problems when boarding the bus or ferry.

For further information please contact me on 046 652 4868.

Thank you

Margaret Pannell Bus Operator Trainer Newcastle Buses & Ferries



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Free 6 week Evening Workshop

Available for any

Parents or Carers

of a young person 10 -18 years old

Opportunities to learn more about:

- Talking with your teen
- Developing skills around emotional management
- Information to help in understanding teenagers
- Strategies to assist with behavioural challenges
- · Ideas in dealing with conflicts

Where: Margaret Jurd College 272 Sandgate Rd Shortland When: Starting Monday 25th July 5:45pm - 8pm

Contact: Tracy on 0439 201 802

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