

The Parkway



December 2017

Parkway Edition No. 10

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I can't believe we are up to the final edition of *The Parkway* already; the year has definitely gone by quickly. The end of the year is a great time to stop and reflect on all of the wonderful achievements from across the school in 2017. I started going back over our social media pages and there are far too many achievements to try and list in one edition of our *Parkway*.

Earlier in the year, the P&C voted to cease operation of the school canteen. I would like to thank the current and previous P&C executives for the many hours they put in to running the canteen. I would also like to thank all of the employees and volunteers who have continually looked after staff and students. In particular, I would like to thank Jenny who is the current canteen manager. Jenny is always putting students first when making decisions and has been a valuable employee of the school canteen for over a decade. We wish the staff all the best in their future endeavours.

In this edition we welcome 'Mel's Tasty Bites' who have been successful in leasing our school canteen from 2018. A panel of staff, students and a parent went through the tender process and the panel was impressed with the menu offered by Mel's Tasty Bites which is also affordable. EFTPOS facilities will be a welcome introduction as students have told me through focus groups that it would make purchasing a lot easier. I invite you to visit

www.melstastybites.com/ or visit their Facebook page for more information. As the current employees try to finalise the closing of the canteen, there will be **no canteen operating on Friday 15 December**. Students will need to bring a packed recess and lunch for the day.

Midway through the term, I accepted a cheque from the P&C for \$10,000. This money will be used to update our bubbler system that will provide chilled and filtered water stations with water bottle re-fill stations. Thank you to our committed P&C members who work tirelessly to provide funds to the school. If you haven't attended a P&C meeting I encourage you to come along to hear what is happening around the school and meet some amazing people. The P&C meet on the second Monday of each month in the Staffhouse, starting at 5:30pm.

On Thursday 7 December our Year 7 cohort participated in their last Passion Project exhibitions. Once again this night was a huge success with students and staff presenting their learning from the previous 13 weeks. The topics that were exhibited included Business in a Box, Mad Scientists, Newy High Rock Band, The Great Cake Project, Brain Food, Skinners Musical Madness, Adventurous Journey, The World Game, Actively Out There, Newcastle High Promotions, Photography and Who's in the Middle? This initiative will continue in 2018 not only in Year 7 but as an elective line in the Year 8 curriculum. Thank you to Mrs Durie, Mrs Myers and Mrs Visiou for their hard work.

Principal's Message

Passion Project picture below



In closing I would like say a big thank you to all of our wonderful, committed staff who continually explore ways to engage students in learning and provide exciting opportunities within the school and in the community. I look forward to working with the team in 2018 to cement our directions for the next three years and continually reflect on the effectiveness of our strategies to ensure we are catering for the needs of our students.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday, thank you for a wonderful year at Newcastle High School.

Thank you,

Nathan Towney
Principal

Key Dates

Term 4		
Week 10	12 December 14 December 15 December 15 December 15 December	Presentation Night HSC Results End of term for students ATAR Morning Tea Canteen Closed
Term 1 2018		
Week 1	30 January 31 January	Students in Year 7, 11 & 12 Return Students in Year 8, 9 & 10 Return
Week 2		
Week 3	12 February	Whole School Swimming Carnival
Week 4		
Week 5	27 February 2 March	School Photos Year 12 Wellbeing Day
Week 6	5-9 March	Year 12 Hospitality Workplacement
Week 7	14 March 14-16 March	Mumma Mia CAPA excursion Year 7 Camp
Week 8	19-23 March	Year 11 (EC) Metals Workplacement
Week 9	27 March 30 March	Parent Teacher Interviews Years 7, 11 & 12 Good Friday
Week 10	2 April 4 April 6 April	Easter Monday Parent Teacher Interviews Years 8, 9 & 10 Year 8 Wellbeing Day
Week 11	13 April	Last Day Term 1



Deputy Principal Report Y8, 10 & 12

On Friday November 17, our Principal, Mr Towney won the prestigious accolade of 'Education Teacher of the Year' at the inaugural National Dreamtime Awards held in Sydney. He received this honour for his commitment to improving the education needs for Aboriginal students. During his acceptance speech he commented that he had the best job in the world, and what an honour and privilege it was to be part of and share in a young person's educational journey. I am sure you will all agree that this accolade is well deserved and is truly a reflection of Mr Towney's commitment and passion.



Deputy Principal Report Y8, 10 & 12

During the course of Term 4 many of our students have been involved in a myriad of activities ranging from primary school transition visits, Youth Frontiers, Make Some Noise, gala days as well as a variety of school projects. The one quality that certainly has been demonstrated by the student groups involved in these activities is their thoughtful and socially conscious approach to our local community and the world. Whether this be exemplified through a gratitude morning tea for war veterans or the school's sustainability club ensuring that they create a sustainable future for the next generation.





Deputy Principal Report Y8, 10 & 12

Orientation Day

The Year 7 2018 Orientation Day enabled a special welcome to our new families joining Newcastle High. It was lovely to have the opportunity to meet with our incoming Year 7 students and their parents and carers, during both our transition visits and on orientation day. Many new students expressed their excitement and nervousness about commencing high school, but seemed very much at home by the end of the day. Both Miss Gibson and I are very much looking forward to getting to know all of the students and working with them next year.

P & C

We had our final P&C meeting for the year last week and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P&C for their work this year. They are a dedicated and caring group who are deeply committed to ensuring continual improvement for our students and school. I strongly encourage parents to attend any of our P & C meetings next year. These meetings provide valuable insight into the school, are held at the school and are scheduled for every second Monday of the month.

End of Year Presentation Ceremony

On **Tuesday 12 December**, the school is holding our end of year Presentation Ceremony. This event is going to be held in the Main Hall and will be commencing at 6pm. All students receiving awards have been issued with an invitation, with parents and carers also receiving an invitation via email. The presentation evening is a wonderful event to recognise outstanding achievement by our students in the areas of academia, sport, culture, leadership and community.

Report Assemblies

Students across Year 7 – 10, will be issued with their Semester 2 reports during special year assemblies, which will be held on **Wednesday 13 December**. During these assemblies students will receive valuable feedback on their Semester 2 progress in the way of school reports, as well as a number of worthy recipients will be additionally recognised and rewarded for their dedication and hard work. School reports are a valuable tool, providing insight into your child's progress both academically and socially at school. Through teacher comments, we aim to ensure that all students continue to progress and display improvements into the future.

Year 12 HSC Results

Many of our Year 12 students will be eagerly awaiting their HSC results this week. HSC results will be delivered via email and text message from 6.00am on **Thursday 14 December**. Students will also be able to access their results on this day by logging into their 'Students Online' account. ATARs will be released the following day, Friday 15 December on the UAC website and the 'My UAC' app from 9.00am.

Students are invited to a celebratory morning tea on Friday 15 December in the school's Staffhouse at 9.30am. On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish all of our Year 12 2017 students all the very best with their results and every success in their future endeavors.

Deputy Principal Report Y8, 10 & 12

As for 2018 the challenges ahead are significant and exciting for such a large comprehensive high school as ours. The face of public education is changing considerably and this will require our school to adopt new and better ways of working. Many of the successes and improvements throughout 2017 are a result of the greater autonomy and funding that we are fortunate to now have available to us as a school and due to our strong community partnerships, supportive P&C and very committed staff. Our school planning team is currently working on developing the school's strategic directions for 2018-2020. This is an incredibly exciting time as we work towards creating a shared vision that will deliver improved outcomes for the school community. We are setting a course, at Newcastle High, to deliver first class quality education, and I can't think of a more exciting time or place to be a teacher.

As the year 2017 draws quickly to a close, I would like to express my gratitude to the school community for the way in which I have been warmly welcomed during my first three terms at Newcastle High School. I look forward to working with my students as they progress into Years 7, 9 and 11 in 2018. These are significant years as each year group will commence a new stage of schooling. I would like to extend my sincerest wishes to all the wonderful Newcastle High School students and their families. I hope that your Christmas is filled with happiness and quality time with family and good friends. Thank you for your continued support throughout 2017.

Rochelle Dooley

Deputy Principal Years 8, 10 & 12 for 2017



Deputy Principal Report Y7, 9 & 11

I decided to look back at only a couple of highlights from each of my years' specific events and it was not easy to just choose a couple, there are so many opportunities for students to engage in extra curricular activities, from excursions to sporting events, volunteering to Wellbeing days.

I am sure all Year 11 students felt the change that moving from Year 10 to Year 11 brings and by this time of the year they are all well aware that the HSC and the end of school is only 31 school weeks away. Recent University open days have been well attended and have given students a better understanding of that particular post school pathway. Another experience to remind them that they are getting older was the RYDA Driver Awareness Day, run by Rotary to provide safety information for young drivers. It included presentations from the police and victims of acquired brain injury due to road trauma, as well as demonstrations of braking and stopping and workshops on the mistakes that cause accidents. Memorable on the fun end of the spectrum would have been the Jindabyne excursion, where skiing days and entertaining evenings will have provided memories for years to come.



Deputy Principal Report Y7, 9 & 11

Year 9 also attended a three day adventure camp in June this year. The students had a great time on the giant swing, trying their hand at abseiling, kayaking and archery, along with many other activities. I do remember stories about the snakes the students encountered, as well as other wildlife, particularly on the nocturnal walks. The teachers enjoyed seeing the students push themselves outside their comfort zones and I am sure the parents enjoyed the tired children that returned home to them, all in one piece.

For me, another highlight of Year 9 was the Youth Frontiers program that finished a few weeks ago. The volunteer participants all had worthy issues they chose to address and three of them gained state award nominations for their efforts. Sarah Pugh and Rebecca Pugh were selected as state finalists: an honour for both themselves and Newcastle High School.



The students of Year 7 have experienced more change than any other year, with the big move from primary school to high school. Most students transitioned quite smoothly, while others were supported through the adjustment. I would like to think all of them are content with the experience of being a member of Newcastle High School. Probably the second biggest event for them would have been the Year 7 camp. I know for many of the students, it was the first time they have been away from their parents. There were activities to help the students meet each other and meld together as a group and there were certainly activities to take them out of their comfort zone. I suspect whoever dealt with the washing from the mud activities may well have found themselves outside their comfort zone too.

Many new and exciting learning opportunities await the students next year and I look forward to welcoming them back at the end of January 2018. I wish everyone a happy and safe summer break.

Kathryn Outram

Deputy Principal Years 7, 9 & 11 for 2017

Public Speaking Report

Once again, our public speakers have competed in many events and represented the school with distinction.

The year began with the Lions Youth of the Year competition, in which James Carter, Kyriaki Kassas, Macie Lamont and Lucy Neilson-Spitzer represented the school. This is much more than a public speaking event, as students are also judged on their academic, sporting, leadership and community activities. James was the winner of the public speaking award and Kyriaki was the overall winner of the event.

These four students also competed in both the Rostrum Voice of Youth and the Plain English Speaking Awards, where they faced tough competition and performed impressively. However, their favourite event was undoubtedly the weekend in Muswellbrook for the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA). In this event, Kyriaki and Lucy represented Greece, while James and Macie represented China. In a day of fiery debates on the issues that are currently challenging the world, our teams gave a strong voice to the views of the countries they represented. Lucy and Kyriaki looked fabulous in their traditional Greek costume and were the envy of many. We were all delighted when James and Macie won the Peace Award for their efforts to propose compromise solutions to world problems.

We've been very pleased to welcome new members of the team this year and Sadie Ferguson made her debut in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Awards. Sadie was impressive, and the adjudicator was amazed to discover that she is in Year 7 and not in Year 9. The maturity that she showed in her speech augers well for her future as a public speaker.

The team is looking forward to a great year in 2018 and they will continue to represent our school with pride at every opportunity.

Mrs Oswald
English



NHS Volunteers Report

A new initiative this year has seen more than forty of our students volunteering in the community, to support local charitable activities.

Students have supported the Newcastle Lions Club in their fund-raising activities by collecting parking fees at the weekend sporting events, held at the No 1 Sportsground. The monies raised have contributed to the renovation of buildings for Respect, a charity that supports the victims of domestic violence. The first of the renovated houses is now operating as a domestic violence shelter and there will be more of these buildings renovated in the new year.

The Rotary Club also asked for our fund-raising help with the annual Newcastle to Dungog Bike Ride. A group of students were stationed on a country road, to provide water and bananas to the cyclists and they greeted the riders with great enthusiasm. We were told that ours was the best refreshment stop on the route.

The September holidays saw students helping L'Arche, a charity that assists people with an acquired brain injury. Students assisted the group with morning activities such as physical therapy, before joining them for a chat at lunchtime. The afternoon was filled with bocce games, a new experience for most of the students and one that they thoroughly enjoyed.

The holidays were also filled with more renovation work, for the Lions and L'Arche. This time we were renovating a house in Merewether that will soon be opened as a group home for people with a disability. Students were pulling up carpets, ripping out the kitchen and painting the house, which is expected to open in the new year.

Our final activity this year was exhausting for those involved but very rewarding, as they served thousands of sausage sandwiches at the recent Supercars event. The monies raised from this activity will allow the Lions Club to purchase a disabled persons' hoist, for installation in a Newcastle public toilet. This is an ongoing project for the Lions, and one which we will be happily supporting next year.

It has been a source of enormous pride to see the students working so enthusiastically in their community and local citizens have remarked on their generosity and responsibility. We expect to see many more NHS Volunteers out and about next year.

Mrs Oswald
English



CAPA Report

Newcastle High School

Fine Arts Master Class

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION



The changing needs and demands of contemporary society recognise the vital role of drawing, design and art as we create, shape and communicate in an increasingly visual landscape. Newcastle High School is delighted to announce that we will be introducing in 2019 a Year 7 Fine Arts Master Class.

In addition to the extensive additional time devoted to fine arts experiences, students will explore the interconnected way art is embedded in the world. This innovative approach to teaching and learning will offer extraordinary opportunities to suitable candidates.

The role of fine art will remain at the very centre of the Year 7 educational experience for this class cohort, with visual language recognised as a powerful way to understand our contemporary world. Students offered a place in the class will be taught by highly specialised and selected teaching staff, with multi-disciplinary backgrounds and experience in the fine arts.

This class will enjoy personal and group exhibitions using our school art gallery and will explore the acclaimed Newcastle art world via a series of artist-in-residence programs, as they work alongside local artists and participate in regular excursions within our broader and vibrant art community. In partnership with The Newcastle Regional Art Gallery this class will enjoy rare and unique approaches to the study of fine art history.

Developed on a rich academic foundation and with a strong research base in consultation with The University of Newcastle, our Fine Arts Master Class will offer limited places in 2018 and will be filled via a competitive selection process. A panel of experienced and trained art educators and artists will select the most appropriate candidates for consideration. Offers will be made after a series of art drawing workshops are held at our partner primary schools throughout 2018 with details to be advised. There will also be two additional sessions conducted at Newcastle High throughout the year for those students wishing to apply who missed the primary school sessions or are out of zone.

Ms Robinson
Head Teacher

CAPA Report



A big thank you to the school community, performers, staff and the teachers who made our huge performing arts event a success.

OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS WERE AMAZING

We had a photography team of three elective Year 10 photography students who did a smashing job documenting things for us.

They took shots during the rehearsal and then on the night, volunteering many hours of their time.

As a way to thank our community for the support we have a surprise gift for you.

A selection of the best of these photos will soon be made available for you to freely access and copy if you choose. Just follow the CAPA Facebook page to stay up to date and to learn when these fantastic shots are ready. There are over 100 to choose from.

The student photographers were an impressive team:

Zalia Wyndham

Caleb Fletcher

Banjo Olsen

2018 PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION EVENT

“Shoot some noise” will be an art exhibition of high quality photographs hand selected by the student photographers who documented this event. A special exhibition of work by these three young photographers will take place in our school gallery early in the new year.

We look forward to displaying the highest quality and most wonderful shots as curated by the students involved.

All will be welcome with many photographic prints available to purchase at the exhibition.

And we have confirmed that local professional photographer, Lazy Bones, will be officially opening the show.

CAPA Report

SPONSORS

I would also like to take an opportunity to officially thank our sponsors this year.

We had generous donations from the following organisations and people who enabled us to present an array of special prizes.

A big heartfelt thank you to:

Amber Harris: Vocal specialist singing teacher \$200 Singing Lesson package

Carol Robinson: \$100 Encouragement Awards

Muso's Corner: \$50 Voucher and \$200 towards a guitar purchase

J C Framing: \$50 towards framing presented as a lucky door prize by our MC's

STAY TUNED TO OUR CAPA FACEBOOK PAGE FOR LOADS OF NEWS, EVENTS, COMPETITIONS, EXCURSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAPA STUDENTS.

Have a safe and happy holiday,

Ms Robinson

Head Teacher

CAPA

Canteen News 2018

I would like to introduce myself as "Mel" from 'Mel's Tasty Bites Canteen & Catering Co' as your new school canteen operator; we are very excited to be operating "Newcastle High School's Canteen" starting Tuesday 30th January, 2018.

You will find a huge new variety of mouth watering options on your new summer canteen menu. This can be found on the school's Facebook page and website. We will also have new signage outside the canteen.

We welcome all staff and students to come down to the canteen in the mornings and have a chat & enjoy a freshly baked muffin or perhaps a slice of home-made toasted banana bread.

We will be open for breakfast, recess and lunch.

Just to fill you in a little about what we have on offer for you;

- We will have an Eftpos machine for your convenience, minimum spend is \$3.00. All you need to do is 'Tap and Go'.
- We have a Loyalty Card System, every time you place a lunch order at the canteen or spend over \$4.00 over the bench at lunch time, you will receive a stamp on your card, once you receive 10 stamps, you will receive a FREE lunch to the value of \$5.00... How cool is that? So be sure to pick up your loyalty card at the canteen.
- Daily Specials – Look out for all our specials on the board outside the canteen!
- Meal Combo's – We will be adding meal combo deals to the menu!
- Slushie Machine – We will have a Slushie Machine with Tantalizing Fruit Flavours

We offer many more services, and have specials throughout the week so be sure to stay tuned by Liking our Facebook Page.

Looking forward to meeting you all on Tuesday 30th January, 2018.

Mel

www.melstastybites.com / info@melstastybites.com

For Your Information



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THE UNIFORM SHOP

New Uniforms for 2018



It is recommended that all current students requiring new uniforms for 2018, make an appointment to come in for a Uniform Fitting before the end of Term 4.

We recommend this, so that the wait times over the January period are reduced, making the shopping experience more pleasant.

Lay-by Options are available.
Price lists, Contact Details, Opening hours and Booking information are available online by logging into www.alintaapparel.com.au

Thank You

Uniform Shop
www.alintaapparel.com.au

Arrendell secondary education centre™

Summer Holiday School

14 – 17 Jan 2018

• Writing Workshops

Covering all ages from senior primary to senior high school, we run a number of workshops designed to boost your writing skills & strategies

• HSC Preparation

Year 12 students, hit the ground running in 2018 with some extra help from HSC specialist teachers

Individual and small group holiday lessons in Maths, Sciences and English can be arranged by contacting our office. Tutoring during terms also available.

Over 40 years of helping Newcastle students succeed

☎ 4929 2522
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www.arrendellsecondaryeducation.com.au





SSTS AND TBP APPLICATIONS FOR 2018

Applications for 2018 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and Term Bus Pass (TBP) travel entitlements are now open.

In coming days students who hold an SSTS entitlement and are changing grade bands i.e. going from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7 and changing school, and students whose entitlement was approved under a medical condition, will receive notification by email or post informing them of the pending expiry of their entitlement. TBP holders will also receive notification.

Students enquiring about pending cancellation should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails> to update details/make application for next year's entitlement.

Application needs to be made before 31 December 2017 to ensure their entitlement is updated and their current card is not cancelled. If application is made after the expiry of their entitlement (31 December) the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.

Please note: Students who are changing grade band and are remaining at the same school will not receive notification and do not need to reapply (the system now automatically validates a student's on-going eligibility if at the same school and going from infants to primary or primary to secondary). Where a student meets the new eligibility the system will automatically update their entitlement and card.

Students in the Opal area applying for a SSTS or TBP entitlement for the first time will receive their card (posted to the nominated address) a week or two before the commencement of 2018 classes. New cards for 2018 are not posted in 2017 or during the Christmas / New Year period.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas are expected to receive their new travel pass at the commencement of the New School Year.



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