

The Parkway



March 2019

Parkway Edition No. 02

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Parent Forum

On Monday 4 March, the first Newcastle High School parent forum was held in the Library. The purpose of this forum was to gain valuable feedback from parents and carers and to discuss an ongoing engagement strategy. Forty-eight parents/carers attended the forum, providing positive feedback and sharing ideas on how we can improve. Common themes included:

Positives	Areas to improve
Engaging curriculum, especially the introduction of Passion Projects	Mobile phone usage, especially during break times
Wellbeing initiatives – Year 6 to 7 transition received a special mention	Consistency of uniform, particularly shoes
Committed staff	Timely responses to parents and carers

Moving forward, the other area of focus was discussing a parent engagement strategy. The discussion began with a consensus that P&C meetings are not well attended and many parents feared being signed up for more jobs. Nevertheless, parents are committed to engagement.

It was discussed that having less P&C meetings (currently we have a P&C meeting every month during school terms) may be useful with each gathering having a clear focus or purpose. For example, one meeting could be directed at Mrs Dooley's year groups of Year 8, 10 and 12, with Year Advisors attending. One or two head teachers could then present the main things that are happening within their faculties and then be available for discussion and questions.

This strategy will be discussed at the next P&C meeting with any decision shared through our communication channels.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who came to the forum. As the principal it was extremely valuable to hear from parents, share this with staff and then develop strategies with the executive team to implement change. I look forward to many more opportunities for us to work with families, continually improving our great school.

Principal's Message

School Camps

This week our Year 7 cohort will venture to Tuncurry for the annual Year 7 camp. Considering this I thought it was timely to recap the opportunities students have to attend whole year group camps at Newcastle High School. Currently we have organised whole year group camps for Years 7, 9 and 11.

Year	Camp
7	Adventure land – Forster/Tuncurry
9	Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre
11	Snow excursion – Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre

These camps are an extremely valuable experience for staff and students, allowing both stakeholders to connect away from the classroom. Based on feedback from year advisors benefits include:

- Strengthening of relationships
- Stepping outside comfort zones in a safe environment– for both staff and students
- Development of independent skills
- Increased environmental awareness
- Being active and trying new things

I encourage all students to take the opportunity to attend these camps. As our Year 12 cohorts leave us each year, students reflect on the memories they have created and these school camps are always a highlight.

Parent Teacher Interviews

The first parent teacher interviews are scheduled for later this term with Years 7, 11 and 12 interviews on Wednesday 27 March and Years 8, 9 and 10 on Tuesday 2 April. More information will be communicated, including how to book for these interviews, closer to the event.

Thank You,

Nathan Towney
Principal

Key Dates

Term 1		
Week 7	11 March 12 March 13-15 March	P & C Presentation - Library, 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm Year 5 and 6 Parent information evening Year 7 Camp
Week 8		
Week 9	25-29 March 27 March 27 March 28 March	VET work placement—Y11 EC Metal Vaccinations Year 7 & 10 Parent / Teacher Interviews Year 7, 11 & 12 Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition
Week 10	2 April 2-5 April 5 April	Parent / Teacher Interviews Year 8, 9 & 10 Senior Visual Arts excursion Year 11 Wellbeing Day
Week 11	8 April 12 April	P & C Presentation - Library, 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm Last Day Term 1
Term 2		
Week 1	29 April 30 April	Staff Development Day (No Students) First Day Term 2 for students
Week 2	6-9 May	Year 11 PDHPE, Myuna Bay Camp
Week 3	13 May 17 May	P & C Presentation - Library, 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm Year 8 Wellbeing Day



Deputy Principal Report Yr 7, 9 & 11

Parents/ Carers,

My name is Quinn Robertson and I am relieving for Ms Kathryn Outram as the Deputy Principal at Newcastle High School for Years 7, 9 and 11, for the remainder of Term 1, 2019.

Whilst I haven't met some of you, I have worked at Newcastle High School for over 7 years and I have been the Campus Leader at Cooks Hill Campus: Annex to Newcastle High School for the past 3 years. I am really passionate about students gaining skills and knowledge to help them be active and informed citizens.

I am looking forward to meeting the fantastic new Year 7 cohort at school camp and getting active (although I am very afraid of heights).

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the school and I will happily make an appointment time to meet you.

Thankyou,



Quinn Robertson

Relieving Deputy Principal 7,9,11.

HSIE Report

The faculty has started 2019 refreshed and excited to commence another action-packed year at NHS. This year we welcome Mr Csaba Felkai, our relieving Head Teacher for 2019. He is looking forward to an exciting year where HSIE subjects provide a wide range of engaging and meaningful learning opportunities for our students. The faculty focus will be developing critical and creative thinking skills that allow students to tackle complex global problems and become mindful global citizens.

Stage 4 and 5 History provides students with an opportunity to develop their critical and creative thinking skills to be able to understand the nature of significant developments from the past through to the present. Through case studies students learn to conduct research and analyse sources to explain cause and effect from a range of perspectives. As history is alive, students develop an empathetic understanding of events and their impacts on continuity and change in societies.

Stage 4 and 5 Geography provide students with an understanding of our built environment along with our natural world and how these two spheres interact to create diverse human communities and landscapes. Students use their skills and fieldwork opportunities to gain a deeper and meaningful understanding of environmental forces that shape and transform our landscapes. Throughout the course, students are challenged to critically think about people and places, along with traditional and contemporary management strategies for the environment.

HSIE FACULTY SUBJECTS

YEAR 7

Term 1 and 2: History

- Investigating the Ancient Past
- The Asian World – Ancient China
- The Mediterranean World – Ancient Egypt
- Historical Investigation Site Study

Term 3 and 4: Geography

- Landscapes and Landforms
- Place and Liveability

YEAR 8

Term 1 and 2: Geography

- Water in the World
- Interconnections

Term 3 and 4: History

- The Vikings
- Aboriginal and Indigenous Peoples-Colonisation and Contact History
- Japan Under the Shoguns

HSIE Report

YEAR 9

Term 1 and 2: History

- The Making of the Modern World
- Depth Study One: The Movement of Peoples
- Core Study: Australia at War: World War 1
- Australia Between the Wars
- Core Study: Australia at War: World War 2

Term 3 and 4: Geography

- Sustainable Biomes
- Changing Places

YEAR 10

Term 1 and 2: Geography

- Environmental Change and Management
- Human Wellbeing

Term 3 and 4: History

- Rights and Freedoms
- Popular Culture + Australia in the Vietnam War era

ELECTIVE HISTORY AND COMMERCE

The stage 5 Elective History courses currently running for Year 9 and 10 offer students an opportunity to further extend their passion and curiosity for historical figures and events. They work through Project Based Learning to develop historical inquiry skills, while using ICT to gather information from a range of sources to present their findings in a variety of ways.

Year 10 Commerce students are learning how to run the world, one step at a time. That first step is well underway with the organisation of the FOOD MARKETS to take place on Friday 29th March. Students have been working hard to create and market their products as part of their assessment task. Remember your coins on the 29th to support our students as they learn how to run a business.



HSIE Report

YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12 COURSES

Stage 6 studies in the HSIE faculty encompass a wide range of academically rigorous and rewarding subjects.

Ancient History	Modern History
Business Studies	Legal Studies
Society and Culture	Geography

Should you wish to obtain any specific information please don't hesitate to contact the Head Teacher at Csaba.Felkai1@det.nsw.edu.au

HSIE INCURSIONS/EXCURSIONS

Year 8: Whole year to Mt. Sugarloaf and Glenrock Lagoon

Year 9: World War 1 Trench Warfare, Taronga Zoo, Commerce-Market Place

Year 10: Whole year Geography Field study (Nobby's and Stockton), Commerce- Market Day, Elective

History to Sydney Jewish Museum

Year 11: Criminal Courts, Sydney – The Rocks, Awabakal Nature Reserve

Year 12: Study days, Criminal Courts

As you can see, this will be an action packed and exciting year for our faculty and students. We look forward to our next opportunity where we begin to showcase our students' works.

Thank you – HSIE

English Report

English Staff

2019 promises to be a wonderful year for the English Department and the students of Newcastle High school. We have a number of new staff in Miss Renshaw and Mrs Holland, as well as the return of Mrs Myers to our team. Their enthusiasm, commitment and experience will give impetus to the success of our students.

Public Speaking and Debating

Our renowned public speaking team has already been successful this year with Alice Du'Bery and Asha McNeill of Year 12 winning their local branches of the Lion's Youth of the Year Award. They will proceed to the next round this week and we wish them every success in their future endeavours.



Alice Du'Bery



Asha McNeill

We will also be offering junior debating this year, with Mrs Holland calling for volunteers to participate in inter-school competitions. This is a rewarding extra-curricular activity that provides students with both academic and social skills that they will use in their adult lives.

Year Updates

Another event on our calendar is the annual Year 10 Maitland gaol excursion, which is always popular and provides creative fuel for our students to compose crime stories for their first summative task in Term 1.

Year 7 has settled into their high school routines and are working productively on their autobiographical texts, while Year 8 are studying man's interaction with the natural world through poetry. Year 9 are focusing on 'issue' Ted Talks and redeveloping their logical and persuasive expression.

Lastly, our seniors, both Year 11 and 12, are diligently concentrating on creative and analytical writing in preparation for their formative and summative tasks this term.

The English Department is looking forward to a productive and rewarding year.

Ms Rachel McNeilly

Head Teacher

Sports Report

SPONSORSHIP

Newcastle High School has started the school sporting year looking amazing in our new representative kits. A Special thank you to the following sponsors for their contribution towards new representative sporting kits, ready for launch in 2019.

- Souths Junior Rugby League Football Club
- Buildcert consultants
- Highlite – Hi-tech fitness
- Sleepy's Day



Registrations are now open to all players wishing to play in the 2019 season.

U6 & U7 = \$110, U8-U16 = \$120, U17 & U18 = \$160

Click on the following link to register. [Registration](#)



BuildCert Consultants is a progressive building certification and consultancy company, with five offices strategically located to service the Central Coast, Sydney, Newcastle, Hunter Region, Mid North Coast and Sapphire Coast.



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Sleepy's Day is a football, fun and fundraising day not just to repay SNRLFC but to help members of the broader community who are struggling with their own cancer battles, or other adversities life has thrown at them. We also aim to help small, local charities who need a hand to continue their vital work in the community. Details of Sleepy's Day 2019 in future Parkway editions.



Sports Report

CHS SPORT

There has been a busy start to the year so far with many students competing in a number of competitions. Our swimming team went off to the zone swimming carnival in Week 5. There were some fantastic individual and team results. All up, eleven relay teams and thirty-six individuals qualified for the Regional Swimming Carnival on Monday 4th March. Special mention must go to Lachlan Brown of Year 11, Averil Jones of Year 9 and Alex Walker of Year 7 who not only helped relay teams excel but qualified for seven individual events at the zone carnival.

Our open boys waterpolo team went to Lambton Pool in Week 5 to first take on HSPA. A strong performance resulted in a 9-5 victory. Our next competitor on the day was Lambton High School. Strong performances from Guy and Travis Hetherington as well as Sebastian Cox weren't quite enough to get over Lambton with us going down by 17-7. Great efforts all round.

Our U15 Rugby League team played in the Callaghan Cup U15's Rugby League 8 a-side competition. This acts as a selection trial for the City Zone Rugby League team. Congratulations must go to Nick Watson and Jay Leota who were both successful in making the City Zone Rugby League team to attend the Hunter Region trials on Wednesday the 20th March.

Our boys and girls basketball teams have played recently in gala days. Both teams played against some really strong competition all day. The boys registered a win against HSPA. Congratulations must go to both teams for the way they represented Newcastle High School and the commitment they showed to displaying our PBL values of respect, responsibility and participation.



HUNTER REGION SELECTION

Outstanding performances at Hunter Region trials have resulted in the following selections. Good luck in your respective CHS competitions:

Hunter Region Volleyball team—Banjo Olsen, Matt Campbell and Luke Prosser

Hunter Region U15 AFL team—Jay Martin

Congratulations must go out to all the Newcastle High School students and their families who helped Cooks Hill Surf Club win the state titles over weekend. Other sport notices and results are posted on the school Facebook page.

Cheers

Mr Grove

THERE IS NO SUCH THING 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’re 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>

*Ms Valerie Kadarusman
Year 8 Numeracy Coordinator*

Sentral Portal Report

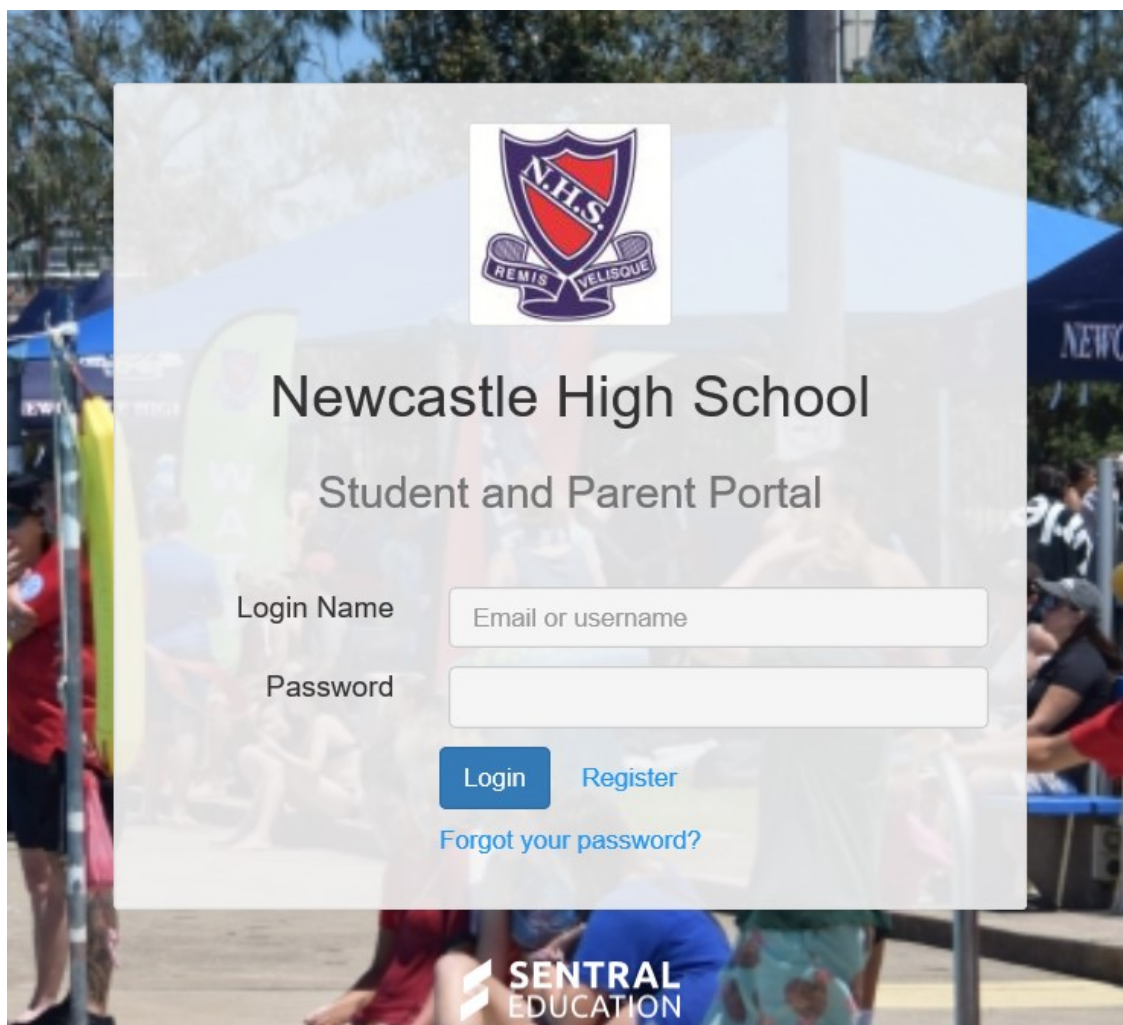
SENTRAL STUDENT PORTAL

Students are invited to access the Sentral Student Portal at <http://web1.newcastle-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/> portal and log in using their regular Department of Education (DoE) username and password. Class teachers will guide students in the use of the Canvas and the Sentral Student Portal, which can provide ongoing support for learning beyond the classroom.

All students are provided with free access to Google Suite and Microsoft Office 365 where they may store all their documents and files safely and securely in the cloud. This may be accessed at home or at school using the same DoE login. Access to G Suite and Office 365 is easy via the Sentral Student Portal.

SENTRAL PARENT PORTAL

Parents are invited to access the Sentral Parent Portal at <http://web1.newcastle-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/> portal and register for a free account. All parents and carers receive an email containing a key that allows access to their child's learning. Details such as attendance, timetable, positive awards and daily notices can be viewed on the portal page.



Newcastle High School BYOD

Newcastle High School recognises the need to prepare our students for a rapidly-changing world, where technology plays a critical role in personal, social and professional lives. Staff at Newcastle High School have taken great strides to integrate device use into all aspects of teaching, including the implementation of a brand new learning management platform, Canvas. BYOD is an important step in ensuring all NHS students are working with 21st century learning capabilities.



Parents can now access the Newcastle High School JB Hi-Fi Education parent portal where a selection of *Apple* and *HP* devices may be purchased. These laptops are specifically chosen for the classroom and have a variety of pricing options available. Simply go to <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/> with our school code **NewcastleHS2019** and make your choice.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to purchase through the JB Hi-Fi portal?

No. However, any servicing or repairs must be organised individually with the manufacturer by you.

What if the device is broken at or lost school?

By purchasing through the JB Hi-Fi portal, servicing due to laptop fault can be submitted online by parents and a technician will repair the device. An additional warranty option is also available, to cover repairs due to damage. Support in this matter may be found at <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/support/> where parents can also submit warranty or servicing claims.

What specifications does the laptop require?

All laptops on the JB Hi-Fi portal meet our specifications, but any Windows, Chrome-book or Apple Devices with dual band 5GHz wireless, a 64GB solid state drive and 9.7inch screen are sufficient. A carry case is also required.

What software will be needed?

All devices will come with internet browsing software and students will be encouraged to use cloud based platform Microsoft Office 365, already available through their DET portal account. Students may also download and install the entire Office 2016 suite (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel) for free from their DET portal page, or by logging in to their Office 365 account at <https://www.office.com/>



What software will teachers be using at school for class work?

Depending on the course, a variety of software will be used in the classroom ranging from word processing and spreadsheet calculations to game development and film editing. All NHS students now have access to Canvas - our new learning management system at <https://nhs.instructure.com/> where staff can issue and receive student work of all media types. Students can access Canvas using their Office 365 student login.

Attendance Report

Regular attendance at school is essential for successful student learning

Students are required to attend school every day of the school year, unless there are circumstances that make this impossible. These circumstances include sickness, accident or family crisis.

Where possible, family holidays should be planned during school vacation time and appointments should be made outside of school hours. Family holidays are no longer an eligible reason for exemption from school.

An attendance rate of 85% or above is expected. Families will be notified if their child's attendance falls below this level. If a child's attendance is of serious concern, the DEC's Home School Liaison Officer may become involved.

Students must be at school in time for the start of the school day at 8:45am.

Arriving at school on time and attending all lessons demonstrates respect, responsibility and participation.

Rolls are marked electronically at the beginning of every lesson.

Students who are late to school must sign in at the Student Office. Unjustified late arrivals are recorded as partial absence on a student's official attendance record.

Students must produce their student ID card when signing in late.

Parents will be notified via SMS if their child arrives late or is absent from school. Please ensure that the school has the correct mobile phone number for contact.

Any absence from school (including late arrival) must be explained within 7 days.

Absence can be explained in a number of ways:

- Respond directly to the SMS message received
- Contact the school via phone (4969 3177)
- Send an email (newcastle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- Submit a written note into the "Absence Note" box at the Student Office

Students are expected to remain at school for the whole day and attend all timetabled lessons.

Students who have a valid reason to leave early, must place an explanation note into the "Early Leave Pass Request" box at the Student Office, then collect their pass at recess.

Senior Students (Years 11 & 12) are permitted to:

- Sign In after 8:45am if they don't have a timetabled class Period 1.
- Sign Out after their last timetabled lesson.

Senior Students are not permitted to leave the school during the day between lessons.

Please contact the school if you need support regarding your child's attendance.

Students who have regular, punctual attendance achieve the best result possible and have better future prospects.



In Summary:

- ✓ School starts at 8:45 am and finishes at 3:00pm
- ✓ Attend every day unless there is a valid reason
- ✓ Arrive on time
- ✓ Attend all lessons
- ✓ Do not leave the school grounds during the day
- ✓ Absence must be explained within 7 days.
- ⇒ Respond to the SMS
- ⇒ Phone 49693177
- ⇒ Send a note
- ⇒ Send an email
- ✓ Organise appointments outside school hours
- ✓ Organise family holidays during vacation time
- ✓ Encourage and support full attendance and participation in all school activities
- ✓ Contact the school if you need support
- ✓ Questions regarding attendance should be directed to Ms Kadarusman



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KEY DATES

Summer Holiday School	21 - 23 Jan
Term 1, 2019	29 Jan - 12 Apr
Term 2, 2019	29 Apr - 5 Jul
Winter Holiday School	15 - 18 Jul
Term 3, 2019	22 Jul - 27 Sep
Spring Holiday School	7 - 10 Oct
Term 4, 2019	14 Oct - 13 Dec

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Website: <https://newcastle-h.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Cooks Hill Campus is an annex to Newcastle High School. It uses personalised project based learning, working collaboratively with Big Picture Education to support students in years 9-12. If you would like additional information about our innovative campus or just to keep up to date on current events, you can find us at:

<http://www.cookshill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Or like our facebook page: Cooks Hill Campus. Our Campus newsletter (TGIF) is available on both locations.

<https://sway.com/ANJW8P90AisF8toX?ref=Link%C2%BF>

Cooks Hill Campus
Phone: 49291663
Campus Leader: Quinn Robertson

