



The Audience

Weeks 2 & 3, Term 2, 2016

*"Performing
At Our Best"*

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Assessment schedules can be downloaded [here](#). Stay in touch via our [free app](#) and [Facebook page](#).
Subscribe to this fortnightly 7-12 newsletter via the HSPA website. Contact the office for more information.

Week 2

Mon 2/5	Auditions (all week) P & C Meeting 7pm Common room
Tue 3/5	Assessment: Year 9 Science (half yearly) Assessment: Year 7 Maths Exam Big Day in- Newcastle Uni (STEM careers) Stage 6 Premier's Debating Challenge StartSmart Money program
Wed 4/5	Assessment: Year 10 History Test Bald and the Beautiful- (West's) GATS Strings, Wind Ensemble & Dancers
Thur 5/5	Plain English Public Speaking Final Excursion: Year 8 Chinese excursion Chess Comp- Newcastle Grammar
Fri 6/5	Assessment: Year 9 HSIE Task Assessment: Year 8 Maths Exam HSC Music Workshop day Cross Country Trials - competitors only

Week 3

Mon 9/5	
Tue 10/5	NAPLAN
Wed 11/5	NAPLAN
Thur 12/5	NAPLAN Yr 11 Bio/EES Field Study day
Fri 13/5	Chess Challenge Hosted By HSPA in the Bini

From Centre Stage

Welcome back to Term 2.

The end of last term concluded with our year assemblies to highlight student achievement and provide performance opportunities.



Voce, a concert for strings and choirs was held at St Augustine's Church Merewether. Students performed a very challenging repertoire to an outstanding level of quality and left the audience gasping for more.

During the term break, three school excursions left the country. Dance and drama students left on separate tours to New York and Los Angeles where they participated in a range of elite workshops. The Marching Band toured China, visiting 4 schools and performing at sites such as Hong Kong Disneyland, The Great Wall, Xian and Shanghai. I congratulate the students for their exemplary behaviour and thank the staff for their energy and time in providing these unique opportunities for our students.

This term commenced with professional learning for staff in adolescent mental health through the Mind Matters and Kids Matter programs as well as training in improving the quality of assessment using the NSW Quality Teaching Model. Both of these initiatives are identified as strategic goals in our school plan.

There will be two P and C meetings this term and will be held on May 2 and June 6 at 7 pm in the Staff Common

Room. All parents are welcome to attend. The guest speaker on May 2 will be Mrs Michelle Maher (HT Teaching and Learning) and will speak on the school's collaboration with the University of Newcastle in the Quality Teaching Intensive Program and the student leadership model at HSPA. On June 6 Snr Constable Darren Fleming from Waratah Police will speak on cyber safety and safe partying for young people.

Auditions will take place in week 2 for students seeking a place at the school in Years 7 – 11 for 2017. The number of applications received by the school remains strong and has increased since 2015.

NAPLAN testing will take place in week 3 for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The school's **ANZAC ceremony** took place on April 28. As usual our students are involved in a range of community and school service activities at this time. Following their return from China a couple days earlier, the Marching Band performed in the Sydney ANZAC parade.

Student Executive members **Amelia Noble** and **Siobhan O'Toole** gave readings in Civic Park on ANZAC Day eve. **Fletcher Haigh** of Year 8 played the Last Post and Reveille at Waratah West Primary school's ceremony and in Civic Park. **Aiden Cope** was the ceremonial bugler at Hamilton Public school's ceremony.

Year 12 will be issued Semester One reports soon and Semester One assessments will commence soon for all other years who will receive their reports near the end of this term.

Richard Jennings

Topping the Charts

Unexplained Absence Requests Now By Email

Parents/carers are now notified of unexplained absences and late arrivals **via email**. Emails have been sent for absences and late arrivals that occurred in the last week of Term 1. Parents/Carers will be able to respond via email (or by note or phone call as usual). The *family email address* currently in school records will be used (the same email address used to for information about the Parent Portal). Letters will not be sent so it is essential that the school has a current email address on file. Please contact the school if our records need to be updated.

Yrs 8-11 Parent/Teacher Night – Mon 16 May, 3.30-6.30pm.

Bookings are only made online through a student-specific code. Parents/carers will receive a letter next week with their child's code and logon instructions (posted to the primary mail address as per school records). If a shared parenting/custody arrangement exists, parents can request a separate booking code by contacting the school. A coffee van will be on site.

Sentral Parent Portal Open

Thank you for the very positive feedback about the Sentral Parent Portal. Students are also finding it very useful. Last term, an email was sent to each student's *family email address* currently listed in school records with instructions for logging on. **It is essential that you follow the set up directions on**

the email. Parents/carers with shared custody arrangements are able to view the same Portal information with a separate log on code by contacting the school.

Please note: a student's attendance at an excursion/incursion is usually added to their attendance record on the day. However, this is not always possible. Sometimes a student's attendance at an event may be added over the next few days. Please keep this in mind when viewing your child's attendance. Students have been encouraged to see their teacher if they believe that their attendance record is incorrect (after a few days to allow for records to be updated).

Maths

Semester 1 Mathematics Exams:

Year 7 - 3rd May

Year 8 - 6th May

NAPLAN is 10th-12th May for Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. Students in Years 7 and 9 will need a Scientific Calculator for the Numeracy test. There are no spares in Maths currently. They may be purchased for \$20 from the front office.

StartSmart Money workshops for years 8-12 3rd and 4th May in Mathematics classes.

Latest MoneySmart Newsletter: <https://goo.gl/55g28X>

Student Diary

A reminder to everyone that as part of student fees, we have provided all students with an eDiary. This allows students to access their assessments and homework from anywhere that they can access the web. Students can enter their own information and reminders, teachers are able to assign homework and send reminders to students via the diary. Today we have sent out an invite to parents to access their students diaries. We are having a few teething problems as the program is in its infancy. Please bear with us and contact Bree Harvey- Bice via email if you have any problems or you haven't received your invite. Bree.d.harvey@det.nsw.edu.au

Sport

Well done to Kiera Bainsfair who recently went to the UK to represent Australia in the U/14's Girl's Futsal team. On the tour she travelled through Wales, Scotland and England. Her team was undefeated throughout most of the tournament and she was captain for two of the games. Kiera also got to watch some EPL games and had exclusive tours of Anfield Stadium (Liverpool FC) and Old Trafford (Manchester United).



Students are reminded to return all Library books borrowed in Term 1.

Students may re-new unfinished books by using their OLIVER access through the DoE Portal or coming to the Library.

School Uniform

The uniform shop is open two days per week on Mondays and Wednesdays. The school uniform requires shoes to be all black with enclosed leather uppers. The school website has a shoe guide which shows suitable and unsuitable shoe types. (Look under *Policies*). Staff and students are proud of the uniform and the flexibility it offers for all students. Black running shorts are not part of the school's uniform.

Getting To Know....Mr Murray Fletcher (PDHPE)



What do you teach and where did you teach before HSPA? I teach PD/H/PE. HSPA is my first school.

Where did you go to school? Newcastle Grammar School.

What made you decide to become a teacher? I had a great Year 6 & Year 11/12 Geography teacher.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Football & travel.

What has been your biggest challenge? Moving to the UK to live.

What did you want to be when you were younger? Footballer.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be? Laying on a beach.

If you were a super-hero, what powers would you have? To be able to squat 200kg 😊

What was the last book you read? Legacy - Tim Cahill's Autobiography.

What was your first job? Stagehand for Channel 9.

What is your favourite all-time movie? Anything Romantic Comedy

What would you tell your 15 year old self? Listen to Mum, she's always right .

What is your favourite song? Titanium -Katy Perry

What would you name the autobiography of your life? Don't skip leg day.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live? Mykonos, Greece.

Do you have a special talent? I can disappear when I'm supposed to be vacuuming the house.

Do you ever wish you could be someone else, if yes, who? A millionaire.

Fundraising Chocolates

Students are reminded that the school does not allow fundraising chocolates to be brought to school and sold to staff and students. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Newsletter Subscription

Subscribe to the weekly primary newsletter and/or fortnightly 7-12 newsletter via the school's website (see button on homepage).

Online Payments

Parents are now able to make online payments for subject contributions, excursions and sport among others. See the button on the school's website (homepage).

Drama

The 2016 USA Drama Tour was a great success with 37 Year 11 and Year 12 students attending fabulous workshops and seeing a broad range of first-rate theatre. A high point was the Broadway Classroom session conducted by the stars of the incredible Colour Purple.

This year we also attended several classes at the world-famous Lee Strasberg method acting school where the tutors were most impressed by the talent and maturity of our kids.



Marching Band at the Sydney Anza Day parade.





Education
Public Schools





IN CONCERT

with guest artist Katie Noonan



A dazzling choral and instrumental music showcase featuring the Combined Secondary Schools Choir and Australia's premier Public Schools Instrumental Ensembles with guest artist, Katie Noonan.

Katie Noonan's technical mastery and pure voice makes her one of Australia's most versatile and beloved vocalists. She will join over 1000 young musicians from around the State as they come together filling Sydney Town Hall with an evening of celebration and song.

Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 May 2016

Sydney Town Hall

7:00pm



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Call 8256 2222 or visit
www.cityrecitalhall.com

Adults \$37 • Concession \$30

School groups (of 10 or more) \$12 per student

Booking fees may apply

For more information phone 8512 1187
or visit www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au



