



NEWSTEAD
COLLEGE
EXCELLENCE | OPPORTUNITY | SUCCESS

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE I | March 2025



Celebrating Students'
Achievements



Tasmanian
Government

Department for Education, Children and Young People



We are excited to welcome our new students and families to the Newstead College community for 2025.

We're thrilled to give a big shoutout to our 2024 award winners! Their hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and they've made the Newstead College community super proud!

I extend a special congratulations to our Dux, Eason Liu, and Runner-Up Dux, Ella Williams, for their outstanding academic achievements. I also congratulate Olivia Holt, Elham Osman and Izabella Wicks for their exceptional accomplishments in Vocational Education and Training.

Principal's Message

Our Awards Evening celebrated the achievements of students who not only excelled academically but those who also excelled in sports, arts, leadership, and community service. Each recipient demonstrated remarkable talent and commitment.

To all our 2024 students who gave their best and achieved their goals, whether it was a TCE, TCEA, an ATAR, VET certification, or a subject award, we congratulate you. Your hard work and achievements are truly valued and celebrated.

I want to recognise the support our teachers and staff have provided to our students' success in 2024. Thank you for creating an environment where our students can thrive and for instilling the confidence to keep pushing forward. Your dedication to their wellbeing and growth is key to their achievements.

It's great to see our new Year 11 students settling into college life so well, and our Year 12 students starting the year with such a positive attitude and determination to make the most of it!

Support Group Teachers have been contacting parents over the last couple of weeks to introduce themselves and check in on students' start to the year. Support Group Teachers are parents' and carers' first point of contact either by phone or email.

We really appreciate our partnership with parents and carers. Your support plays a huge role in boosting students' aspirations and ensuring they attend all their classes. We look forward to your involvement in your student's learning and hope to see you at our informal parent-teacher evening on Wednesday, 26 March.

I hope you enjoy reading about our 2024 award recipients, and students' start to their 2025 learning journey.

Dianne
Dianne Freeman
Principal



Newstead College Association

College Association Annual General Meeting

**26 March 2025
in the College Boardroom at 6.00pm.**

All positions vacant, everyone welcome.

Enquiries to: Lana Davie Phone: 6332 3278

TASC Outstanding Achievement Awards

Newstead College is proud to announce that four students received Outstanding Achievement Awards from the Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification (TASC). These prestigious awards were presented in January at a ceremony held at Government House in Hobart, with Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker, AC, Governor of Tasmania presiding.

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Eason, the 2024 Dux of Newstead College, was among 34 students who received the prestigious TASC Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, recognising his exceptional ATAR of 99.8.

A TE score of 120.6 places Eason, ex Kings Meadows High School, among the Top 99 students statewide. Academically, he is an exceptional student who has achieved the highest accomplishments in some of the most demanding courses. In 2024, Eason scored Exceptional Achievements in 3 TCE subjects and High Distinctions in 2 university mathematics subjects through the UTAS High Achiever Program.

Newstead College Principal Dianne Freeman said:

“Eason has earned his accolades. His outstanding results are the outcome of hard work, perseverance, and an inner determination to deepen and extend his knowledge, particularly in the field of mathematics. We are very proud to see his efforts recognised at the highest level.”

Eason will be studying medicine at Monash University or the University of Tasmania, while working casually at a local pharmacy. His goal is to specialise in medical research to invent or help develop cures and treatments for current incurable diseases.



Outstanding Achievement in Vocational Education and Training (VET) Award



- Izabella, who came to Newstead College after relocating from South Australia, excelled in the Certificate II in Community Services (Health Focus) and earned a place in the Bachelor of Nursing program at the University of Tasmania to pursue midwifery.
- Elham completed the Certificate II in Community Services (Health Focus). Her aspiration is to become a pharmacist and make a significant impact in the healthcare sector.
- Olivia, ex Campbell Town District School, performed to a high standard in all aspects of the Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics. She is now undertaking an apprenticeship at Prospect Hair and Beauty.

We couldn't be prouder of the hard work and dedication of each recipient.

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

On Wednesday 29 January, Newstead College held an Awards Evening to celebrate our 2024 Awards for Excellence. Congratulations to all award recipients on your amazing achievements.

Eason Liu Dux

Ella Williams Runner-Up Dux

Danielle Smith Ampol All Rounder Award

Marcus Kelly Principal's Award

Layla Seen Dame Marjorie Parker Award

Billie Williams ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership & Teamwork Award

Eason Liu ADF Future Innovators Award

Marcus Kelly Minister for Education & Training - Respectful Student Award

Ella Williams Young Leaders Award

Marcus Kelly Synectic Group Accounting Award

Kenneth Fuglsang Synectic Group Accounting Award

Ella Williams Outstanding Commitment to Studies

Charlotte McLennan Outstanding Commitment to Studies

Marcus Kelly Commitment to Future Education Award

Esther Van Asperen Commitment to Future Education Award

Mia Gillies Outstanding Achievers Award

Liam Pears Link Technologies Tasmania Award

Luke Ilott Link Technologies Tasmania Award

Zali Taylor University Hub Award

Zali Taylor UTAS Award (University Connections Program) (Sports & Recreation Management)

April Strating UTAS Award (University Connections Program) (Music)

Grace Orchard Maurice Robins Rural Scholarship

Drew Leguis Newstead College Association Award

Manahil Faisal Newstead College Association Award

Sally Grace Commitment to Personal & Professional Growth Award

Brayden Cox-Pregnall Resilience Award

Shani Templar Encouragement Award

Chloe White Rowan Seward Memorial Award

Imogen Prince Zonta Service & Advocacy Award

Abolfazl Mohseni Outstanding Service to the Community

Kobi Witte Outstanding Service to the College Community

Rory Banks Outstanding Service to the College Community

Sharlie Hodgetts Vocational Education & Training Award for North East student

Zaki Tulloch Outstanding Achievement in Vocational Education & Training Award

Drew Leguis Outstanding Commitment to the 2024 Newstead College Production

Jayde Quilliam Excellence in The Performing Arts

Layla Seen The George Richardson Art Award

Address by Will Cassidy



Newstead College was delighted to have esteemed alumnus Will Cassidy as our guest speaker for our 2024 Awards Evening. Here is an excerpt from his inspiring introductory speech.

When I left Newstead College, I had a plan. I would undertake a Bachelor of Computing at the University of Tasmania and then become the local equivalent to Bill Gates.

A year and a half into the degree, following a unit which required me to learn yet another programming language, it dawned on me that I would never be a computer programmer; instead of code, I wanted to work with people. So, I made the change to Information Systems – a degree which focused on people as the most important part of a system.

Upon graduating, I was offered the Operations Manager position at Birchalls. I got to work with and lead staff from all around the state, I interacted with customers from all walks of life with varying interests, and liaised with a number of schools, including my alma mater, Newstead College.

Unfortunately, in 2017, the decision was made for Birchalls to close and that was an incredibly tough time, as not only did I have to farewell my staff, who had become like family, but I had to supervise the sale of the family home.

After Birchalls, and a brief stint in hospitality management, I began my time with the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, first as the Office & Membership Manager, but after two and a half years, in challenging circumstances, I took on the Acting Executive Officer role, before being appointed to the role on a permanent basis in 2022.

I wanted to tell you about my roles at Birchalls and the Launceston Chamber of Commerce because if it hadn't been for an interest that was sparked during my time here at Newstead College, I would never have been able to perform either role.

Studying units in drama and theatre increased my confidence, but it was my passion for public speaking, a passion that was sparked right here, that has benefited me in so many ways.

During my time at Birchalls, in 2008, I was encouraged to pursue public speaking, when the company's Managing Director invited me as a guest to his Rostrum club, a club devoted to improving participants' skills and experience in addressing an audience. Later that year, I became a member of the club and have been ever since.

I remember on Birchalls' last day of trade, February 25, 2017, people gathered in the Mall to watch the doors close for the final time. When it came time for those doors to close, my staff and even the Managing Director of the company were too overwhelmed with emotion to say anything to the assembled group. So, I drew on my training and stepped forward, thanking them for the loyal patronage over the years and wishing them the best for the future.

When the time came for me to lead the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, again my public speaking experience was essential. Not only was I now required to speak to journalists from the newspaper, radio and television, sometimes at only a moment's notice, but I had to host events where the keynote speaker might be the Mayor, Members of Parliament, a Senator, or on multiple occasions, the Premier of Tasmania.

Becoming a member of Rostrum has given me many other opportunities, but one I value highly is the work I've done with the Rostrum Voice of Youth, a public speaking competition for 11 to 17 year olds. Each year, I judge and give feedback to inspiring young people who have chosen to pursue a skill that has provided me with so many benefits and opportunities over the years.

To those students who are graduating tonight, I offer these words of advice.

As you step out of these doors tonight, you're about to embark on the next phase or chapter of your life. It's going to be exciting and new, but please be prepared for the plot twists and challenges you may encounter along the way.

Hold on to what you've learnt here at Newstead College. Your education has prepared you well for the journey ahead. And never stop learning. Whether your next chapter is a university degree, vocational education and training, an apprenticeship or employment, try to find time to add on additional skills that might benefit you in the future, like I did with public speaking.

I'd like to leave you this evening with the words of another William, William Butler Yeats, an Irish poet, dramatist and writer. He is credited with saying, 'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.' I hope your fire continues to burn brightly now and in the future.

Dux of the College

Newstead College is proud to announce that its 2024 College Dux is Eason (Yixuan) Liu. With a Tertiary Entrance score of 120.6 and an exceptional ATAR of 99.8, Eason placed in the Top 99 students statewide.

Academically, Eason (ex Kings Meadows High School) is an exceptional student who has achieved the highest accomplishments in some of the most demanding courses. He consistently displays a maturity of response, a depth of understanding and an eagerness to deepen and extend his knowledge.

In 2023, Eason studied 4 pre-tertiary subjects:

Maths Methods 4
Maths Specialised 4
Physical Sciences 3
English 3

He received three Subject Awards in Mathematics and Physical Sciences, and was recognised for achieving Outstanding Results in Year 11.

In 2024, Eason received Exceptional Achievements in three subjects and a Subject Award for each:

Physics 4
Chemistry 4
Biology 3

He extended himself by enrolling in the High Achiever Program at the University of Tasmania (UTAS), studying University Maths 1A and University Maths 1B.

Additionally, he received the prestigious 2024 ADF Future Innovators Award and a TASC Outstanding Achievement Award.

A considerate and inclusive student, Eason has earned the respect of all who have had the privilege to work with him. He has exceptional manners and is very personable, friendly and kind, always checking in to see how people are going.

Maths Teacher Charlie Jeong said:

“Eason always wants to know more than just the solution or the end point. He has a genuine curiosity and a deep level of thinking that set him apart from other learners. He wasn’t just chasing an ATAR score, but interested in learning and developing in so many ways beyond the curriculum.”

Eason will be studying medicine at Monash University or the University of Tasmania, while working casually at a local pharmacy. His goal is to specialise in medical research to invent or help develop cures and treatments for current incurable diseases.



Special Awards

Runner-up Dux Ella Williams

Ella received exceptionally high awards in an unusual combination of subjects across arts, maths and science. In her studies, Ella (ex Queechy High School) challenges herself, regularly seeks out feedback and acts upon it in a timely manner, and continually displays high expectations of herself as a learner to achieve her best outcomes. Her teachers say she is a respectful, collaborative and committed student.

Ella gained an Academic Excellence Award for Outstanding Results in Year 11 and was awarded subject prizes for Exceptional Achievements in English Literature, Maths Methods 3 and Physical Sciences 3. In 2024, Ella excelled in Chemistry 4, English 3 and Maths Methods 4.

Additionally, Ella participated in college productions *Heathers: the Musical* and *Cinderella*, and was very involved in the Student Leadership Council across both years.

With a TE score of 110.21 and an overall ATAR of 98.6, Ella is among the Top 99 students in the state.

This year, Ella will pursue a university degree in both English and Maths.



Ampol All-Rounder Award Danielle Smith

Danielle's journey at Newstead College has been marked by her outstanding leadership, commitment to service, community, and achievements in sport and academics.

A natural leader, Danielle (ex Campbell Town District School) empowers those around her with encouragement and a strong sense of social equity. She balances her sporting, academic and community responsibilities with exceptional dedication. As Captain of her club netball team and Vice-Captain of the Newstead College netball team, she motivates her peers and actively fosters team spirit.

Danielle has been an outstanding ambassador for Newstead College, engaging with students through the Liaison Program and representing the College at events. She was accepted into the Tasmanian Police Career Development Program, but schedule changes helped Danielle focus on a teaching pathway. Danielle has been awarded a prestigious three-year Tertiary Teaching Scholarship, which will support her studies at the University of Tasmania.



Principal's Award Marcus Kelly

A high achiever with a strong work ethic, mature personality and positive mindset, Marcus (ex Kings Meadows High School) excelled across a wide variety of subjects, from humanities to science. His exceptional literacy skills earned him the top result in pre-tertiary English Literature and high praise from his teachers.

Marcus is an incredibly dedicated and respectful student. He wrote the foreword for the College Yearbook and participated in the Project Global Citizen virtual bootcamp, which he confidently chatted with TV news crews about. His quiet wisdom, interpersonal abilities, and supportive nature make him a standout student.

Marcus's relentless pursuit of excellence and unwavering dedication to his studies are truly inspiring. He embodies the qualities of a responsible and engaged citizen, ready to take on the challenges of the future with confidence and his own personal flair.



Dame Marjorie Parker Award Layla Seen

Layla has been an outstanding student, excelling in a variety of subjects, including Technical Theatre 2, Theatre Performance 3, Media, Photography, English Foundations, Bar Operations and Maths. More commonly known on campus as “Pookie”, Layla (ex Exeter High School) actively participated in two college productions, serving as Assistant Stage Manager in 2023 and Stage Manager in 2024. A dedicated leader, Layla was always willing to assist staff and students to achieve their goals.

Outside of college, Layla is active in community theatre and events, advocates for women’s rights and the LGBTQIA+ community, and is passionate about social justice. A skilled problem solver and seamstress, she often upcycles clothing and can be relied on to fix a costume under time pressure.

Her impact extends statewide – after writing to then-Deputy Premier Jeremy Rockliff in 2021, she helped secure free sanitary products in all Tasmanian schools.

Layla’s strength and independence will serve her well as she embarks on a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Theatre and Performance.



Outstanding Results in Year 11

We are delighted to present our 2024 Year 11 High Achievers. Congratulations on your outstanding efforts and results. We can’t wait to witness your growth and achievements this year and into the future.



Back row: Caitlin, ex Queechy High School. Storm, ex St Mary’s District School, Taylah, ex Prospect High School, Sophia, ex Exeter High School, Claire, ex Launceston Christian School, Lorna, ex Queechy High School, Emily, ex Queechy High School, William, ex Prospect High School

Front row: Addison, ex Scottsdale High School, Akia, relocated from the Philippines, Zahra, ex Brooks High School, Zoe, ex Scottsdale High School

Not Pictured: Vincent, Spencer, Gloria, April, Green, Makaela and Jespah

Academic Excellence ATARS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ATAR 80 - 89

Abolfazl Mohseni
Bo Dolley
Cadance Hennessy
Nicole Bowerman
Danielle Smith
Summer Cherdron
Drew Leguis
Caden Swindells
Jet Rhind

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ATAR OVER 90

Eason Liu
Freya Hall
Ella Williams
Zali Taylor
Kenneth Fuglsang
Billie Williams
Marcus Kelly
Hamish Kleyn
Charlotte McLennan
Esther Van Asperen

Subject Awards

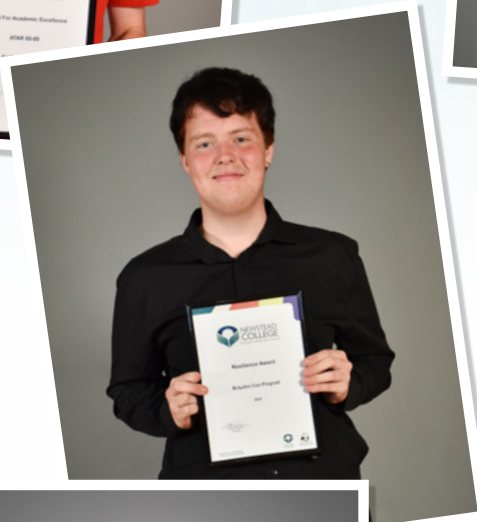
Layla Seen	Art Studio Practice 3 (Photography)	Taylah Richards	Musical Theatre 2
Bayli Casbault	Visual Art 3 (Photography)	April Strating	Musical Theatre 2
Olivia Holt	Contemporary Art Practice 2	Ella Williams	Musical Theatre 2
Addison Milner	Contemporary Art Practice 2	Bella Wyndham	Musical Theatre 2
Nico Ferguson	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Layla Seen	Technical Theatre Production 2
Storm Fitzpatrick	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Claire Beams	English 3
Georgina Lovell	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Vincent Blazely	English 3
G Finnigan	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Caitlin Graham	English 3
Grace Orchard	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Michael Hennessy	English 3
Trae Roney	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Lorna Peck	English 3
Sophie Shephard	Visual Art 2 (Photography)	Ella Williams	English 3
Samuel Phillips	Arts I	Gloria Chapman	English Literature 3
Jespah Djonlija	UTAS Music Technology Projects I	Mikaela Yetman	English Literature 3
April Strating	UTAS Songwriting	Zali Taylor	English Literature 3
Taylah Richards	Drama 3	Esther Van Asperen	English Literature 3
Taylah Richards	Theatre Performance 3	Billie Williams	English Literature 3
William Anderson	Contemporary Music and Songwriting 2	Freya Hall	English Studio 3
Green Yuenyan	Drama Foundations 2	Charlotte McLennan	English Studio 3
Ethan Hodges	Drama Foundations 2	Ehsan Yaghoubi	English as an Additional Language or Dialect 2
Kobi Witte	Music Studies 2	Connor Etchell	English Foundations 2
Georgina Lovell	Musical Theatre 2	Ashlyn Jones	English Foundations 2
Chelsea Osborne	Musical Theatre 2	Sarah Lowe	English Foundations 2
Drew Leguis	Musical Theatre 2	Molly Best	English Inquiry 2
Imogen Prince	Musical Theatre 2	Jayla Boxhall	English Inquiry 2
Jayde Quilliam	Musical Theatre 2	Haylen Venn	Preliminary English Stage 4

Subject Awards

Zali Taylor	UTAS Sport and Recreation Management	Matthew Burns	Computer Applications 2
Manahil Faisal	Health Studies 3	Balian Carpenter	Computer Applications 2
Claire Beams	Sports Science 3	Malachi Catherall	Computer Applications 2
Nicole Bowerman	Athlete Development 2	Jespah Djonlija	Computer Applications 2
Mia Gillies	Athlete Development 2	Kenneth Fuglsang	Computer Applications 2
Danielle Smith	Athlete Development 2	Luke Ilott	Computer Applications 2
Chloe White	Athlete Development 2	Riley Troy	Computer Applications 2
Kobi Witte	Athlete Development 2	Vincent Blazely	Computer Graphics and Design - Foundation 2
Summer Cherdron	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Zahra El Afkar	Computer Graphics and Design - Foundation 2
Sarah Lowe	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Tabitha Eagling	Computer Graphics and Design - Foundation 2
Zaki Tulloch	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Samuel Phillips	Digital Projects 1
Will Andrews	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Brady Lapham	Automotive and Mechanical Technologies 2
Kobe Arrowsmith	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Spencer Hart	Design and Production 2
Lucas Harris	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Olivia Holt	Design and Production 2
Madelin Lyall	Community Sport and Recreation 2	Fletcher Langdon	Design and Production 2
Addi Borradaile	Outdoor Education 2	Brock Williams-Lyden	Workshop Techniques - Introduction 1
Sirach Cornwell	Outdoor Education 2	Bayli Casbault	Food and Hospitality Enterprise 2
April Strating	Outdoor Education 2	Grace Orchard	Food and Hospitality Enterprise 2
Kobe Arrowsmith	Personal Health and Wellbeing 2	Zaki Tulloch	Food and Hospitality Enterprise 2
Maddie Milner	Personal Care 1	Bella Wyndham	Food and Hospitality Enterprise 2
Eason Liu	Chemistry 4	Akia Bune	Food, Cooking and Nutrition 2
Ella Williams	Chemistry 4	Brayden Cox-Pregall	Food, Cooking and Nutrition 2
Eason Liu	Physics 4	Sally Grace	Food and Cooking Essentials 1
Eason Liu	Biology 3	Hamish Kleyn	Mathematics Specialised 4
Marcus Kelly	Environmental Science 3	Ella Williams	Mathematics Methods 4
Mikaela Yetman	Physical Sciences 3	Mikaela Yetman	Mathematics Methods - Foundation 3
Claire Beams	Biology 2	Claire Beams	General Mathematics 3
Kenneth Fuglsang	Accounting 3	Zoe Clark	General Mathematics 3
Marcus Kelly	Accounting 3	Addison Milner	General Mathematics 3
Kenneth Fuglsang	Legal Studies 3	Taylah Richards	General Mathematics 3
Kenneth Fuglsang	Modern History 3	Jayla Boxhall	General Mathematics 2
Manahil Faisal	Psychology 3	Akia Bune	General Mathematics 2
Freya Hall	Sociology 3	Sarah Lowe	General Mathematics 2
Danielle Smith	Sociology 3	James Willebrand	General Mathematics 2
Molly Best	Business Studies - Foundation 2	Haile Lowe	General Mathematics 2
Malachi Catherall	Business Studies - Foundation 2	Grace Orchard	General Mathematics 2
Paige Binns	Introduction to Sociology and Psychology 2	Molly Best	Essential Mathematics - Personal 2
Gloria Chapman	Introduction to Sociology and Psychology 2	Lauren Hughes-Kitto	Essential Mathematics - Personal 2
Zoe Clark	Introduction to Sociology and Psychology 2	Haylen Venn	Preliminary Mathematics Stage 4
Caitlyn Graham	Introduction to Sociology and Psychology 2	Nico Ferguson	Student Directed Inquiry 3
Zoe Clark	Legal Studies - Foundation 2		
Reny Noyes	Pathways to Work 1		







Students' First Day

Students stepped into Term 1 with sunshine on their backs and big things ahead. Day 1 was full of positives as students explored the campus, got to know their classmates and teachers, and started settling into their subjects. Excitement was in the air, with students looking forward to a year full of learning, skill building, friendships, and new experiences. Thank you to everyone who contributed to a positive start to the year, particularly our amazing barbecue volunteers.



Stay in the Loop

Download the Newstead College SZapp from your app store, follow us on social media and sign up for Newstead College eNews to stay up to date on the latest college information, news, upcoming events, and more.



Valentine's Day

On Valentine's Day, students and staff were encouraged to wear red, pink and/or white to spread the love. Balloons and heart-shaped sunglasses filled the Caff at recess time as students shared what they love in their lives. We heart NC!

Here's what our community is loving right now:



New in 2025, the Enrichment Program at Newstead College provides students with the opportunity to enrol in one regular Enrichment activity to be delivered during Support Group, either for one term or over multiple terms. A variety of activities are available, such as Japanese, Learn to Knit, Music Ensemble, Futsal, Mindfulness/Meditation and much more.

The Enrichment program runs from Week 6 to Week 10. Attendance is compulsory.

Enrichment activities will take place in small group settings, and will enable students to:

- Gain micro credentials
- Learn life skills
- Learn a new skill
- Focus on their health and wellbeing
- Build positive relationships with peers and teachers

Newstead's New Staff Members



Introducing Sam

Hi! I'm Sam and I'm super excited to join the Newstead team, teaching maths and science this year. I grew up in Queensland and taught maths and physics there for ten years before moving here with my family. I've been teaching at Queechy for the last seven years, so have only moved about five minutes down the road!

In my spare time I love getting outdoors, bushwalking and gardening. Looking forward to an awesome year!

Introducing Chris

It's "Back to the future" for me!

After three years at Launceston College as a Quality Teaching Coach, I've returned to Newstead College to teach English 3 and Literature. I have a passion for old books and the texts that have shaped us as a nation and the culture we all live in.

Previously at Newstead I taught English, Media Studies and Performing Arts for many years. I enjoy helping students to improve their reading, writing and speaking skills, especially for the career and life goals they aspire to.



Introducing Amy

Hi, my name is Amy and I'm the new Library Technician. For the past few years I have been working with Libraries Tasmania at Launceston Library, so I arrive with library experience but am new to the school setting. I'm really excited to be here, and am looking forward to getting to know you all and learning about how the library can support you and your students.

I have a PhD in medical history, and recently completed my Grad Dip in library studies. I live in Legana with my husband and two sons (aged 17 and 19), two cats and four chickens. I love sewing, gardening and different types of craft, and of course reading!

Introducing Mark

I am new to Newstead this year in the Design & Technologies area. I have been teaching at Cressy over the last nine years. Before that, I was teaching at Kings Meadows High School and Prospect High School, as well as overseas in London.

My wife, Nicole, is also a teacher, and we have a son and daughter who are 7 and 4. We enjoy travelling and exploring new places and going to restaurants as a family. We also like being active by playing sport, mountain biking, camping and bush walking.

I am keen to make a difference at Newstead and work with a new team.



Introducing Richard

My name is Richard, and I am the new School Psychologist at Newstead College. I have worked in all the other colleges in northern Tasmania and am excited to finally get to work here!

My work focuses on encouraging student attendance and engagement through mental health support and assessment of any underlying learning or behavioural factors that could be impacting. I work one-on-one with students and liaise with families and external organisations where necessary to help make college life a bit easier to manage. Where I can, I also try to help college staff to develop appropriate adjustments that will help with exams and other class work.

I provide a confidential space and therapeutic interventions for students who are suffering from poor mental health so they can better cope with the demands of school, home and the community.



Introducing Katia

My name is Katia and I've joined the English teaching team at Newstead College. I did my Years 11 and 12 at Newstead College (or, as it was known then, Alanvale College) and am delighted to be teaching here this year.

I have taught in a few schools in the Launceston region, such as Prospect High, Launceston College, St Patrick's College, Scotch Oakburn College and UTAS in the School of Education. I have been on a few educational committees in the Northern Tas region and extended my own skill-based knowledge in this area through post-grad work and published research.

I can truly say that I enjoy teaching young adults and helping them pursue their dreams through education. I look forward to working with you and/or your children this year.



Introducing Coby

I am thrilled to be teaching English and Behavioural Studies at Newstead College. I have worked in education for 23 years and during this time had a variety of roles (including teacher, careers advisor, literacy support and more).

My career began on the North-West Coast of Tasmania, teaching at Hellyer College. In 2010, I took 12 months off to travel, visiting America, Canada, China and the Northern Territory. I relocated to the south of the state in 2012 and worked in a childcare centre before resuming my teaching at Rosny College.

My family settled in Launceston in 2023. For the past 12 months I have been employed as a relief teacher across numerous schools, including Indie School, Launceston Big Picture School and Newstead College.

Outside of school, I am completing house renovations and backyard projects. I enjoy watching sport (particularly netball, basketball and tennis) and reading a good crime novel.



Introducing Nigel

I'm Nurse Nige, one of the School Health Nurses at Newstead College. As with all School Health Nurses, our focus is on creating a physical and social environment that promotes health and wellbeing, and that assists to improve the health and education outcomes for children and young people in Tasmania. I'm always happy for a chat to see how I can help.

Personally, I like to potter around; you know, old cars and things, taking things apart, hence lies a problem in that I do struggle to put things back together again (with nothing left over)!

Look forward to seeing you around the school and cheers for now.



Introducing Tara

I am Tara Langerak and I am one of the Learning Support TA's. My background is in hairdressing, but I have spent the last many years raising my three children and doing the administration for my husband's business.

Last year I completed the Cert III Education Support course at TAFE and was lucky enough to pick up some relief work and complete my practical placement here at Newstead College. I loved every minute of working here and I am excited to be back this year.

Outside of work I love to read, relax at our shack and spend quality time with my family. I am also kept busy looking after my fur babies, Lola the Great Dane and Toby the Border Collie.



Introducing Sam

My name is Sam Clark and I am a TA, working with our amazing Learning Support team for my second year at Newstead College. I'm originally from Hawkesbury in NSW, having moved here nearly three years ago. I decided on a career change (in mid-life!) and went on to study at TAFE, before joining NC. I find it really rewarding to work with our students, and I learn from them every day.

I share my life with my red heeler and black cat, enjoying gardening and a variety of different crafts in my free time.



Introducing Jaydon

I'm originally from Western Australia and find myself in the fortunate position of taking the role of Health and Physical Education Teacher for Term 1. My partner and I are currently halfway through our lap of Australia and purposefully chose Tasmania to stop and work for this time of year. We fell in love with Launceston when we first arrived here in December and knew this was the place to stay over our next few months in this beautiful state.

Prior to leaving our home in Western Australia, I worked as an Outdoor Education Teacher at a range of schools in Perth for four years. I was able to work in the outdoors throughout Western Australia and in many locations people chose to spend their holidays!

I look forward to my short time here and can't wait to see what my classes can achieve!



Introducing Ricki

I am the new Wood and Automotive Technician here at Newstead College. I am a qualified Boilermaker/Welder with a Diploma in Community Service. I worked with adults with disability at Eskleigh Home for 20 years, including 12 coordinating the Resident Leisure Program, discovering my enjoyment of tinkering with wood and cars. A major activity was fully restoring a 1956 Vauxhall which was a very rewarding experience.

I worked in aged care assessment and support services for 12 years, and in 2020 I joined Cressy District High School in the Technology Department with Mark Lockwood, as well as a Learning Support Teacher Assistant. I "retired" at the end of 2023 but decided I still wanted to do something more, so here I am.

I am married to a wonderful and generous lady named Heather. I'm lucky to have 2 awesome daughters and partners and two beautiful granddaughters who keep life interesting. We have a caravan at the beach which is our happy place. We get there as often as we can.



Meet the Cast of *SIX: Teen Edition*

The creative team working on our 2025 major musical production, *SIX: Teen Edition*, have been overwhelmed with the talent of our cast of 27 students.

For that reason, the team has decided to cast understudies for each of the Queens, so the talent has an opportunity to be recognised.

We cannot wait to share our show with the public in the Newstead College Auditorium, in the second week of Term Three:

30 July - 2 August

Catherine of Aragon – Ella
Understudy – Brianna

Anne Boleyn – Sophia
Understudy – Kamryn

Jane Seymour – Chloe
Understudy – Layla

Anne of Cleves – Taylah
Understudy – Ash

Katherine Howard – Mia
Understudy – Ev

Catherine Parr – Tahlia
Understudy – Jordyn



ArtRage Excursion

Pre-tertiary Photography students visited the 2024 ArtRage Exhibition at the Art Gallery at Royal Park, where they explored an inspiring collection of artworks. The pieces on display were selected from 1,200 bodies of work created by learners across 28 Tasmanian schools and colleges who studied Level 3 courses Art Studio Practice and Visual Art 3.

“All mediums are covered,” Teacher Jen said. “This is a fantastic educational opportunity for these students to see what is expected of them by the end of the year.”

As part of the excursion, students were tasked with selecting bodies of work that stood out to them.

“They’re selecting two artworks, which they’ll write their first written piece for the year on,” Jen said. “They will do a review of ArtRage.”

The 2024 exhibition features works by Newstead College students Luke, Elloise, Addison, Bayli and Vincent. It is on show until 27 April 2025, with free entry.



Launching into Languages

Newstead College is pleased to offer a range of Language courses in 2025 through a unique pilot program launched in partnership with the University of Tasmania (UTAS). Japanese, Chinese, German and Latin are offered as introductory university courses which can be counted towards students' TCE and, in some cases, credited into a university degree.

The program's very first cohort will learn together as one class, headed by Teacher Gemma Burns, breaking out into smaller course-specific groups for concentrated learning. UTAS Interim Head of Humanities Jonathon Wallace was excited to meet the students on a recent visit to the College.

"It's a really exciting opportunity," Dr Wallace said. "The great thing about learning a language is being able to share it with other people. So it's a real treasure to be able to have such a big group learning languages together."

"It doesn't matter if you're learning different languages – all languages are about communication. In one big class, you can share and swap ideas."

During the year, students will gain a basic ability to speak in their chosen language. They will also learn about the culture that the language represents.

"Many students said they're learning a language because they have an interest in Japanese culture, for instance, or they're going to Germany, or they have family who come from that culture," Dr Wallace said. "Learning a language gives them better access to all those things."

Newstead College appreciates the support of UTAS in making language studies available in an enjoyable and enriching format.

"It's a new initiative and so I'm so proud of these young people for putting their hands up to be part of it," Dr Wallace said. "Hopefully it will be a great success and we have the opportunity to do it for more students in the future."



International Students Welcome



Newstead College is delighted to welcome a wonderful new group of international students, who come to us from Italy, Argentina, Brazil, Japan and the Philippines. The group are embracing everything Australia and Tasmania have to offer, visiting wildlife parks with their host families, enjoying the sunshine, and playing volleyball after school.

These young people bring a world of perspectives to our campus and are a valued part of our student population. If you see them around campus, be sure to say hello.

Back row: Juliette, Noemi, Camilla, Anna, Mone, Shaira and Hayashi
Front row: Antonia, Raffaella and Wilker



Newstead College DRIVING FOR JOBS

The Driving for Jobs (Dfj) Program at Newstead College is a free service for eligible students who want to gain their learner 'L' or provisional 'P' driver licence.

Dfj can help students to:

- successfully complete the learner driver knowledge test to gain an 'L' licence
- build up the required hours to take the provisional ('P') driving assessment if students have difficulty finding someone to be a supervisory driver or don't have access to a suitable vehicle.

Enrolment is easy: Visit Leanne in the Dfj office (in the Library) on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, or pick up an expression of interest form from the Library at any time.

We encourage all students to participate in the Dfj Program, and if you are unsure about your eligibility, please ask. This is a valuable student resource that encourages and assists students through the new graduated licensing system. It also has a strong road safety focus, which produces more skilled, knowledgeable and respectful drivers who are prepared to handle all situations encountered on the roads.

Leanne Morrison

Newstead College Program Officer – Driving for Jobs

Email: leanne.morrison@decyp.tas.gov.au

Phone: (03) 6332 3290



Tutorial Program

Newstead College is committed to ensuring all students have the opportunity to gain the best possible results and the best chance of success. The College has an extensive Tutorial Program which covers every Level 3 and 4 subject, as well as some VET Programs.

In these weekly tutorials, students can receive extra assistance for an assignment, individual explanations of the class work, further practice of exam papers and homework support.

Tutorials are necessary for students who have missed classes or who might not be achieving as well as required. Teachers will send reminders to parents if students should be attending tutorials. We urge parents to promote attendance at tutorials with their student as a proven way of improving their results. The Tutorial Program for this year is up and running and a copy of it will be posted home.

Lunchtime Activities

Level up your lunchtime by getting involved in activities happening around campus.

- Sports in the gym, on the oval and on the tennis courts
- Books, board games, card games, colouring in and computers in the Library
- Chess in the courtyard
- esports gaming lab in Room 96.



ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY

Every lesson a student misses impacts their learning and their chance of gaining a Satisfactory Achievement award in their subjects and attaining the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE).

Newstead College is an adult learning environment and in preparing students for work, where they need to explain absences generally with a medical certificate, we emphasise that students have valid explanations for their absences. We value parents' and carers' assistance in helping students to maintain a 100% attendance record and explain any absences.

We realise there are times when students are ill or have other authorised reasons for being absent. If students are absent due to illness and attend a doctor, it is preferable that a medical certificate is obtained and forwarded to the College Office. Some absences, including absences of 5 consecutive days or more, require a medical certificate before they can be authorised.

How to explain student absences

We would like explanations for student absences on the day the student is absent. Please provide us with the name of student, times or lines absent and a full explanation. You will receive an SMS or email alert if your child is absent from school requesting a response.

Ways to explain absences:

- Respond to the text message or email you receive by completing the form
- Email: newstead.college@decyp.tas.gov.au
- Phone the College Office on 6332 3232
- Student provides a note signed by their parent/guardian to the College Office when they return

If there are unexplained absences or errors on the printout you receive each term, please write on the printout, sign and date it, and return it to our College Office.

If you change your mobile number, please let the College Office know. This is important to ensure you receive text messages and also for emergencies.

If you would like to discuss attendance concerns, please phone your student's Support Group Teacher or Assistant Principal.

In the Classroom

Term 1 was packed with hands-on learning across campus as students dove into their courses and practised new skills. Here are some of the highlights from the first few weeks.

- Biology 3 students familiarised themselves with the tools of biology, using a microscope to examine cells and tissues
- Certificate II in Community Services (Health Focus) students put on their scrubs for the first time, ready to jump into practical training with our simulated patient
- Dance students in the auditorium created an energetic routine based on the syllables of each class member's name
- Certificate II in Salon Assistant students used combs and clips to section hair in their first practical session for the year
- Photography students used handmade pinhole cameras to capture long-exposure images, which they then developed in the darkroom.



It's Breakfast Time

The Breakfast Club runs every morning in the Caff from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

Toast, fruit and a selection of hot drinks are available. Breakfast Club is **FREE** for all students, so please help yourself.

**Please remember
to clean up afterwards.**



Bones Pre-Tertiary Art Exhibition



The Newstead College Pre-Tertiary Art Exhibition, *Bones*, showcases and celebrates the hard work and artistic journeys of talented Art Studio Practice and Visual Art Level 3 students. The 2024 cohort demonstrated an outstanding level of skill, commitment and creativity, producing a collection of diverse and dynamic visual outcomes.



Bones is on show in the College gallery. Community members are welcome to visit campus to view the exhibition during school hours.

SEAMS Camp

In January, Year 12 students Akia and Zahra had the incredible opportunity to attend the Strengthening Engagement and Achievement in Mathematics and Science (SEAMS) camp at Monash University. Selected through a competitive application process, they took part in academic sessions and hands-on workshops to prepare them for Maths Methods, Chemistry and Physics subjects. They were also able to experience university life firsthand.

Akia:

“What started as a short trip quickly became a defining moment of 2025. I’m beyond grateful for the chance to learn from brilliant professors and student mentors from Australia’s top-ranked universities – Monash University and The University of Melbourne. From engaging discussions about university pathways to tackling complex Maths Methods problems and conducting an electrochemistry practical on galvanic cells, every moment was eye-opening!

“Beyond academics, SEAMS provided a glimpse into university life – staying in on-campus accommodation, exploring Monash’s world-class facilities, and meeting like-minded students from Victoria and Tasmania. The supportive environment made learning exciting, and I left feeling more confident and motivated for Year 12.”

Zahra:

“Participating in the SEAMS program after my first chemistry and maths classes at Monash University was an exciting experience. The hands-on chemistry class focused on redox reactions through experiments with galvanic cells, while the maths classes encouraged analytical thinking. A standout moment was our maths teacher’s unexpected one-person *Star Wars* show, which brilliantly explained mathematical concepts in a fun way. His creativity made maths seem less intimidating and sparked my interest in science and maths, leaving me eager to explore these fields further.

“I was accepted into the program after being part of Monash’s mentorship program.”



Introducing the School Support and Wellbeing Team

The School Support and Wellbeing Team is made up of the two Assistant Principals, the Learning Support Team Leader, an Engagement Officer, a Social Worker, Nurses, a Psychologist and a Safeguarding Lead. The team provides a wide range of services to support students' academic life and wellbeing.



Safeguarding Lead/Assistant Principal/Wellbeing Team Leader - Linda Goss
03 6332 3276 linda.goss@decyp.tas.gov.au

In my tenth year at Newstead College, I am the Assistant Principal responsible for Student Support. As Wellbeing Team Leader for the College, I work closely with our Student Wellbeing Team and the broader school community in providing a range of supports to students to retain and engage students in education. Please contact me with any questions or concerns about students' wellbeing and attendance.

Oversees Support Groups 7–16 and 100LG.



Assistant Principal - Brad Cottam

03 6332 3280 bradley.cottam@decyp.tas.gov.au

I am the Assistant Principal responsible for Curriculum at Newstead College. Currently in my 13th year at the College, I oversee our teaching, learning, assessment and attainment, while also teaching Athlete Development 2. If there's anything we can do to support your child's learning and attainment, or if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Oversees Support Groups 18–28.



Advanced Skills Teacher / Learning Support Team Leader - Rachael Spencer

03 6332 3209 rachael.spencer@decyp.tas.gov.au

As the AST responsible for the Learning Support Program at Newstead College, I work closely with our students with disabilities to ensure they receive the support and resources they need to succeed at college. This includes working alongside classroom teachers and teacher assistants to support them in making appropriate educational adjustments, in consultation with families and carers and specialist support staff. Please contact me with any questions or concerns relating to students with disabilities.



School Social Worker - Laura Willes

03 6332 3225 0437 775 042 laura.willes@decyp.tas.gov.au

I completed a Bachelor of Social Work (UTAS) in 2018. My practice is strengths and relationship based with experience working with young people therapeutically. As the School Social Worker, I support students with mental health, youth justice, housing, relationships, safety planning, study and stress management, in addition to referrals to external support providers.

On campus Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.



School Psychologist - Richard McMinn

03 6332 3205 richard.mcminn@decyp.tas.gov.au

As the college psychologist, I provide interventions to support students' learning outcomes, wellbeing and participation at school. With professional skills in child, adolescent and school issues, I provide counselling, therapy and programs for our school community as well as assessments for developmental, cognitive and educational functioning.

On campus Tuesday and Thursday.

**School Health Nurse - Julie Edrich**03 6332 3258 julie.edrich@decyp.tas.gov.au

I am a registered nurse and worked in hospital and community nursing before coming to the School Health Nurse Program in 2021. I am passionate about helping students to learn about, understand and manage their physical and mental health and wellbeing. I can help you find the right supports when you need them and help you understand things about health that you aren't sure about. Come and pay me a visit.

On campus alternate Wednesdays and every Thursday.

School Health Nurse - Louise Webster03 6332 3258 louise.webster@decyp.tas.gov.au

As one of the School Health nurses I am passionate about empowering young people to make informed choices and decisions about their health and wellbeing. I can assist students with access to local health services, referrals and appointments. I am available to see students 1:1 for any health related concerns, while also delivering programs and health promotion sessions in the classroom.

On campus Monday, Tuesday and alternate Fridays (even weeks).

School Health Nurse - Nigel Donoghue03 6332 3286 nigel.donoghue@decyp.tas.gov.au

My aim is to create a physical and social environment that assists to improve the health and education outcomes for young people – that's you. I'm passionate about helping students with medical conditions, specifically supporting and assistance with medical action plans. I also give students "that person they can turn to" when things are not going right. I'm always happy for a chat to see how I can help so if you're unsure, just reach out. Looking forward to seeing you around the school and cheers for now.

On campus alternate Wednesdays and Fridays.

Youth Worker (Yr 11/12 Engagement & Attendance) - Natasha Brewer03 6332 3224 natasha.brewer@decyp.tas.gov.au

As the College Youth Worker (Engagement and Attendance), I work with students, parents/carers, Assistant Principals, teachers in high school and colleges assisting young people to commence and remain in education via a range of supports. I have been helping deliver transition and engagement programs in education and industry settings for more than 20 years.

On campus Monday to Wednesday.



The Student Wellbeing Team is here to support you!

To find and submit a self-referral form, simply:

- Scan the QR code pictured here or from one of the posters displayed around the college
- Visit the Student Resources page on the Newstead College website

You'll need to be logged in to your Education account to access the form.



School Health Nurse
Contact Form



Student self-referral
for Newstead College
Wellbeing Team

nec.studentsupport@decyp.tas.gov.au



Newstead College Dates

TERM 1: THURSDAY 6 FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 11 APRIL

14 March	Interim Reports mailed home
26 March	Meet the Teacher Evening, 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm
26 March	College Association Annual General Meeting, 6.00 pm
18 - 22 April	Easter Break

TERM 2: MONDAY 28 APRIL - FRIDAY 4 JULY

6 June	Moderation Day (<i>No Classes</i>)
9 June	King's Birthday (<i>Public Holiday</i>)
Weeks 9 and 10	Mid-year Examinations

TERM 3: MONDAY 21 JULY - 26 SEPTEMBER

30 July - 2 August	Production - <i>SIX: Teen Edition</i>
TBC	Newstead College Ball

TERM 4: MONDAY 14 OCTOBER - FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER

3 November	Public Holiday
7 November	Last day of formal classes
10 - 20 November	Students completing final assessments for Level 1 & 2 subjects
10 - 20 November	TASC Examinations for Levels 3 and 4

EXCELLENCE | OPPORTUNITY | SUCCESS



Meet the Teacher Evening

Newstead College invites all parents/carers to meet their student's teachers.
This is an informal evening, so appointments are not needed.

Wednesday 26 March, 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm
In the Newstead College Caff



30 Cypress St, Launceston TAS 7250
Phone: 03 6332 3232
Email: newstead.college@decyp.tas.gov.au
Web: newsteadcollege.education.tas.edu.au