

## **Principal's Message**

# James Cook Boys Technology High School

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**Term 4 2022** 

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### **Principal - Mark Marciniak**

As we quickly move toward the last week of school, I would like to thank our parents, staff, and students for once again an exceptional year of learning and school improvement. Considering the ongoing complexities of managing the iterations of COVID 19 and the impact of staff absence during the year. Despite these challenges we were still able to achieve recognition for the impact we made on student learning through NAPLAN and continued to make progress on improving our school facilities through our successful grant application with the P&C for the school oval lighting, approval for the refurbishment of the STEM building to be converted into a new food tech facility and the conversion of rooms in the Maths/Science building to cater for the establishment of our new autism classes in 2023 and 2024.

During the last week of school students and staff we will have an opportunity to participate in activities week, whilst Year 10 are at Work Experience. Congratulations to all the students who were rewarded for their efforts throughout the year who attended our semesterly rewards excursion last Friday. Also, congratulations to all the students who will be receiving an award at our annual Presentation Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

I wish all our students, parents and staff a happy and restful Christmas Holiday break and I look forward to seeing everyone for another great year of learning and school improvement in 2023.

#### Year 6 to 7 Transition Day and Year 5 Taster Days

Over the last four weeks JCBTHS coordinated with Moorefield Girls High School to provide students in Year 5 from our local primary schools the opportunity to attend our schools and experience high school learning. Year 5 students that attended JCBTHS participated in science lessons, gas propelled car races, HSIE and English activities as well as PDHPE lessons.

Year 5 Taster Days occurred in some cases in conjunction with Year 6 Orientation Day for students that were unable to attend on 29<sup>th</sup> of November. In both circumstances it was lovely to meet and greet the students and parents whose sons will be starting school next year and the Year 5 students.

#### **Raging Waters Excursion**

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> of November our Year 7 students were treated to a day out at Raging Waters fun park. This was an opportunity organised by the PDHPE faculty to allow the students to have some fun, cool off and learn about water safety as well as recognition for all their hard work during their first successful year at high school.

#### Positive news story

JCBTHS featured in The Daily Telegraph on 30<sup>th</sup> of November. The article focused on our strong and consistent results in NAPLAN over the last five years. The school's success is primarily due to the explicit teaching of Literacy through the evidenced based program Reading to Learn or Learning Through Reading and Writing. Every teacher has undergone extensive professional learning in this program. It is therefore the responsibility of every teacher to teach Literacy in their classes. In 2023 we will be having a renewed focus on the teaching of Literacy as well as implementing our whole school approach to teaching Numeracy across all faculties.

Next year NAPLAN will take place earlier in the year (Term 1 Week 8, 18<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of March). The change of date will allow schools and parents to receive results earlier in the year and for schools to use the data to inform teaching and learning strategies to support student learning.

#### **Collection of TTP and school loan laptops**

We are currently in the process of collecting all school laptops that have been issued through our Technology Transition Program (TTP) for students in Year 7 and 8 and any long-term laptops lent to students in Year 9 to 11.

If your son still has a school laptop, can you please ensure it is returned by the end of this week. It is important that we have all laptops returned so they can be provided to students for short term loans next year.

A reminder that students transitioning to Year 9 will need to purchase their own laptop for 2023. Year 7 students moving into Year 8 will be provided the same laptop that they were issued with this year in the first weeks of school in 2023.

#### **P&C Morning Tea**

Thank you for all the work the P&C have done to support the school during the year. The P&C have been actively involved in raising funds for the school and applying for grants. Last Friday they attended our morning tea and provided desserts for all the staff and Christmas hampers to each faculty.

The staff at JCBTHS greatly appreciates the work they have done over the last twelve months as well their generosity and recognition.

#### Activities Week -December 12th Week 10

This year we will be able to recommence our end of year activities. The schedule for Week 10, will include a variation of swim school for the junior students, activities such as the movies, sports days, rock climbing, Luna Park, an adventure day, Work Experience week for Year 10 and Year 11/12 Assessment week.

Activities Week provides an opportunity for students to experience learning activities outside of the classroom and develop positive relationships with their peers and teachers. It also allows our senior students (Year 11 starting Year 12) to have an immersive week of learning to complete their first assessment task for Year 12.

#### **Presentation Day**

To acknowledge our students' achievements throughout the year we will be having our annual Presentation Day Ceremony on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of December in the school hall. Parents/Carers of students receiving an award would have received their invitation to attend. All parents and families are most welcome to attend.

A reminder if you have received an invitation to attend could you please RSPVP as soon as possible for catering purposes.

All parents attending are required to meet in the school library before 11am. The Presentation Day Assembly will be from 11am to 1pm.

Please note there is no parking onsite. Parking is available on Lachal Avenue or surrounding streets or on the other side of the Princes Highway at Kogarah. Student helpers will be available at school to provide directions to the Library.

Final Academic Reports for 2022 will also be issued to any parents who are present on the day, after the ceremony. Parents/carers not in attendance will have their son/s reports emailed home with a hardcopy also being posted. Unfortunately, we will not be holding parent teacher interviews for the end of year reports. If you would like an update on your son's academic progress, please contact the school and ask to speak with your son's Year Advisor and a progress report and meeting can be arranged.

#### Important dates for 2022

Last day for students for 2022 is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of December HSC and ATAR results are to be released on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> of December Last day for teaching and non-teaching staff is Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of December

#### Term 1 2023 dates

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of January are staff only days
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> of January Year 7, 11 and 12 return to school
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of February all year groups return.
Please refer to the school's website calendar for important dates in 2023.

#### Staff changes

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Permanent teachers leaving	Ms L Cantril	Music	End of 2022
New permanent Teachers	Ms D. Roditis	English	Commenced Term 3
	Ms S Kosmas	English	Commencing Term 1 2023
	Ms A Leeming	English	Commencing Term 1 2023
	Mr A Karagiannidis	Support class	Commencing Term 1 2023
	Ms C Rong	Music	Commencing Term 1 2023

For the latest updates, information, news, and pictures of school activities please follow us on Facebook (James Cook Boys Technology High School) or access our webpage at <a href="https://jamescookb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/">https://jamescookb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/</a>