



Principal's Message

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Term 4 wk 1 2023

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Principal - Mark Marciniak

Welcome back to Term 4, I hope everybody had a safe and restful holiday. Although we are commencing the last term of the year the expectation for all students is to continue to engage in their learning and to achieve their best. All year groups except for Year 11, who will be starting Year 12 this term will be completing their final assessments for the year. This is an opportunity for all students to demonstrate evidence of their learning in preparation for the final reports for 2023.

Last term JCBTHS was acknowledged for their outstanding work in improving student literacy results at the Minister's and Secretary's Awards Night at Sydney Town Hall. It was a privilege to accept the award on behalf of the school and to be publicly recognised for improving student learning.

New Mobile Phone policy

Commencing day 1 Term 4 all secondary schools in NSW will comply with the State Government's new mobile phone policy that prohibits the use of mobile phones by students during school hours. James Cook Boys Technology High School disseminated our new mobile phone policy to all parents and carers and facilitated information workshops to all students and staff in preparation for Term 4. We are confident the new mobile phone policy will enhance student engagement in the classroom by minimising distractions and support student socialisation and wellbeing in the playground. Further information can be found on our school's website https://jamescookb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/supporting-our-students/mobile_phone_policy_and_implementation.html

Driveway drop off

During the holidays the school had the front driveway gates completed meaning they are now automated. The gates will remain opened in the morning until 8:45am after that time they will be closed for the rest of the day. If you need to enter the school carpark after 8:45am please press the intercom near front of the gates to speak with the office staff.

The designated school drop off zone remains to be on the other side of the Princes Highway walk-bridge on Hogben Street. This is the safest place to drop off your son if he is traveling by car.

The school driveway on the Princes Highway is not a safe place to drop of your child. It is recommended that you use Hogben Street or continue around to Marshall Street near Moorefield Girls High School for a safe drop off zone.

Student laptops

JCBTHS is committed to providing every student equitable access to technology. To support this every student in Years 7 and 8 are provided with their own school laptop. Once students transition into Year 9 and above they are responsible for purchasing their own laptop. If they are not in a financial position to purchase one the school can provide short term and long-term loans upon request. It is the student's responsibility to bring their laptop and charger to school every day as part of their learning equipment. Students will need to use their laptops in most of their classes and students will be required to bring their laptops to fully engage in their learning.

Supporting your son's learning through Google classroom

Last term we launched our new Google classroom structures to provide consistency in how your sons' classroom teachers set out subject learning activities, weekly homework, and assessment tasks. To support your son's learning you can access your son's Google Classrooms using your son's password, there you can see the work he has completed in class during each week and check to see if he has completed his homework and if there are any assessment tasks due. We will continue to present this information to parents when they visit the school as a well providing an instructional video that will be located on the school's website.

JCBTHS Showcase

This term we are planning to hold a Student and School Showcase. The event will provide an opportunity for students to display their work to the parents and the community along with the official public opening of our new STEM/Food Technology building. We are in the process of finalising the date and further information will be provided shortly.

Year 12 2023 Graduation and the HSC

Congratulations to our Year 12 students and their parents and carers. We had fantastic evening on Tuesday 19th of September at the Motorboat Club at Sans Souci celebrating the success of our young men. We wish them the best of luck in their HSC exams that commence on Wednesday 11th of October.

Capturing parent voice

This term we will be sending information to parents and carers to participate in completing a survey that will provide the school with pertinent information from a parental perspective. This information will be used as valuable feedback to evaluate the school's process, procedures, and policy to make future improvements. We look forward to providing this information to you and receiving your feedback.

Parents and Community (P&C) meeting

P&C meetings are usually held once a term after school in the common room and everyone is welcome to attend. P&C meetings are a great opportunity for parents to get know each other and to find out more about what is going on at school and to work collaboratively with the school on joint initiatives and or fund raise. This term we will be having two meeting on Wednesday the 18th of October and Wednesday the 22nd of November. If you would like further information, please contact JCBTHS' P&C President Ms Irene Omeros at jcbhspc@gmail.com

Upcoming events

Term 4 resumes for all students	Monday 9 th of October
Higher School Certificate commences	Wednesday 11 th of October
Year 11 School camp to the Blue Mountains	Wednesday 18 th to Friday 20 th of October
Year 12 2024 assessment information and report evening	Tuesday 31 st of October 4:30 to 6:30pm
Say No to domestic violence walk	Friday 24 th of November
Semester 2 rewards excursion	Friday 1 st of December
Activity and Year 10 work experience week	Monday 11 th to 15 th of December
Higher School Certificate and ATAR released	Thursday 14 th of December
Presentation Day and last day of term for students	Friday 15 th of December
Last day for school staff	Tuesday 20 th of December
School resumes for students in Years 7,11 and 12	Thursday 1 st of February
School resumes for students in Years 8,9 and 10	Friday 2 nd of February

Let's positively start Term 4 with a focus on improving school attendance.

We want to do all we can to be sure your child achieves their potential and enjoys being in school.

We know that school is the best place to learn. By attending school every day your child will get the most out of their learning and improve their career and life options.

When your child is absent it is important you let the school know, including the reason why, on the day or the day before. This helps make sure we know where our students are and offer support for you and your family if needed.

If you are having trouble getting your child to school every day or on time, please talk to our school staff so we can work together, because every day counts.

Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up and can negatively impact your child's learning and wellbeing. When your child misses one day a week that's 40 days of school and 8 weeks of learning in one year. Over an entire school journey this adds up to 2.5 years of lost learning.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight**
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

1 day per **week**
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

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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 website at <https://jamescookb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>