



# Principal's Message

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**Term 1 Wk 2 2025**

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## Principal - Mark Marciniak

Welcome to the new school year. I hope that you had a enjoyable and relaxing holiday and a positive start to the new year. 2024 was another exceptional year of student growth and achievement. The students have absolutely excelled in the new teaching and learning spaces in the STEM and Food Technology kitchen. The high levels of engagement and the wonderful examples of student learning is testament to the two fabulous teachers who have maximised the new space to obtain the highest results from all students. I would like to extend my thanks to all the teaching and non-teaching staff who have gone above and beyond in their role descriptions to provide students with the best educational and wellbeing opportunities during the year. I want to also extend my thanks for the handwork, dedication and improvement that all students have made throughout 2024. It was a pleasure to handout so many awards at the Presentation Day assembly on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Congratulations to the recipients and their parents and carers.

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who received their HSC and ATAR results on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2024. Two students made the Distinguished Achievers list, Muhammad Dindar for Mathematics Standard and Society and Culture and Nathaniel Lumapac, for Visual Arts. There were numerous students who received early entry offers to university before the HSC exams. On behalf of the school, I wish all the boys the best in their future endeavours as they transition into university, tertiary studies and meaningful work opportunities.

### **Captain's induction ceremony**

Congratulations to our new student leadership team. The students have already demonstrated their expertise as leaders having now led two whole school events, the Year 12 2024 Graduation Evening and the 2024 School Presentation. I look forward to supporting the students through 2025 to continue to develop their leadership opportunities within and outside the school

### **2024 Accolades**

In 2024 we saw a plethora of sporting excellence across a variety of sports.

Raphael Pilippou was successful in making the Sydney East Cross Country Team to compete at the NSW Combined High Schools Championships.

Our Year 11 student, Jason Besley was selected to represent Australia in the Aussie Roo's Inline Hockey Team at the State Wares 20 tournament in St Louis, Missouri, USA.

On Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of January official communication was distributed to all community members regarding the outcome of the appointment of the new principal that will lead the transition process of combining JCBTHS and MGHS. Ms Sofia Kapsimalis who is the substantive principal at Blakehurst High School will commence the role starting the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2025. Ms Kapsimalis is a highly experienced principal who is committed to leading this process.

During the holidays I was successful in obtaining a secondment to work in the department for twelve months. I will commence my duties on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2025 and my last day at JCBTHS will be on Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2025. Mr Mallios will act in the position of principal of JCBTHS for twelve months until the school is combined with MGHS at the commencement of 2026.

I would like to thank the staff, students, parents/carers and the community for all the support that you have provided me and the school. It has been an honour serving the community as the principal of JCBTHS during the previous ten years and I am extremely proud of our collaborative achievements to continually strive for school excellence.

I wish you all the best in the future and know that the merger of the two schools will be highly successful in meeting the needs of our current and future students from our community.

### IMPORTANT DATES

School Development Days (student free)	Friday 31st Jan, Monday 3rd to 5th Feb
School resumes for all students	Thursday 6th February 2025
School Photo Day	Tuesday 18th of February
P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Tuesday 18th of February 6pm
School Photo Catchup Day	Thursday 20th of February
Year 9 Camp	Wednesday 26th to the Friday the 28th of Feb
St George Zone Swimming Carnival Day 1	Tuesday 4th of March
St George Zone Swimming Carnival Day 2	Thursday 6th of March
NAPLAN Year 7 and 9	Wednesday 3rd of March to the 24th of March
School Athletics Carnival	Friday 21st of March
School Cross Country	Tuesday 8th of April
Last day of Term 1	Friday 11th of April
School Development Days (student free)	Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th of April
School resumes for students	Wednesday 30th of April
Year 7 Camp	Wednesday 30th of April to Friday 2nd of May

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