



Principals Message

James Cook Boys
Technology High School

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Principal - Mark Marciniak

Year 7 Meet the Teacher

Year 7 parents had the opportunity to visit the school and meet their son's teachers during our Meet the Teacher Evening that was held on Tuesday 27th April. Although it wasn't a formal parent teacher meeting it allowed parents to make contact with the teachers and receive an update on the progress their son was making transitioning to high school. Overall Year 7 have made a very positive start to their learning and integrating to JCBTHS. All Year 7 students have undertaken internal literacy and numeracy testing to allow the school to benchmark learning data on each student. This information will assist classroom teachers to be well informed regarding individual learning needs and for the Learning Team to develop strategies to support those students who require additional learning assistance.

NAPLAN 2021

Students in Year 7 and 9 completed their NAPLAN tests during the 11th May to 21st May. This year was the first year students completed the NAPLAN exams online.

NAPLAN test results provide information on how students are performing in the areas of literacy and numeracy and support improvements in teaching and learning. The data from NAPLAN test results gives schools and systems the ability to measure their students' achievements against national minimum standards and expected learning growth between test intervals.

Reports on individual student performance will be provided to all students and parents/carers between August and September.

Elite Athlete Program (EAP)

In alignment with our School's Strategic Improvement Plan 2021 to 2024, JCBTHS' PDHPE faculty are piloting a targeted training program for track and field athletes who displayed talent at our previous Athletics carnival. The program involves providing weekly training sessions in skill development and specific strength training under the guidance of Mr Sawford and our Athletics Coach. The aim of the program is to improve student measurable athletic performance at the Zone Carnival on the 17th June as well as developing intrinsic goal setting and self-efficacy that can be transferable in any learning environment. This year we are sending our largest group of athletes to the Zone Carnival and we wish them all the best in their chosen events.

P&C Information

Last week I accompanied JCBTHS' P&C President, Mrs Omeros to the Bayside Community Grants Awards

presentation evening. It was an honour to be invited to the presentation to accept the award for all the hard work the P&C have undertaken throughout the year. The grant money in conjunction with money raised from the P&C BBQ at Rockdale Bunnings on the 22nd May will contribute to the purchase of two water refill stations for students. A second P&C fundraiser BBQ to raise additional funds for the school quadrangle beautification program will be held later in the year. The P&C Committee have also initiated a Return and Earn recycle plastic bottle initiative to help raise funds for the school and reduce the amount of plastic waste in our community. The commitment and enthusiasm by the P&C committee has been extraordinary during this year.

On behalf of the P&C I welcome and encourage more parents to become involved in the P&C. Meetings are held once a term with extraordinary planning meetings held when necessary. The next P&C meeting will be on Wednesday 4th August starting at 5:30pm. Previous meeting minutes and information are available from the School's Website.

Primary School Robotics Program

This term JCBTHS recommenced its popular Primary School Robotics program. The program provides students from our local primary schools the opportunity to be immersed in STEM learning for the day and develop a connection to the school. For many students it is their first opportunity to experience learning in a high school environment and many of the students who visit will nominate JCBTHS as their school of choice when selecting their high school. The program also provides a leadership opportunity for our students to showcase their expertise and talents in teaching Lego Robotics to their primary school peers.

Building work

During this term the school has undergone a significant degree of building maintenance and improvement work. The work that has been completed thus far is the painting of the administration block, the internal area of the school hall, all the upstairs rooms in B Block (English area) as well the corridors and stairwells. Currently the painters are working their way through C Block (History area). During the upcoming school holidays they will be painting the internal area of the boys toilet block. A new roof has been installed on the administration block and the workmen have almost finished the installation of the roof on the school hall. Our school tennis courts are under repair and by the end of the school holidays it will have a new synthetic multicourt surface that will cater for tennis, mini soccer and volley ball.

We have officially received our Food Technology demountable building and it is currently having services connected. It is anticipated that the installation will be complete by the end of this term or on the holidays. Once this is completed we will be purchasing the necessary resources to finish the fit out. We are anticipating to run some extra-curricular classes in Term 3 and 4 before officially offering Food Technology in Years 7 and 8 or as an elective in Years 9 and 10 in 2022 as part of our curriculum pattern.

Shopfront theatre program

Nominated students have starting working with Shopfront Arts Co-op facilitators this term. Students have been guided through the process of working collaboratively to create a series of short films beginning with the provocation, *in this new normal, how important is our connection to place and identity*. Once completed these films will be showcased at Shopfront, the Museum of Contemporary Art and Outback Theatre for Young People in Deniliquin.

Drama Club

Mr Cato and Ms Kyriakidis have launched our JCBTHS lunch time Drama Club. Any students who are interested in participating can see either teacher.

Year 7 to 11 parent and teacher evening

Semester 1 2021 report feedback, parent teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 22nd June from 3:30pm to 7:30pm. Reports will be emailed to parents prior to the evening and an on-line booking platform will be used for parents/carers to book times with classroom teachers. It is recommended that parents/carers bring their copy of their son's report to use as a reference. It is also advised that your son also attend the interview.

Unfortunately there will be no parking available on the evening on school premises. Parking will be available on Hogben Street or surrounding streets on the other side of the footbridge or behind the school on Marshall Street or Lachal Avenue. The back oval gate will be left open on Lachal Avenue to allow parents/carers to enter the school. The parent interviews will take place in the school library and the adjoining rooms on the lower level of B Block.

National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability 2021

This year all Australian schools are required to participate in the annual Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) on Students with a Disability and James Cook Boys Technology High School has been involved in the collection data throughout Semester 1.

The purpose of this data collection is to provide educational authorities with a clear picture of the number of students with disabilities and the adjustments they are provided so that they can participate in education on the same basis as other students.

The privacy of students will be maintained and the information provided to the Department of Education will not identify individual students. The Learning Team at our school is involved in organising the data collection.

The main role of the Learning Team is to provide on-going support programs suited to the different learning needs of individual students. These programs include team teaching, Individual Learning Plans, literacy and numeracy programs and adjustments to learning programs and assessments for students.

Parents and carers who wish to discuss the learning needs of their son are welcome to contact the school and contribute to individual learning plans. Information regarding the NCCD can also be accessed at:

<https://www.dese.gov.au/swd/data-school-students-disability>

Winter Uniform

As mentioned in our previous text message to parents/carers, with the cold weather upon us it is essential all students wear the correct winter uniform. Track suit pants of any type are not part of our school uniform, except on Wednesdays (sport day for students in Years 7 to 10). Students are to wear a grey pair of trousers or long pants or shorts. Students are to wear their black school jumper or their maroon wind jacket. If students are cold they can wear an additional black jumper under their school jumper or jacket or a black

weather proof jacket. No hoods on any jackets or jumpers are allowed nor are jumpers or jackets of other colours or with predominate branding or logos. If you are having difficulty providing the correct uniform for your son we are happy to provide loan garments or assist in the purchase of the correct uniform. If your son is making the choice to wear incorrect uniform despite the assistance and alternatives we offer, unfortunately consequences will be issued. Your support in this area is greatly appreciated.

Rewards excursion

To continue to promote and acknowledge the positive behaviour of students in the areas of active learning and safe and respectful behaviour our semester rewards excursion will be taking place for students who met the criteria. Positive acknowledgments are issued to students during the semester and a cumulative record is used to identify successful students. Any students who have not met the threshold this semester will be able to continue to contribute to their tally to allow them to attend the end of Semester 2 rewards excursion at the end of the year. The Semester 1 excursions will be held in the last two days of Term 2.

Mobile phone use in class

During this year there has been a noticeable increase in the amount of students inappropriately using their mobile phones in classrooms. There is no need for students to have their phones out in class. We have provided every student in Years 7 and 8 with their own laptop to use in class. All other year groups need to bring their own device and bring it to school every day. Any students needing to borrow a device for a short term or long term loan have been provided one. The impact of students continuously using their phones in class is having a negative affect on their learning and on those around them. Students will be notified of the clamp down on mobile phone use this week and any students failing to follow teacher instructions to disengage from their phone will be removed from class and where necessary issued with a consequence.

I ask all parents and carers to reiterate the importance of the appropriate use of mobile phones at school to their sons.

Staff information

Ms Meyer our Head Teacher of English has commenced twelve months leave. Ms Chua was the successful applicant to relieve in the position during Ms Meyer's absence.

Congratulations to Mr McConaghy who has been a temporary teacher in the PDHPE/TAS faculty this year for his recent fulltime appointment to JCBTHS.

Ms Alison our HSIE Teacher will be leaving JCBTHS at the end of Term 3 as she was successful in obtaining a permanent position at an independent school.