



Principal's Message

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Principal - Mark Marciniak

This term students have been busy participating in sporting events, academic challenges and focusing on the most important element of school life, their learning. During this term students will be completing their assessment tasks to provide their teachers with a summative assessment of their learning in the lead up to the writing of student Semester 1 academic reports.

I always encourage students to view their academic reports as an important feedback point for them and their parents be able to reflect on their learning progress. All students have the capacity to make improvements in their learning and it's through opportunities like parent and teacher report night we can strengthen the partnership between teacher, student and parents to celebrate student's success and plan how we can continue to support students to make improvements in the future.

Parent teacher report interviews for Years 7 and 9 is scheduled for Tuesday the 27th of June, and Years 8 and 10 on Thursday 29th of June. Further information will be issued closer to the date. I encourage all parents to attend the evening to discuss their son's learning with their teachers.

Homework Club Revamp

In response to questions that were raised by the school's P&C at a previous meeting regarding raising student learning expectations the school has modified the structure of Homework Club to support student learning.

The new structure is based on student's needs, where a teacher from different faculties provides specific faculty workshops for student in varied year groups. The structure is based on upcoming assessment task or exams and students can join the workshop that will meet their academic need. If students need to complete any of their own work, they can access the general library space and work with a teacher on supervision duty and the tutors. Faculties rotate through week to week so there is a variation of teachers and different workshops. Homework Clubs is scheduled from 3 to 4pm on Monday afternoon. I encourage all parents to advise their son to access this valuable resource.

New Home Learning Policy

Another initiative to support student learning and raise expectations that emerged from the P&C meeting was the creation of a Home Learning policy. The draft of the policy was ratified by the parents present at the last P&C meeting after being developed and discuss the school's executive team (Principal, Deputy Principal and Head Teachers of each faculty). The policy outlines the commitment for each faculty to provide suitable learning work to be completed after school and extension activities to extend and challenge student learning. Recommended periods of time are set for each year group and each faculty is cognisant not to provide too much work. This Home Learning policy is also directly linked to providing parents with the means to access their son's learning progress through a consistent faculty setup of Google Classroom folders.

Google Classroom to Support Home Learning.

The second component that supports the Home Learning policy is parents accessing their son's Google Classrooms for each subject through their account to see what they are learning, to view the learning materials that have been provided by their teachers as well as the resources and homework that has been provided for the week. By providing parents knowledge of how to access their son's online classes, parents will be able to assist their son in completing assessment tasks, helping them with current work and ensuring they complete their homework. It is anticipated that the Home Learning and Google Classroom setup will be completed for release from the beginning of Term 3.

HSC Holiday Workshops

Once again HSC Holiday workshops will be available for HSC students these upcoming holidays. I strongly recommend that parents encourage their son to attend this valuable opportunity to consolidate and deepen their learning during this time.

P&C Fundraiser

Congratulations to James Cook Boys High School P&C Association for running another successful fundraising through last week's Bunnings BBQ. Thank you to all the parents, teachers and students that supported the event.

The P&C meet each term to discuss important information and to plan activities to support the students and the school. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday the 9th of August at 6pm in the school's common room. New parents are most welcome to attend.

JCBTHS Football Team

During this term our students have had the opportunity to represent our school on two occasions in an Oztag competition and a Rugby League round robin tournament. On both occasions our students played with commitment and great sportsmanship. They were very unlucky not to make the final in the Oztag competition losing to a selective sports high school in the semi-finals. We look forward to watching this team and other league students continue to develop their skills under the expert tutelage of Mr Andrew Fifita.

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

Next term on Friday the 21st of July JCBTHS will be celebrating NAIDOC week with the theme "For Our Elders". Plans are currently underway for the event with workshops being planned for all students ranging from, understanding Aboriginal culture and perspectives, guest speakers, Indigenous dancers, Indigenous games, a smoking ceremony and an official opening ceremony of our yarning circle. We look forward to providing further information in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events

King's Birthday public holiday	Monday 12 th of June
Report issuing and parent teacher interviews 7 & 9	Tuesday 27 th of June
Report issuing and parent teacher interviews 8 & 10	Thursday 29 th of June
Last day of Term 2	Friday 30 th of June
School resumes for all students	Tuesday 18 th of July
NAIDOC Day	Friday 21 st of July

Attendance Matters

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