



# Principal's Message

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**Term 2 Wk 1 2024**

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## Principal - Mark Marciniak

Welcome back to school for Term 2. I hope everyone had a wonderful break and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends especially considering the religious celebrations that occurred toward the end of last term namely Easter, Eid al Fitr and New Year celebrations for communities from the Southern and Southeast Asian countries. For those families from Eastern Orthodox denomination, we wish a blessed Easter for later in the week.

Last term was a very busy eleven weeks with excursions, camps, NAPLAN, Minimum Standards Testing, baseline testing for Year 7 students, carnivals, sporting competitions and other celebratory events. This term will be strongly focused on students from Year 7 to 12 demonstrating their subject knowledge and skills that they have learnt through formal assessments which will form the basis of their Semester 1 (half yearly report). To enable students to perform at their best in preparation for their assessment tasks, be that an examination, a report, an essay, or presentation it is vital that students complete additional work after school hours. An analysis of student data from the Tell Them From Me survey (TTFM) showed that the majority of students do not study for exams or work on assessment tasks until the last days before the task is due. In some circumstances it was reported that students do not complete any study or revision prior to an examination. Students are provided with a least two weeks notification of an assessment task before the due date. Students completing assessment tasks like reports, essays, presentations are provided with ongoing feedback from their teachers to ensure the students are on track and understand the requirements of the task. Students are then able to modify their assessment task responses after taking on teacher feedback to ensure they can achieve a good result.

It is extremely difficult for a student to achieve their academic potential without completing additional study outside of class time. To support students to prepare for exams and complete high quality assessment task responses Homework Club has been developed to assist students in this area. Every Monday classroom teachers are rostered on to help students with their assessments with the support from tutors. We have seen the difference in student academic performance when students engage in Homework Club and have a regular routine of starting assessment tasks with advanced time before the submission date and revising their work before examinations. To assist parents/carers knowing when these tasks are due each teacher has a Google Classroom that provides access to all the classwork that has been issued, homework and an overview of the course and notifications of assessment task dates. Additionally, all assessments tasks that are due in the week are published on the school's Facebook page on the What's Happening This Week at JCBTHS page.

I encourage all parents/carers to support their child's learning by accessing the information and using the resources provided to strengthen the expectation of being prepared and spending time revising, studying, and working on assessment tasks is essential in improving academic performance. Should you need any assistance or further information please contact your child's Year Advisor.

In addition to providing your child's Semester 1 Academic Report for Year 7 to 12 the school will be holding a parent teacher evening to allow you and your child the opportunity to meet their classroom teacher and discuss your child's academic progress in each subject. I recommend that you and your child attend the evening as it will provide valuable insight into your child's areas of strength and areas for future improvement. Please see the dates listed below for when the parent teacher evenings are scheduled. Further information will be provided closer to the scheduled dates.

Student academic performance and engagement is underpinned by attending school and being on time every day. Statistical data around student attendance draws strong conclusions that a student's performance at school is impacted by their overall attendance. I strongly encourage that you support your child to attend school every day unless they are feeling genuinely unwell. On the occasion they are unable to attend school it is greatly appreciated if you can contact the school by phone or email and advise of your child's absence.

As a reminder school starts for students at 8:43am every day when the first bell sounds. Students should be onsite between 8:20 and 8:30am. I do understand there are times when students are unexpectedly late due to traffic conditions, late bus or train or an emergency. Students who attend after 8:45am will be provided with a warning. Students who continue to be late will be issued with a consequence that being either a recess, lunch or after school detention. Parents whose child arrives late to school will also receive a text message informing them of the time they arrived. I appreciate your cooperation in supporting your child arriving to school on time.

Thank you to the parents who are using the designated drop off and pick up spots at Hogben Street across the Princes Highway footbridge or at the back of the school in Lachal Avenue. These two places are the safest places to drop off and pick up your child. The driveway at the front of the school on the Princes Highway is not a drop off nor a pickup area. Cars that are stopping in the area to drop off or pick up their child are compromising the safety of others.

Should you need to drop off or pickup your child from school in the morning, during school or in the afternoon due to exceptional circumstances please advise the office before attending or use the intercom at the gate to obtain access to the guest parking spots.

Term 2 return date for all students	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April
P&C Mother's Day stall	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May
P&C meeting	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 6pm
Year 12 report issuing and parent teacher evening	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 4 -6pm
P&C Rockdale Bunnings fundraiser BBQ	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
Public Holiday – Kings Birthday	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 7 and 9 report issuing and parent teacher evening	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 3:30 to 6:30pm
Year 8, 10 and 11 report issuing and parent teacher evening	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 3-6pm
Last day of Term 2	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July

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/>

NSW Department of Education



# Every Day Matters

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:

Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



When it comes to attending school, every day matters.

Scan the QR code to learn more

