



## James Cook Boys' High School

# Cooks' Watch

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### Principal - T Vallis

**Term Two~ June 2014**

We have had a very productive and eventful start in Term 2 at James Cook Boys High School. The emphasis has been on constantly reviewing our organisational structures and reflecting upon our teaching practices to ensure our students are provided with opportunities to become successful learners. Successful learning requires everyone to continue to develop skills in working independently and collaboratively, continually reflecting on and understanding how to further improve individual performance. Wide - ranging thinking skills need to be developed in all subject areas. Students need to develop the skills and ability to think creatively, innovatively, analytically and critically. Supporting students' learning in these ways requires support for quality and effective teaching. Quality teaching is a collegial endeavour and requires strong relationships between all our stakeholders - teachers, students, parents and the community.

During our staff Professional Learning Day, at the start of Term 2, we explored and analysed the importance of the Commonwealth Disabilities Standards for Education Act. This Disability Education Act ensures all students are given the opportunity to equitably participate and have access to their respective curriculum. Ms Corrine Feldmann presented all staff with the opportunity to discuss and deepen their understanding on how we would implement this additional support within our school setting. This presentation was supported by the introduction of our new school - based Learning Support structures and procedures. Again, teachers were informed on how, as a team, we will support and personalise student learning. Every student within our school will be supported in their learning through our whole - school approach in identifying individual student learning and support needs. Staff will be supported in their professional learning to recognise, respect and respond to the learning needs of every student. Congratulations to both Corrine Feldmann and Maree Rix for developing a team working collaboratively, developing whole - school structures and processes to ensure the quality of learning experiences for every student is supported and enhanced.

### Calendar

June 24	Boori Pryor Workshop Years 7-8-9
	Parent/Teacher night
June 27	7,8,9 Vaccinations
Friday June 27	Term 2 Concludes
Term 3 Begins	
Monday July 14	Staff Development Day
Tuesday July 15	All students return to school
July 22	Year 10 Subject Market
July 24	10,11,12 Vaccinations Measles
July 29	Year 11- 2015 Subject Selection Parent Evening 6pm to 7pm
	Staff Common Room ALL WELCOME
July 30	Lion King Excursion
July 31	Creative Arts Showcase night
August 4	P & C Meeting 6pm Common Room
August 11 to August 22	HSC Trials

Continued page 2

**Endeavour  
Discover  
Learn**

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## Principal's report continued

Currently, our school is in the process of reviewing our school Student Management & Discipline policy. The school executive leadership team is driving the review process in consultation with teachers and the P & C executive team. This review is being led by Steve Tsaridis and Corrine Feldmann. The school genuinely appreciates the expertise, guidance and support in current best practice being provided by Ms Corrine Feldmann. The review centres around Positive Behaviour Learning & Support. The fundamental purpose of PBL is to create "behaviour – safe" learning environments for all students. Through the effective implementation of PBL, students will become successful learners as the school rules and expectations will be consistently and explicitly communicated by everyone at all times. The focus will be on consistently incentivising good behaviour at all times.

This term has been highlighted by the continuous and ongoing assessment of student learning as we lead into the Semester 1 reporting for all students. All Year 12 reports were posted to students during week 3 of this term. All reports for students in Years 7 – 11 will be available to parents during our Parent / Teacher conferences on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2014. These conferences will be taking place in the school library between 4 – 7 pm and booking appointments with teachers is essential. All parents / caregivers are encouraged to attend and meet their sons' teachers as they discuss possible strategies in assisting students to reach their potential. The emphasis in evaluating student performance is not "in being the best" but "in doing your best" and being resilient when attempting to engage in a multitude of learning experiences.

The physical surroundings, classrooms and learning spaces within the entire school continue to be upgraded. Classrooms and corridors in buildings C, B & D have been freshly painted. Our school library has been selectively carpeted and painted. Also, our school canteen has undergone a complete renovation resulting in excellent commercial – standard food preparation facilities. As a school community, we will continue to lobby for more improvements and enhancements for our campus facilities.

Finally, on behalf of our entire staff, I would like to welcome Mr Paul Roger – our new Acting Deputy Principal - to our school. Mrs Manos is accepting a transfer to another school and Mr Roger is an excellent acquisition to our school and has already made a positive impact and excellent contributions to our staff and students. Mrs Manos was at James Cook Boys High School for over five years and we wish her all the best for the future. Also, I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of both Mr Mansour and Ms Lagoudakis in their respective roles of Acting Deputy Principal and Acting Head Teacher Mathematics. Their efforts have been truly appreciated by the entire school community.

Mr T Vallis

## P & C Report

### P & C News

Our Term 1 fundraiser was an Easter Raffle. Thank you to all the staff and students who purchased tickets in the raffle. Congratulations to all the winners! The amount raised was \$247 which will go towards purchasing resources for the school.

Our guest speaker for Term 1 was Mr Matthew Edwards who gave us an update on the progress for the new school website. The website will have a new format and it will be a lot easier to navigate and locate information. The P & C would like to thank Mr Edwards for his time and hard work which has gone into this project and we eagerly wait to see the new format! Please log on and check it out

**P & C Meeting Dates—first Monday of the month—6pm in the Staff Common Room**

**4 August—1 September—3 November—1 December**

***Please come along and have a positive input into your sons' school and education***

***EVERYONE WELCOME***

**The P & C would like to thank everyone for their support and for an excellent first semester.**

**We wish everyone a safe and happy mid year break**

## Deputy Principal - P Roger

I would like to thank Mr Vallis and the staff at James Cook Boys High School for their warm welcome in my first week as Deputy Principal. It has certainly helped to ease the transition from my former role as Head Teacher PDHPE at Leumeah High School. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work that Mr Mansour has done as Acting Deputy Principal prior to my commencement.

I see many positives already at James Cook with the continued development and implementation of the Positive Behaviour for Learning program. There are many benefits for both staff and students from this program and I am looking forward to being a part of what I feel is a very worthwhile project.

With the cold weather now looking to be setting in, I would like to give a timely reminder to students and parents about the uniform expectations of the school. Please ensure that you make yourself aware of the uniform policy.

I will be working very closely with all staff to ensure that students are in class and actively engaged in the learning process. I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with staff in getting to know the boys and helping them to achieve their personal best as students at this school.

If there is anything that you require more information on please contact me on 9587 1770.

**Mr Roger**  
**Acting Deputy Principal**



### **ALL JAMES COOK BOYS HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM IS ONLY AVAILABLE FROM LOWES AT ROCKDALE PLAZA**

<b>WINTER UNIFORM</b>  <b>YEARS 7 - 10</b>  Ice-blue short or long sleeve shirt with school emblem Grey 'college' or 'blocker' shorts or trousers Black fleecy 'sloppy joe' with school emblem <b>OR</b> Black fleecy zippered jacket with school emblem Grey socks—no logos Black lace up leather shoes	<b>YEARS 11 - 12</b>  White short or long sleeve shirt with school emblem Grey 'college' or 'blocker' shorts or trousers Black fleecy 'sloppy joe' with school emblem <b>OR</b> Black fleecy zippered jacket with school emblem Grey socks—no logos Black lace up leather shoes School tie School Blazer—black with school emblem (optional)
<b>SPORTS UNIFORM—ALL YEARS</b> Maroon/black/white sports polo shirt with school emblem Black microfibre sports shorts with maroon/white piping Tracksuit jacket—maroon/black/white microfibre with school emblem Tracksuit pants—black microfibre pants with maroon/white piping  <b>IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM LOWES ABOUT THE TRACK SUIT PANTS</b> <b>Unfortunately due to an error by the manufacturer the new black microfibre track suit pants have not been available. Lowes hope to have them back in stock within the next week. We will notify students and parents as soon as we know Lowes have them in stock. If you purchased the track suit pants in the incorrect maroon colour Lowes will exchange them for the correct black ones.</b>  <b>WE ARE SINCERELY SORRY FOR INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO OUR PARENTS AND STUDENTS</b>	

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# NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

Just a reminder to all parents / caregivers and students that the new school website is now live. On it you will find up-to-date information about James Cook Boys', information from the department, links to individual Year Groups, faculties

You can access the website through the following link:

<http://www.jamescookb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

## Year 7— Mr. Yelavich

Below you will find a brief snapshot of the experiences your son has undertaken in their recent weeks and months at James Cook and the upcoming events on our school calendar.

During week six of Term 1 Year 7, along with their peer support leaders and Mr. van Dijk, Mr. Hedges and myself attended the Great Aussie Bush camp. This camp was a great experience for all those who attended, developing in student's resiliency skills and also strengthening peer relationships.



Throughout this Term the ongoing assessment of Year 7 continues with Semester 1 reports to be distributed at parent teacher night at the end of Term 2. I would ask and also encourage all parents and caregivers to attend this school event, as it is a great opportunity to interact with your son's teachers about their progress in high school.

Recently, all year 7 students participated in the James Cook X-country carnival. It was terrific to see all the boys' test their physical limits and I am pleased to say all our runners successfully completed the 3.6km course. Well-done boys! Students who successfully qualified for the zone X-country carnival participated in the carnival that was held at Scarborough Park on Tuesday the May 20.

The annual James Cook Athletics Carnival was held on the 12 June. This event is a wonderful way for students and staff to interact in a social setting outside the boundaries of our school. I hope that parents ensured your son attended the Carnival, as this is a compulsory school day. If your son did not attend the Carnival the school requires a written note from the parent/caregiver with a valid reason for the absence.

Finally I would like to commend Year 7 on their performances throughout Semester 1. On the whole, the year group has performed extremely well and I look forward to meeting with parents and caregivers at parent teacher night to discuss this progress further.

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## Administration News

Invoices for school fees were sent out earlier this term. I would like to remind all parents to please pay your fees as soon as you can as the fees help to pay for resources for your son to use. Year 12 are reminded that all outstanding fees are to be paid by the end of Term 3. The school accepts cash, cheques, Eftpos and credit card payments and you are welcome to pay your fees off instalments over the term. All students were invoiced for the compulsory Athletics Carnival held on June 12. If your son did not attend the Carnival please make sure you send a note with a valid reason for their absence so that their invoice for the Athletics Carnival can be cancelled. Any absence or late arrival is classed as unauthorised leave unless a note or SMS is received from the parent explaining the absence.

## Year 9—Mr Edwards

Year 9 have been working hard this semester and I have been most impressed with the vast majority of students and how they have undertaken the NAPLAN—the national testing for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 school students across the country. This year the question was a persuasive task on “changing a rule or a law”. This is quite a difficult concept, open to many differing ideas on what is important to individual students. I was lucky enough to supervise the literacy component of the test this year and I am happy to report that the cohort were excellent in the way they conducted themselves in the hall during this test. Well done boys.

After what was a much longer than expected autumn, we have finally hit the cooler months, the mornings are considerably colder and along with that is the necessity to wear jumpers and long pants. I would like to remind students that the only acceptable uniform for winter is the school jumper (no hoodies), long grey pants (not jeans or tracksuit pants) and the school shirt (not the sport shirt on non sport days). It is very important that each student comes to school dressed and looking the part for the school day.

On Tuesday 24th June, parent teacher interviews are being held in the school Library, from 4pm to 7pm. This is an important time for parents and caregivers to meet with their sons teachers and discuss the progress of your son/ward. Year 9 reports will be available for collection on the evening and I look forward to meeting as many parents of our Year 9 cohort on the evening.

## Year 10 —Mr Errington

Year 10 have been working hard this semester towards their ROSA, which has recently replaced the School Certificate. The ROSA grades are sent to the Board of Studies and are an important aspect of your sons progress in high school. It is important that all students in Year 10 work to the best of their ability and make a genuine effort in all testing.

Soon Year 10 will be asked to make choices for their senior studies. We have a variety of subject choices here at James Cook, and I would encourage students to speak to their classroom teachers, Head teachers and our careers advisor on the best subject choices for Year 11 and 12. The only compulsory subject, as set by the Board of Studies, is 2 units of English.

On July 29 there will be a Subject Selection Information Evening for Parents in the Staff Common Room from 6pm to 7pm. This evening is designed to assist parents to help their son's make the best subject choices for themselves for Year 11 and the Higher School Certificate. We hope to see you there. The boys will also be attending Subject Market on July 22.

## Welfare—Mr Tsaridis

This term we are lucky enough to begin another fantastic and proven program that will involve up to five of our boys from Years 9 and 10. Also taken place this term, **The Muslim Youth and Police Partnership Project (MYPPP)**, headed by St George Youth Services and in particular John Dangas and involving St George Migrant Resource Centre, Hurstville and St George Police, Federal Police and St George PCYC, once again endeavoured to spread its values and key objectives to young Muslim boys.

These objectives include working together to build social cohesion and harmony in partnership with Muslim young men and improving relationships and increase trust, between Muslim young men, police and support services.

This term also sees the continuing great work of **MTC Work Solutions, Time Out program at Rockdale PCYC and the tireless efforts of all Year Advisors**. Speaking of Year Advisors, both Ms Cork and Mr Errington were on leave for part of this term with myself overseeing both Year groups with assistance for Year 10 from Mr Rowles.

As always, it is a busy time for all involved and it culminates with the last major event of Term 2 and that is the Parent/Teacher evening which takes place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of June in the School Library and adjacent classrooms. I hope to see you there.



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## Year 11 - Ms Cork

The transition into the senior school has been challenging on many levels for the Year 11 boys throughout Term 1. For some students it is the challenge of their new and demanding subject content and having to meet the demands of their assessment. For others it may be learning to balance their study routines with job commitments, studying for their driving tests or simply the daily battle of having to tie their tie. Whatever the case, success can be earned by all boys through perseverance, dedication and resilience and it is these three aspects that I encourage the boys in Year 11 to adopt as the pressure mounts throughout the term.

Over the past few weeks I have spoken with many parents who are concerned about the progress of their son or ward in Year 11. The most positive aspect of these discussions is that there is clearly a large support network of parents and teachers that are all invested in working together to support our boys in reaching their personal best.

Many students have received course warning letters or N Award Warning Letters. These are very serious letters and should be dealt with promptly if the student wishes to make improvements to their overall assessment and meet the outcomes of their course. But don't be dismayed, they are warning letters and they allow the student the opportunity to amend their status as causing concern, provided that they submit the outstanding work highlighted in the letter. Should you receive such a letter I encourage you to contact the school and discuss the matter further.

Year 11 is tough, for many reasons, there is no doubt about that. But with positive open communication between the school, home and the students themselves, we have the opportunity and ability to foster these young students into skilled and resilient young men. I wish all the students luck in their assessments and I look forward to discussing their progress at our Parent and Teacher Night on June 24.

## Year 12 - Ms Rees

Having a blank page in front of you can be tough. It taunts with its emptiness and annoyingly, invites words that seem lost somewhere in the deep parts of the mind. To make matters worse, just when there is a need to focus our thoughts, they can go wandering across a range of highly irrelevant points. (Did you know that the world has twenty six highly venomous snakes and seventeen of them can be found in Australia?)

So what does this have to do with Year 12? By my calculation, our group of senior students will be facing approximately 9,000 "blank" pages upon which they will have to write quality assessable responses for each of their subjects. This estimate is the combination of the short and long answers that are required collectively to complete their remaining assessment tasks, the Trial HSC examinations and the HSC examinations. What an astounding statistic.

So now is the time for all these young men to start thinking about how they will fill these pages. One way is to leave the process to chance and hope that the necessary facts will be released from memory. Some people might call this a miracle. However, a preferable way is to be strategic. The reality is that more than *fifty percent* of a student's result stems from his personal decision to engage with and develop the details of his courses. The clear message is that attitude can make a huge difference.

With a considerable number of weeks until the Trial HSC, there is every reason to believe that Year 12 can utilise each day of study to build significant knowledge. The aim should be to zero in on a topic, conquer it and then move on to the next. They should plaster their walls with diagrams, quotes, formulas and ensure that study time is shared evenly, by refreshing a revision timetable. Two other important steps would be for the boys to ask their teachers for advice and to quiz their friends during study periods in the library.

In the end, it is only one person's responsibility to achieve a personal best. So this young man had better get cracking and learn what is needed to turn an empty page into one that is a fuller reflection of his growing abilities.

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## Quick Smart Program

When pupils build their literacy, the outcome is greater than simply an improved understanding of words. This ability to find richer meaning in reading brings other bonuses that allow these young people to engage more fully in learning, as well as feel a sense of increased self confidence.

At James Cook, we want this type of experience to be part of our students' lives. Therefore, the school has initiated a comprehensive Quick Smart Literacy program devised and developed by a research team at the University of New England. Its proven effectiveness will make a lasting contribution to our participants' education.

A large group of students from Years 7, 8 and 9, who have a range of reading abilities, have been invited into the program. They will enhance their key skills by practising word recognition, decoding, vocabulary knowledge, fluency and comprehension. Working on these processes will assist the boys in developing techniques that can be reapplied to other subjects. Additionally, the program will provide life long strategies with which they can comprehend information in their ever changing world.

The involvement of staff members in different facets of the program has been most appreciated. Ms S. Smith and Ms M. Rix have been pivotal in initiating and contributing to planning. Ms A. Papanikolaou has worked assiduously to build and organise resources. Equally, their roles as instructors in the 30 week course, in combination with Ms D. Rees, Ms L Rae, Ms F. Ayad, Ms K. Naguib and Ms A. Kumar, will ensure the pupils benefit from their support and deep professional expertise. We look forward to the outcomes of this positive, whole school literacy venture.

From the initiation of the program to organising resources, our Quick Smart trained teachers have shown a clear commitment to the thirty week course. Their professionalism will ensure that the pupils gain the benefits of their support and expertise.

Ms D. Rees

Quick Smart Literacy Co-ordinator

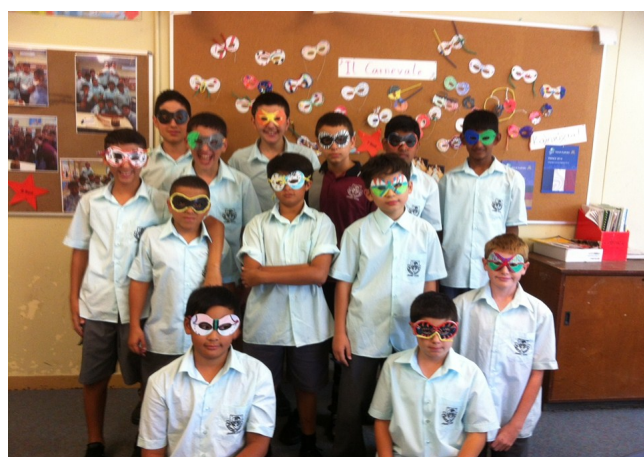
## Languages

The Year 7 students made **Maschere di Carnevale** and went **Mascherati Carnevale**, also known as Carnival, in Italy is a huge winter festival celebrated with parades, masquerade balls, entertainment, music, and parties where people throw confetti at each other. These events often last for two to three weeks before the actual Carnival day. Because the date of Easter changes yearly, so does the date for Carnival festivals, which can be anywhere from February 3 - March 9. This year Carnevale was celebrated on March 4

Mischief and pranks are also common during Carnevale, hence the saying: **A Carnevale Ogni Scherzo Vale** (anything goes at carnival). **Maschere**(masks), are an important part of the Carnevale festival and Venice is the best city for traditional carnival masks. Carnival masks are sold all year round and can be found in many shops throughout Venice. Walking through the streets of Venice, it's a pleasure to view the variety of masks on display in shop windows. People also wear elaborate costumes for the festival and there are costume or masquerade balls, both private and public.

The Year 7 students learnt about the Carnevale and then made maschere in class. Don't you think their masks would have made an excellent display in shop windows in Venice.

Mrs Papanikolaou



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## Learning and Support Team

James Cook Boys High School has established a Learning and Support Team to address the specific learning needs of individual students. The team will organise personalised learning plans for identified students and make appropriate adjustments to the learning programs and learning environments to cater to the needs of individual students.

The Learning and Support Team has been meeting throughout Term 1, 2014 and has developed a school policy, referral process and necessary procedures and documentation. Members of this core team include Mr Vallis, Ms Rix, Mr Tsaradis, Ms Papanikolaou, Mr Keating and Ms Cork. On the School Development Day, this term, all teachers in the school attended a presentation where policies and processes were discussed.

From the beginning of Term 2, teachers could refer students to the team and will assist the team by providing evidence, data and work samples. The team meets once a fortnight to discuss referrals and allocate resources to assist students who have been identified by staff as requiring additional support. Parents will be informed if their son has been referred to the Learning and Support Team and the team will prepare a plan in consultation with parents.

Learning and Support plans will be supported by Mr Roger, Literacy and Numeracy co-ordinators and Year Advisers who will organise appropriate professional learning for staff and manage welfare programs for students.

The Learning and Support Team facilitates a whole school approach to meeting the needs of every student through identifying learning and support needs of students and professional learning needs of staff, analysing evidence and data to understand the reasons behind the need, prioritising learning and support needs of students, allocating resources to meet the identified need and evaluating the learning and support provided to students and planned professional development for staff.

I would like to thank all members of the team for their dedication and diligence throughout this year and we look forward to working with students and parents and improving learning outcomes and opportunities for our students. We greatly appreciate the expertise and invaluable practical support provided by Ms Corrine Feldmann, the Regional Learning and Support Co-ordinator.

Ms M. Rix

Learning and Support Co-ordinator

## Library

The Library has been a place of much activity during Term 1. The Library has a considerable revamp with the top section of the Library being recarpeted as well as having a coat of paint. The furniture has been rearranged slightly to create some additional learning spaces for the students. The students seem to be enthusiastic about these changes and the feedback has been very positive.

Many new resources have been added to the Library Collection, and the Library Staff, Ms Davoren and Ms Newman, are available to assist the students with their assignments and assessments, particularly with their presentation and research needs.

## Anti-Graffiti Program

This term we were pleased to have **Traci Sii**, youth worker/counsellor Pole Depot YouthZone, Hurstville branch, present to our Year 8 and Year 9 cohort, a **Youth Education and Support program on Anti-Graffiti**.

Funded by a Federal government grant and supported by Hurstville Council, the program explores the deeper reasons why young people become involved in illegal graffiti and the current consequences for those who get caught. It also has an educational component which highlights the new graffiti laws introduced in November 2012.

"The idea is to draw awareness to the huge costs involved in cleaning up illegal graffiti – well over \$100 million a year – paid for by the government and taxpayers," Ms Sii said.

We thank Traci for bringing this important and worthwhile program to James Cook Boys.



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# Visual Arts

## Studying the Arts is not important!

This is a statement Art, Music and Drama teachers are often faced with from students, who feel that because they are not “core” subjects, they have no relevance to success.

Studies however show that the opposite is more likely to occur.

Data show that high earnings are not just associated with people who have high technical skills. In fact, mastery of the arts and humanities is just as closely correlated with high earnings, and, according to our analysis, that will continue to be true. History, music, drawing, and painting, will give our students an edge just as surely as math and science will.

—*Tough Choices or Tough Times: The report of the new Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce*, 2007

Each of us wants our children—and the children of all those around us—to achieve success in school, success in employment, and success in the social structures through which we move. But we also want our children to experience “success” on a broader scale. Participation in the Arts brings countless benefits to each individual throughout life. The benefits may be psychological or spiritual, and they may be physical as well.

Nearly 100% of past winners in the prestigious Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science and Technology (for high school students) play one or more musical instruments. This led the Siemens Foundation to host a recital at Carnegie Hall in 2004, featuring some of these young people, after which a panel of experts debated the nature of the apparent science/music link. *The Midland Chemist (American Chemical Society) Vol. 42, No.1, Feb. 2005*

At James Cook we value the broad experiences that all subjects can offer. How students approach learning and value learning in all subjects develops positive learning habits. As study in the Arts is mandatory in Years 7 and 8 parents can support learning by showing their son that there is value in all learning and to encourage the development of creative minds through elective study.

Kids see what parents’ value and it matters more than income or cultural background.

*The Smartest kids in the World – Amanda Ripley*

# Life Skills

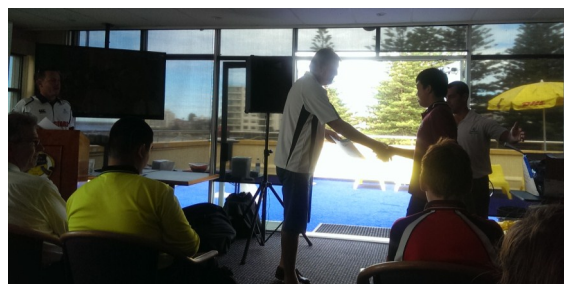
## Life Skills: Staying Safe in the Surf

On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April a number of our Life Skills students graduated from Sutherland Shire Council’s Surf Survival course.

The students completed a six-week program during term one, which built their surf skills and awareness. The students learnt to identify potential dangers in the surf, such as determining safe and non-safe swimming areas, rips, currents and wave types. Council lifeguard Cameron Pyett gave practical tips on swimming, treading water, survival stroke, dolphin dives, board paddling techniques and performing board rescues.

Special thanks must go to Cameron Pyett the Council lifeguard who guided the students through the program, Ms Sutton and Ms Huber who planned and organised the program and finally to all the boys who successfully completed it!

Mr N Pikis



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## DEAR—Drop Everything and Read

The O.E.C.D. has identified reading for pleasure as one of the most important indicators of future success of a child and improvements in literacy can have a very positive effect on an individual's development.

The DEAR program has been organised for students in Years 7 and 8. Students are asked to select a book from a wide selection of modern adolescent fiction texts and to read for pleasure at the beginning of their school day. DEAR operates on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and is part of our National Partnerships Literacy Program at James Cook Boys High School.

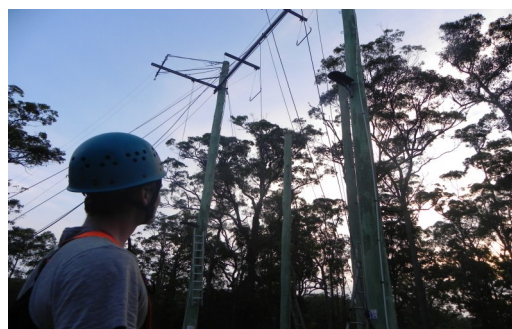
Students are encouraged to select books appropriate to their interests and teachers will assist students in this process. Once students have selected a book, teachers will record the title on individual reading logs and students should read the whole book.

As students complete books they will receive merits awards and prizes will be awarded to students who participate most keenly and read the most books.

We hope that students enjoy the program and continue to build their literacy skills.

M Rix—English Coordinator

### Some photos from the Year 7 Camp held at the Great Aussie Bush Camp





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## Table Tennis Knock Out Competition

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June, Seth Jones, Matt Oberg, Kenny Wong, Dion Paraskevopoulos and Justin Del Prado competed in the Sydney East Combined Schools Table Tennis Knockout Competition.

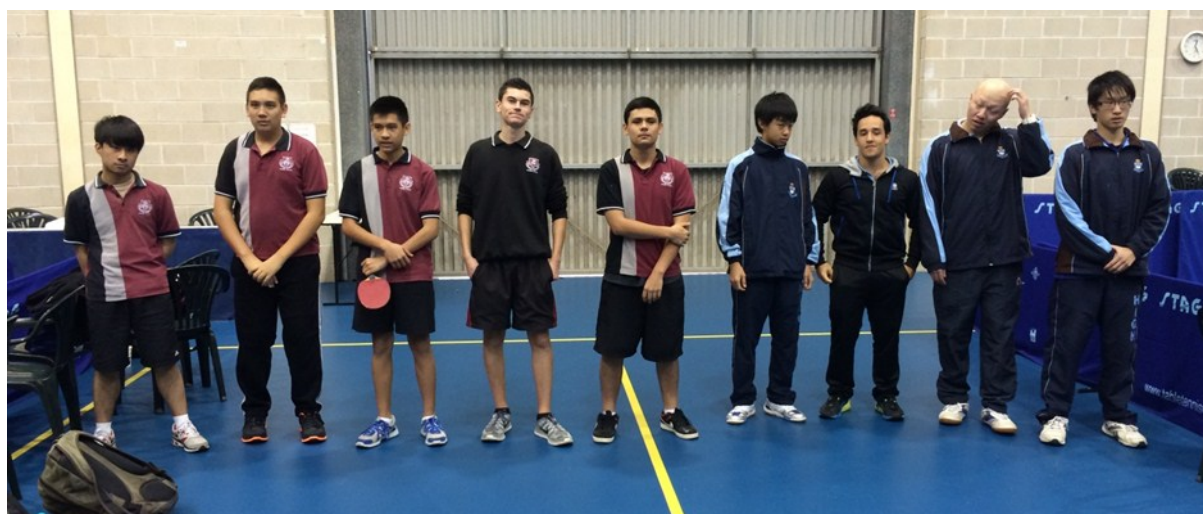
The early start and the extra time to practise paid off and James Cook downed local rivals, Blakehurst in the first round. The second round saw a very fast St George Girls team put up a good fight, but James Cook took the lead early and defeated them 4-2. Having made it this far was a great achievement for our boys, having only made it past the first round once in the last 4 years.

In round 3 James Cook faced Rose Bay. It was a challenging game, but they boys didn't let up and took the game from the brink of a tie breaker to winning 4-2. This put us into a position that, until now, we had only dreamed of –we had made the final!

After a very short and rushed lunch break, the team was straight back into it and faced an undefeated Sydney Boys. Unfortunately, the reigning champions were too good for us and they took out the competition, winning 6-0.

It was an exciting day and a great effort by our team. Hopefully now that Year 12 students Seth, Matt and Kenny will be leaving us, Dion and Justin will be able lead James Cook to victory in the future!

Miss Jarvis  
Table Tennis Coach





## Athletics Carnival—12 June 2014

