



Cooks' Watch

James Cook Boys
Technology High School

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ANNIVERSARY EDITION

CELEBRATING
SIXTY YEARS

1956-2016

OPEN DAY & FETE

Principal - Mark Marciniak

What a fantastic year we have had, I would like to start by thanking our staff, students, parents and our community for their ongoing support throughout the year. This Edition marks our 60th Anniversary since JCBTHS opened in 1956. It has been an absolute honour to be principal at JCBTHS during this historical event. We as a school and a community have worked together over the last 60 years to provide quality education for all students and I look forward to being part of JCBTHS in the decades to come.

This year as a school and a community we have achieved so much. We have provided and led STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning experiences to our students, to our Bayside Learning Community of Schools and beyond. We have developed high quality engaging and challenging learning programs in the area of STEM and a special thank you is due to Mr Mallios, Mr Mansour, Ms Axiotis and Mr Jordan for their work and commitment in driving STEM initiatives inside and outside the school.

We have consolidated our position as a Technology High School that is leading the way in innovation and technology to support and enhance the learning and use of technology through our Robotics programs, Coding and STEM projects. We have provided an equitable Technology Transition Program (TTP) for our Year 7 and 8 students, where every student has received their own personal laptop. Thank you to our Local Member for Rockdale Mr Steve Kamper who has assisted JCBTHS by raising funds from local businesses and companies to support this initiative.





Our teaching staff has continued to professionally developed their teaching skills to ensure that we are providing engaging, high quality educational programs that are meeting the needs of students. We have worked with Universities to develop and extend our students learning outside of the traditional school environment through our UNSW Biotechnical Engineering program.

Our students have had the opportunity to grow and develop through our school camps, activities week, work experience program, student leadership and mentoring programs with our community partners Youth Frontiers and through working with the Westpac Banking Group. A special Thanks to Ms Atzemis for leading the student leadership focus and to Mr Ben Yelavich for his ongoing coordination of the student wellbeing team and leading the school's community team.

We have continued to foster and develop new and existing sporting partnerships with the St George Illawarra Rugby League Club and St George Football Association. We hosted numerous cultural events to celebrate and acknowledge our wonderfully diverse cultural communities. This Year we hosted an Iftar event for the community and a Bangladeshi festival as well as celebrating Harmony day and RU OK Day.

We have continued to develop social programs to develop our young men into respectful and responsible contributing citizens through employing a Youth Out Reach Officer (Mr John Dangas) who runs targeted programs for our boys. I would like to thank our local partners Bay City Care, GWS



Giants, Rockdale PCYC and Rotary for supporting our school during the year.

Under Federal government funding we have employed our school chaplain to support and mentor our boys and have participated in a pilot program to employ a Family Referral Services person to support the needs of parents and families in the community.

Our commitment to ensuring our students are able to access and develop their extraordinary talents has been evident through our TAS/CAPA evening that showcased our talents in the visual and performing arts, our sports gala days, carnivals and sporting competitions that highlight the sporting talent that our boys possess. Special thank you to Ms Cork and the TAS/Faculty and Mr Yelavich from the PDHPE faculty, Mr Pikis, Mr Sawford and Mr Errington.

However, it was the combined effort from all the staff and students that made this year an incredibly special

time where we celebrated JCBTHS' 60th Anniversary. The 60th Anniversary was 12 months in the planning and it was a spectacularly successful event. During the day we celebrated with a community open day. The school was transformed into a carnival atmosphere with food stalls, rides, musical performances and guided tours of the school. We started the day acknowledging our Aboriginal Community with a smoking ceremony, students were dressed in colonial costumes leading guided tours around the school, the library housed all the school's photographs and memorabilia, there were dignitaries and many past students and staff reminisced as they shared stories and walked the corridors and halls. In the evening we held an

Alumni Dinner event for past students and staff. We had 120 guests in attendance at the St George Motor Boat Club and our 2016 and 2015 school captains led the ceremonies. It was a fantastic evening that was represented by ex-students from 1957 to the present. Many of our Alumni had achieved professional success in their lives and it was inspirational to have ex students that had become lawyers, medical specialists, politicians and financial experts. It was a pleasure to have students and special speakers of the likes of Dr Zoran Becvarovski (Otolaryngology), Steve Kamper (MP), Shaoquett Moselmane (Member of NSW Legislative Council), Bill Saravinovski (former Mayor of Rockdale). A great evening was had by all and It was an absolute honour to have had the opportunity to be able to celebrate such an important event in the history of JCBTHS.



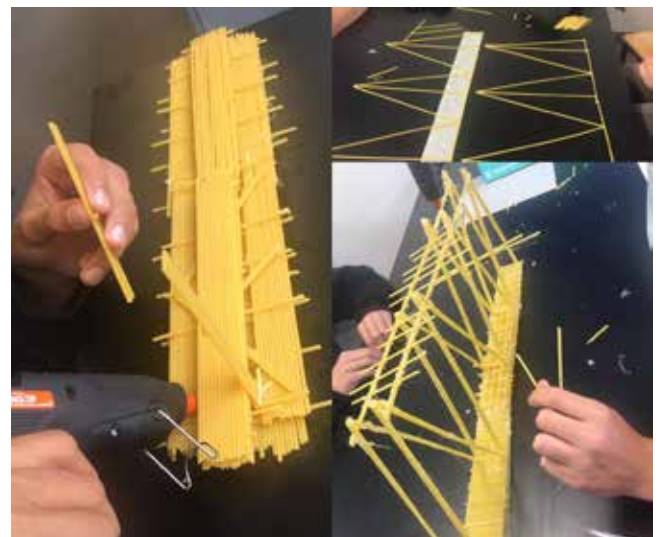
Deputy Principal - Jim Mallios

2016 was a year of growth for JCBTHS with an increased focus on Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) within stage 4 and 5 with projects developed for 2017 and beyond. Mr Mansour, Ms Axiotis and the staff team worked tirelessly in creating an engaging curriculum. Within our stage 5 elective options we are offering a STEM elective in 2017 with a focus problem solving through Robotics and electronics. The popularity of the course saw it filled immediately by students eager to undertake a practical approach to technology in the learning space.

Term 4 is a busy time for our Year 12 students undertaking HSC examinations and Year 11 students undertaking the first term of their HSC course. Parents attended school for parent interviews and issuing of assessment booklet information. To support Year 11 in their first assessment we provide an assessment week to support students successfully undertake assessment within an immersive, full day experience.

In the 60th year of our great school I have been lucky enough to meet many of our Alumni throughout the celebrations in November and take in the rich tapestry of people that make up our local community. Looking over the memorabilia unearthed from dark store rooms and brought in by the old boys I was overwhelmed by the loyalty and pride each person has in being a James Cook Boy.

Moving into 2017, we will be focusing on a whole school literacy strategy being implemented by the staff team through professional learning days, peer observations and resource development. We will also be rebadging our after-hours code club into STEM club and expanding the teacher involvement and increasing the options for students to undertake projects ranging from learning to code through to robotics programming and skateboard making. I look forward to supporting our school community in 2017 and continuing the growth in our engaging curriculum.



Presentation Day – Ms Loutfy

James Cook Boys Technology High School Presentation Day was certainly a tremendous success where our Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 students celebrated their remarkable achievements and academic successes.

Students were awarded with prizes for academic excellence as well as displays of citizenship. The hall and library were beautifully decorated and the performance from the music students, led by Ms Jessop, was captivating.

Special guests in attendance were Dr Zoran Becvarovski, Specialist in Ear, Nose and Throat, Mr Steve Kamper, MP, State Member for Rockdale, Mr Chris Minns, State Member for Kogarah, Mr Nick Tcaciuc, Relieving Deputy Principal, Moorefield Girls High School, Mr Andrew Tsounis, Representative, Bayside Council, Ms Amy Ha, Relieving Principal, Rockdale Public School, Ms Lea Kitchener, Principal, Kogarah Public School, Mr Darren Galea, Principal, Carlton South Public School, Mr Craig Kiely, General Manager, St George Football Association, Ms Vicki Roussos and Ms Suzi Pandevski, Parent and Citizens Representatives.

The Presentation began with the official party making a grand entrance while being ushered by School Captains, Phi Pham and Houssien Fardous. The formalities commenced with National Anthem sung by the music students of JCBTHS. Hussein Fardous, the School Captain did the acknowledgement of Country, welcoming the guests and students to their land. Our school captains Phi Pham and Houssien Fardous welcomed our guests while Mr Marciniak, made his formal principal address where he welcomed our special guests and parents. He praised teachers' achievements throughout the year and acknowledged their hard work as well as students' outstanding achievements and encouraged all our students to strive to excel and always be ready to take chances to improve themselves.

We were also lucky to have inspirational speeches given by our special guests Dr Zoran Becvarovski and Mr Steve Kamper who congratulated students on their academic performance and shared their past experiences and memories from JCBTHS.

The ceremony ended with a pleasant morning tea in the beautifully decorated library for all our dignitaries and a gathering of parents who celebrated the success of their sons in a very pleasant atmosphere.

Congratulations to all the students who received awards. Also I would like to thank the Presentation Day Committee, all the teachers and the SAS staff for their great assistance. Equally, well done to the School Captains Phi Pham and Hussien Fardous who hosted the day brilliantly and the SRC ushers who worked side by side with the teachers. It was wonderful to see how our boys positively participating in this event and the happy ambiance which was enjoyed by staff, parents and our special guests.



Captain & Prefect Induction Ceremony – Ms Atzemis



On Tuesday 29th November 2016 we held The School Captains and Prefects Induction and Badge ceremony for 2017. This event was an opportunity to celebrate student leadership in our school and to acknowledge the contribution made by our student leaders, both in school and the wider school community.

Parents, Caregivers, Staff and Students attended the event and assisted in inducting the students into their Senior Leadership roles. Our leaders have traditionally stepped up to be involved in all school events with a high level of commitment and strong leadership. As part of the leadership team they will be instrumental in contributing to decisions about the school, honorably representing their school and developing skills in school that will also hold them in good stead for their future endeavours.

They have already successfully demonstrated their leadership in the school through their contribution at the School's 60th Anniversary, the Presentation Day and Awards Ceremony and at the Sports Award Assembly.

We look forward to their continued involvement and leadership throughout 2017.



Sports Report – Mr Pikis

2016 has been another successful sporting year for James Cook Boys Technology High School. The school claimed two St George Zone premierships, contested numerous grand finals and won the St George Rugby League Nightingale 9s Knockout competition.

Our Swimming Carnival was a huge success, with a student attendance rate of 80%. Special mention must go to Mohamad Hijazi of year 11, who broke numerous long standing records on the day. Although our athletics carnival was unable to go ahead even after numerous attempts to reschedule, we still had a number of students represent the school at the St George Zone Athletics Carnival, with two students qualifying to represent the Sydney East Region. We also had a successful day at our Cross Country, with excellent attendance and participation.

The sporting year culminated with our Annual Sport Presentation, where we celebrated our school's sporting achievements. In attendance was St George, NSW and Australian rugby league legend Craig Young who participated in a question and answer session and presented a number of awards. All award recipients should be congratulated on their sporting achievements.

Regular participation in physical activity is associated with a range of physical and mental health benefits in children. For students attending JCBTHS, we understand the importance of offering a diverse range of both competitive and non-competitive sporting opportunities for your son to engage in. We are looking forward to another great year of sport at JCBTHS in 2017.



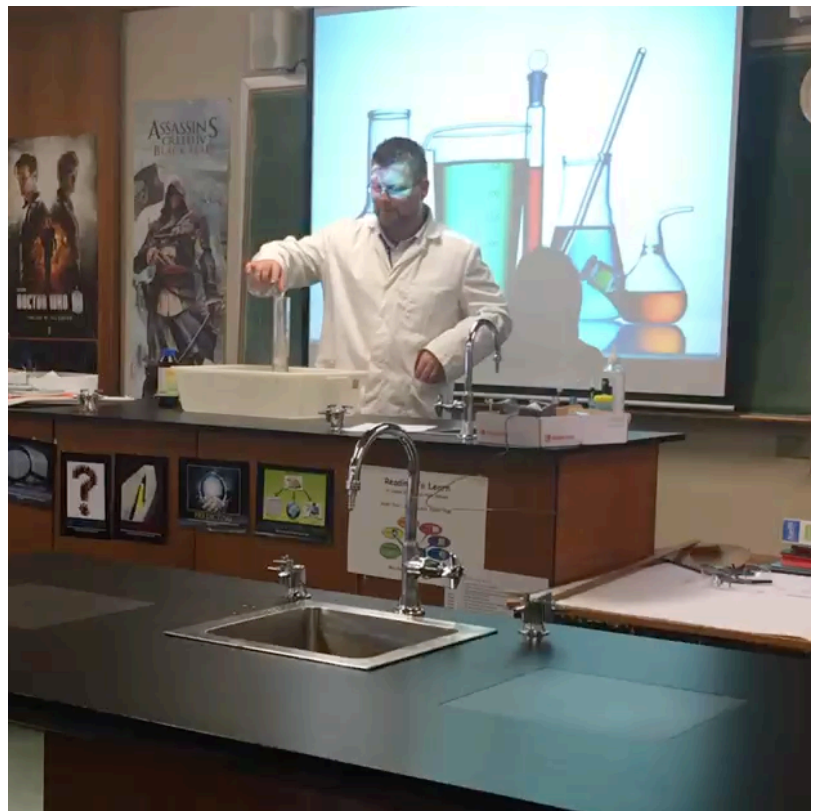
Year 6 Transition Day – Mr Sawford

On the 6th of December, James Cook Boys Technology High School held its annual Year 7 Orientation Day. The boys arrived with excitement and wonder into what the life of a James Cook student would entail in 2017. The incoming Year 7 cohort were welcomed by Principal Mr Marciniak and Deputy Principal Mr Mallios. Both gave an insight into the expectations of the behaviour and application required as a high school student, and the exciting new curricula and extracurricular programs that will be offered as the boys' commence the journey in high school.

After the orientation assembly the boys took part in 2 workshops which gave a taste into the newly developed curriculum on technology in STEM, Science and Robotics. Head Teacher of Science Dr Bowles took the students through the importance of science and the wonders it can accomplish through asking questions and using experiments to achieve your answer. They were able to create a 'slime' with simple household items and experience fun experiments that intrigue the mind.

The second workshop was run by Mr Jordan and saw the boys participate in our ever growing Robotics Program. The student groups were challenged mentally and physically to construct a LEGO Rover and then implement a command program to achieve the desired path. Led by James Cook student helpers, the boys discovered the precise nature of technology and started to develop the perseverance and resilience needed in high school.

The day concluded with a sausage sizzle and a cheerful greeting from the parents of our incoming year 7.



Community Team Report – Mr Yelavich

This year has been extremely productive for the Community Team at James Cook Boys Technology High School. Together, the team has worked collaboratively to positively promote and celebrate the successes of our students and school, within our local community.

We have continued to consolidate partnerships with parents and carers, community groups, corporate organisations, the Bayside learning community, tertiary education providers and the broader school community, which have been established over the past two years, to support our students, and will continue to work towards the achievement of key Milestones which are outlined in the 2015 – 2017 School Plan.

The culmination of 12 months of planning and preparation saw the school celebrate its 60th Anniversary, with an Open Day Fete and Alumni Dinner, both held on Saturday the 19th of November, 2016.

The Open Day Fete brought together past and present teachers and students, parents and carers, local business and community members to celebrate 60 years of JCBTHS successfully educating young men.

The day incorporated a wide range of food and business stalls, rides, entertainment and performances, guided school tours, memorabilia and raffle giveaways. Approximately 800 past, present and future members of our school community walked through the school gates to attend this event. The day was a unique and memorable event, and wouldn't have been such a success without the hard work of teaching staff and student volunteers.

The evening event brought together 120 past and present staff and students, along with special guests, attend an Alumni Dinner held at St. George Motor Boat Club. The night was a success, allowing all in attendance to share their memories and the role JCBTHS played in their lives over the past 60 years.

Finally, I would like to thank not only the Community Team, but all members of the school for their hard work throughout the year, and wish everyone from the broader community a safe holiday and a happy new year.

Virtual Reality Activity – Mr Ozerim

Last term we did a Virtual Reality (VR) lesson where we were sent off into space to see what it was like up there. We were learning about disasters by studying the 2013 film Gravity and we learnt about space and got a first person experience of what it was like to be up there.

While we were using the VR headsets, we got to look around to see the stars, asteroids, space junk, the Earth, moon and space shuttles. It was really fun jumping from one space station to another!

We learnt what it was like to be up in space, much like Dr. Stone from the film. We were able to experience the same disaster as she did and it gave us a better understanding of her situation and helped us get into her mind to help us better do our assignment. We really enjoyed it and hope to have another VR lesson again soon!



By Jamie McFerran

ABCN Visit to Optus – Ms Blatchford

This term we were able to begin our partnership with Australian Business & Community Network (ABCN). The partnership will enable us to target corporations that ABCN are connected to, to broaden student understanding of the world of work. The opportunity to visit and interact with different businesses support students in making connections between education and career planning. Year 10 students who had indicated an interest in business, media, communications and the creative industries were able to attend a Career Choice Day at the Optus Precinct, Macquarie Park. We were taken around the Optus campus witnessing and asking questions in the IT Global security department, multimedia and marketing, and call centre. Students were able to listen into customer calls, learning how to communicate and manage different call situations.

The students and I were impressed by the 'university campus' style work environment that creates a cohesive atmosphere amongst departments and colleagues, working towards common company goals.



Year 10 Cooking up success program – Ms Blatchford

Year 10 students participated in the Cooking up Success / Cross-roads Program during activities week which aims to develop student understanding of self-awareness, and skills for their transition into senior school and beyond. The program evolves each year to meet the needs of students, however there are main components that are a success every year. Students actively participated in Wheelchair Sports, and Paul Wades Employability skills discussion and team building workshop. Mock interviews conducted by volunteers from Westpac forced students to step outside their comfort zone and gain valuable feedback from industry professionals. Rotary conducted the U-Turn the Wheel program educating the students on all aspects of road safety, driving laws, and purchasing their first car. The Speed Careering program continues to be a favourite amongst the students with the opportunity to again a snap shot of a variety of careers and the individual career journeys of our guests.

A special thanks to our Speed Careering guest who take valuable time out of their busy schedules:

ACG Building Pty Ltd
UNSW Engineering
MM Photos
JMC Academy
Try Surveying

SSBEN
English / Social Work University student
Australian Careers Business College
Hayes Enviro



Excursion to the Reserve Bank – Mr Roukis

Students were presented with an in-depth analysis of monetary policy and a broad overview of all the factors which the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) takes into account when deciding whether or not to change the cash rate. The second presentation was on the new \$5 note and security features of all of our notes, which was informative and somewhat surprising; if you have half of a ten dollar note you are only entitled to five dollars and if you have less than half of a note, you are not entitled to anything.

Some of our students also asked some interesting questions such as is the RBA worried about President-elect Trump and what his policies might mean for our economy. We explored the museum, and had a chance to see how the design of our notes have changed over time and compare the old pound notes to the current dollar ones we have now.

After a quick pit stop to find something to eat, we returned back to school. Overall it was an enjoyable and memorable experience and a nice reward for the economics class who have been a pleasure to teach this year.



Mosaic Project – Ms Loutfy

It was wonderful to see some of our dedicated students from Years 9 and 10 participating in the Mosaic Project which is run by the University of New South Wales. The Project started with a visit to the University on the 9th of August which our students undertook a one-day cultural training session, in preparation for the Forum Day. On that day, volunteers acted as mentors for our students, running group workshop activities, discussions, games and a campus tour.

Throughout Term 3, a dedicated group of UNSW volunteers visited our school regularly and worked with the group helping them create a major video project about the effect of climate change in Australia. An excellent video presentation was created by our enthusiastic students where interviewed students and teachers about their perspectives of climate change and its impact on Australia and the world.

On 25th October, students and parents attended The Mosaic Expo Night held at the University of New South where they showed their major work and viewed the works of other schools. The night was a great success to both parents and our students who enjoyed a happy atmosphere mixing and socialising with students from other schools.

I would like to congratulate the following boys for their excellent project work, enthusiasm and capacity to represent the school in such a dignified manner. Thirumalesh Ullal, Ritchie Chand, Raid Shah, Matthew Pandevski, Sigrid Sinlao, Joshua Del prado, Painsi Vakaahi, Vincent Luo, Daniel Illyes, Jorge Marquez Artiles and Bradley Palazzolo. In particular, I would like to extend a special thanks to Thirumalesh, Joshua and Painsi for being the major contributors and leaders in the project. Also, I would like to acknowledge Mr Kaan Ozserim for his great participation and leadership throughout the project, Mr Nick Hedges for his great help with transportation and Mr Marciniak for supporting our students throughout the evening.



Life Skills class visits to Apple Store – Ms Calnan

On the 25th of October the Life Skills class went on their second App learning experience to the Apple shop in Miranda. During our first visit on 30th August the boys were fully in-serviced by a team of three Apple experts on how to use iMovie and all of its functions, including slow motion, adding music and much more. The boys were able to use iPads supplied by the shop to make their own short movies, which were then edited, given titles and shared with the rest of the group. They were excellent examples of what can be achieved in a short time with a little imagination.

The second visit was to learn the garage band app which was equally as exciting. This time they were able to become composers with their end product only limited by talent and imagination. Again by the conclusion there were some excellent pieces which were given to the boys on their own wrist USBs. The life skills class thoroughly enjoyed both experiences and are looking forward to returning again.



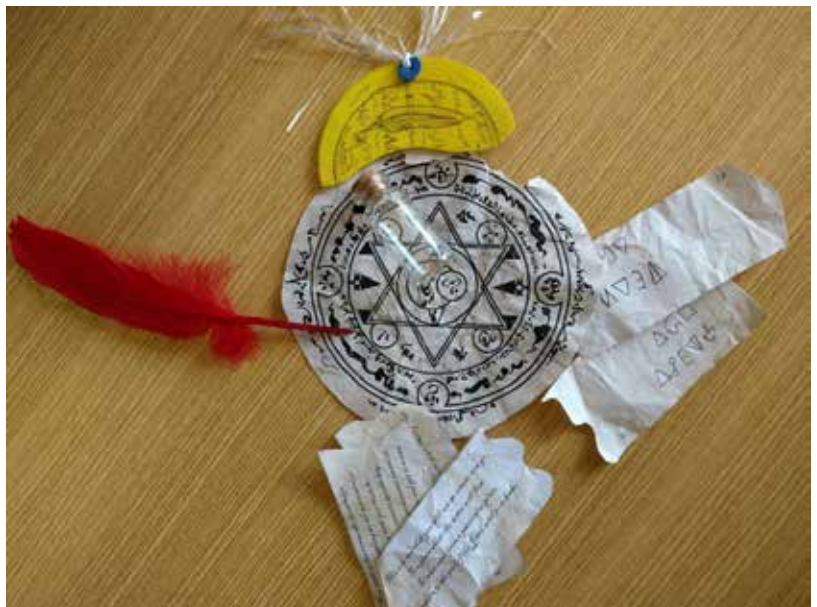
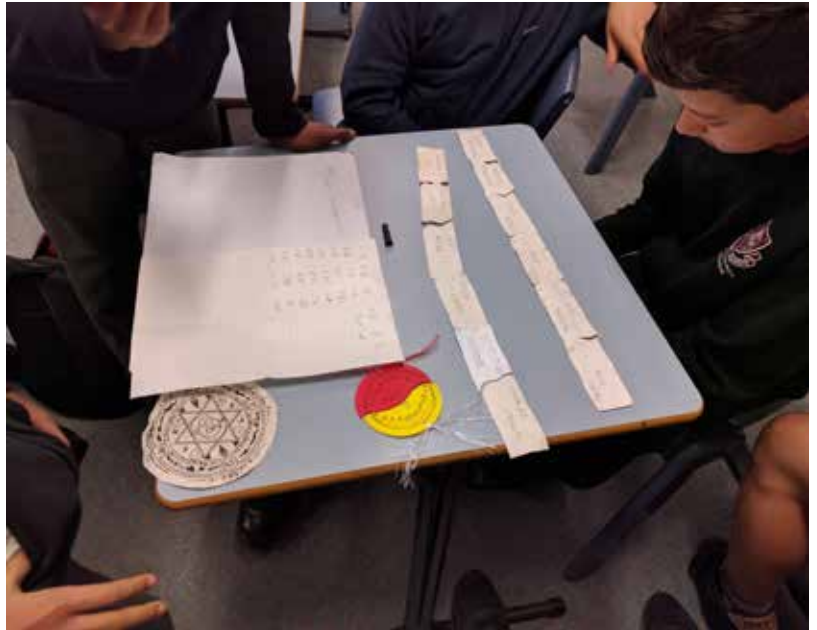
Fantasy Quest Activity – Mr Ozerim

We did a Fantasy Quest with everyone in year seven. Mr. Ozserim came up with the idea that was the most fun period ever. First we all split up into our groups and set off for our hunt, we solved the first riddle by going to the library and searching through the books for a feather. Next we had to go fishing for a jewel that was in an “enchanted pond” which we had to soon trade for a magic circle. We then had to research about dragons and their weakness using the computers and books in the library so that we could slay one and get the final clue. At the end we had to team up with another group to solve the final riddle and when we were done we were able to make a potion and get our prize. We all had a great experience and we hope to have another Fantasy Quest soon. Thanks Mr. Ozserim and all the other teachers involved!!

By Billy Safwan

In the Fantasy Quest that the whole of year seven did, I learnt how to work as a team, and how to translate “runes” into English by using the information that we gathered by teaming up with other groups. We also learnt how to use the library system to find the books we needed and how to use the computers to research about different fantasy creatures. We had so much fun solving many different problems and riddles. We also experienced what it is like to be in a fantasy quest, like the characters in the book we are reading as a class novel, rowan of rin and the keeper of the crystal. Thanks to Mr. Ozserim and all the teachers that had helped out in the quest.

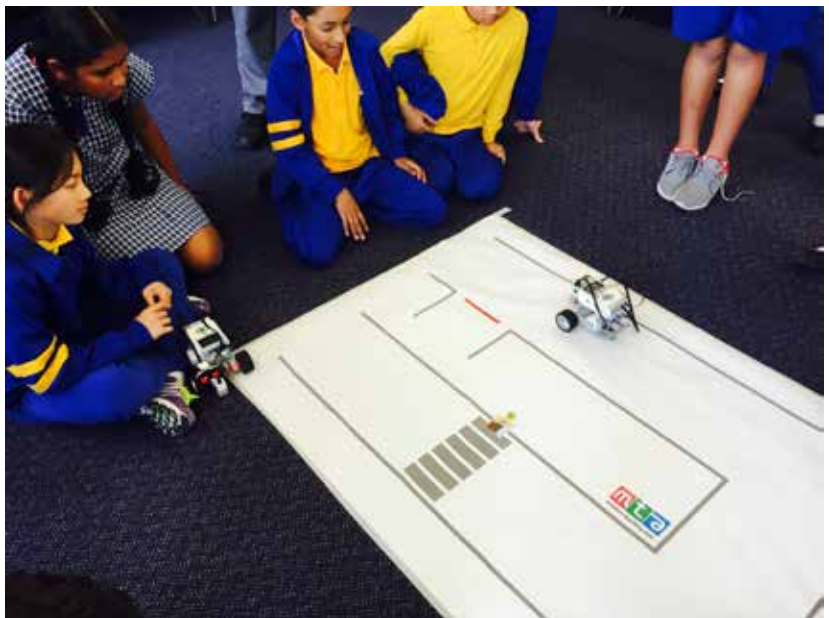
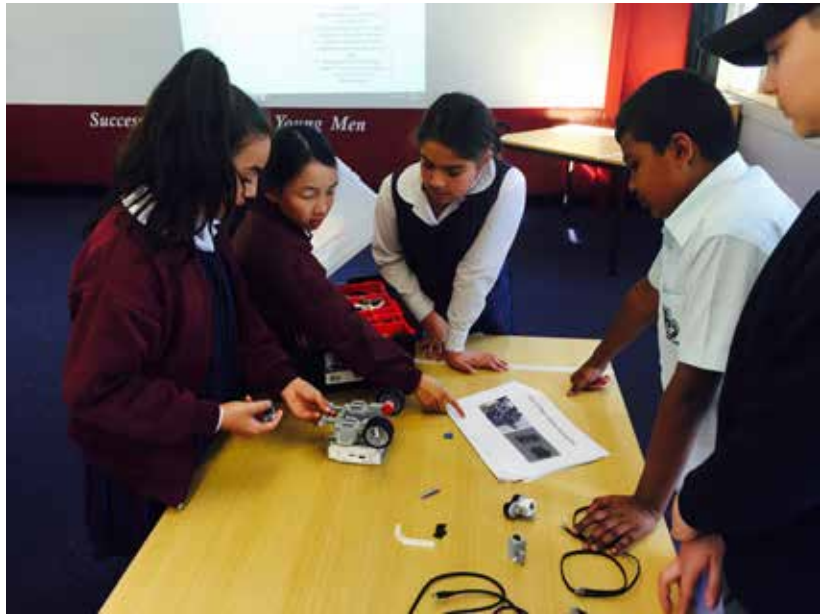
By Dimitri Pestoglou

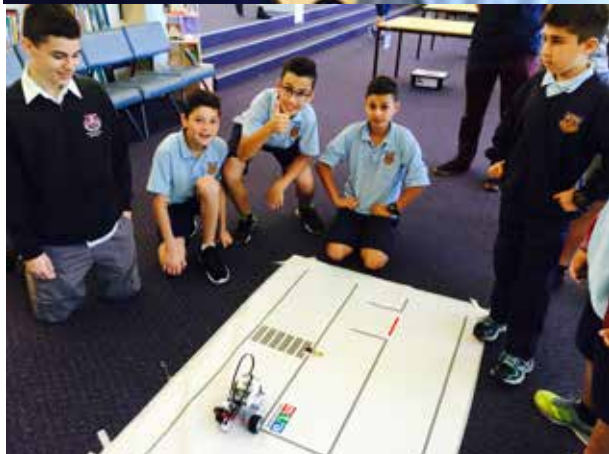


Robotics Transition Program with Primary Schools – Mr Jordan

This semester has been an exciting time for both myself and my wonderful student helpers who have been running JCBTHS Robotics Transition Program with local primary schools. Our Robotics Transition program highlights the fun ways in which Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is being used within our school context to drive learning outcomes. Schools including Arncliffe Public, Brighton-le-Sands Public, San Souci Public, Kingsgrove Public, Rockdale Public, Ramsgate Public School, Carlton Public and Carlton South Public schools sent their students from Years 4 to 6 to participate in the robotics program with positive reviews all round.

Students began their day negotiating the minefield of challenges that is the building of our coveted Harvey Mach II Lego robot. Having successfully climbed this mountain, students engaged in a crash course in programming that gave students the skills to make their robots move, turn, veer, spin, reverse, recognise obstacles, avoid obstacles, measure distances and identify different colours. These skills were used by students to fly through 7 activities which culminated in the dreaded circle of death. Of course none of this would have been possible without the many students from JCBTHS who have worked so hard to develop their own capacity as learners.





Throughout this year JCBTHS has established a cohort of 24 students who regularly participate in designing, building and programming of robots during our weekly Coding Club. These students are required to use logical and critical thinking skills to attack problems; discovering solutions through trial and error.

I have personally watched these young students grow in confidence and resilience as they developed through this program and would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the considerable commitment and contribution of the following students who have made this term's Robotics Transition program such an achievement for our school.

Year 8: Hussein Hijazi, Hadi El-Chikrawe, Hussein Hammoud, Imran Khan, Justin Mukadana, William Waqanibaravi, Adrian Singh and Osman Sesay

Year 9: Dylan Paraskevopoulos, Thirumalesh Ullal, Matthew Pandevski, Christian Ernest, Abbas Dakdouk and Ibrahim Ahmed

Year 10: Murray Hudd, Darko Stojkovski, Alvy Bhuiyan, Ali Masri, Ali Sakr, Talha Islam, Paini Vakaahi, Yusuf Ayik and Joshua del Prado

I'd also like to take this opportunity to personally thank and recognise the contribution of 2 people; Joshua del Prado and Mr O'Connor; who stepped in to run our Robotics transition program during an absence. It's this sort of helpful and warm attitude regularly demonstrated by staff and students alike that has help create such strong relationships in our school community. As we move into 2017 and begin to expand the STEM opportunities provided by JCBTHS for our students, Robotics and Coding will continue to play a significant role in the lives of students from Years 7 to 10. I look forward to the many exciting times and playful learning experiences ahead.



