



Principals Message

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Principal - Mark Marciniak

Welcome back to Term 3, I hope you had a restful break. Last term was significantly impacted by cold and flu and to a lesser extent COVID positive cases. As we move into the second term of winter there are predictions that we will continue to experience the same until we start to move into the warmer weather. Procedures around COVID 19 have remained the same. Anyone exhibiting cold or flu like symptoms are required to not attend school until symptoms clear. All COVID 19 positive cases still need to isolate for seven days from a positive test result. Please contact the school office if your son tests positive either via a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) or a PCR test. There is no need to self-isolate if your son is a close family contact. He will however need to wear a face mask for seven days whilst in doors at school. If you require any RAT kits your son can collect them from the Student Services Office at school.

Year 7 and 9 Semester 1 parent teacher report evening.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who had the opportunity to attend the report evening on Tuesday the 28th of June. It was a fantastic opportunity for the parents who attend, especially the Year 7 parents to meet our staff and receive feedback regarding their son's progress. The partnership between school and home and teachers and parents is essential in fostering and supporting student learning and wellbeing. It was a pleasure to meet all the parents who attended and thank you for your positive feedback on the evening.

Year 8, 10 and 11 Semester 1 parent teacher report evening.

Due to the NSW Teacher's Federation Industrial action that occurred on Thursday 30th unfortunately we were forced to postpone and reschedule the evening. The parent teacher evening will take place on **Thursday 21st of July** from 3:00 to 6:00pm. Student academic reports will be emailed prior to the date and an online interview booking system is in place. A hardcopy of your son's academic report will also be provided on the evening. It is highly recommended that your son attends the evening with you to receive valuable feedback from his classroom teachers. Light refreshments will be provided.

Should you require any further information about the report evening or need assistance in booking an interview time with your son's teachers please contact the office.

Rewards excursion

Unfortunately, due to the Teacher's Federation industrial action last term we were unable to proceed with our semester 1 rewards excursion. Students who have consistently demonstrated safe, respectful, responsible citizenship and or have been active learners during semester 1 will be acknowledged and rewarded for their efforts. The rewards excursion is an integral component of our Positive Behaviour for Learning framework that encourages and supports students to meet the high expectations of the school academically and socially. Our aim is to ensure all students are consistently reflecting on and improving on their behaviour and learning at school every term, semester, and year. The rewards excursion has been moved to Friday 22nd of July.

Year 12 Term 3

Term 3 signifies the last term for our Year 12 HSC students. Thank you to our dedicated teachers who facilitated HSC holiday workshops during the previous school break to further support their students' learning in the lead up to their HSC Trial Exams.

This term is a very important period for our students to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of each of their subjects. Students are encouraged to seek constant feedback on their understanding of each topic from their teachers and should be working on finalising their topic summaries and practicing past HSC questions. It is essential for students to have a home study timetable and for them to be totally committed to spending two to three hours a day after school and on weekends effectively studying.

To support Year 12's learning and wellbeing we will be providing all students with the opportunity to participate in a study skills program and social and emotional support from our Student Support Officer (SSO). Year 12 students have been working with our SSO during Term 2, with a focus on goal setting, managing stress, organisational strategies and preparing for assessments. During Term 3 the focus will be on supporting students to prepare for their Trial Exams and the HSC. The Year 12 Trial Exams are scheduled for weeks 6 and 7 (August 22 to the 2nd of September). Further information will be provided to students regarding their examination timetable.

To acknowledge and celebrate the success of our Year 12 2022 students we will once again be holding our traditional Year 12 Graduation Dinner in Term 3. This year the graduation will be held at the St George Motor Boat Club at Sans Souci on Tuesday 20th September. Parents/Carers are required to attend the evening to celebrate the success of their son's academic achievement in reaching this milestone in their education. Additional family members and friends are most welcome to attend. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the school office.

We hope that you will be able to join us in celebrating this important event.

Year 11 Term 3

This term is the last term of Year 11 academic studies. The Year 12 course starts at the beginning of Term 4 2022. It is extremely important that all students apply themselves with academic rigour to complete all their subject assessments to a high level. Year 11 final examinations are scheduled for the 12th September to 23rd September (weeks 9 and 10). This term is a crucial time for students to demonstrate their commitment to moving forward to completing the HSC course starting Term 4.

P&C evening

Our next P&C meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday the 16th of August. P&C members and guests are asked to attend at 5:30pm for a 6pm start. The P&C meeting is a great opportunity to hear what is going on at the school and in the community and meet parents and staff. The P&C committee assists the school in raising money and consulting on new ideas and initiatives. All parents are welcome to attend regardless if you are a registered member or not.

New Staff

This Term our new Head Teacher of English, Ms Sophie Plibersek will officially start at JCBTHS. Ms Plibersek has a depth and breadth of knowledge and skills having worked in numerous schools during her teaching career. Ms Plibersek was successful at interview for our merit selection position that was advertised last term. We are very excited to have her join our school and look forward to working with her in the role of Head Teacher English.

I would like to thank Ms Anita Chau who Acted in the position during the previous twelve months. Ms Chau did a fantastic job of leading the English faculty, supporting student learning and wellbeing, and working with the school executive staff. We wish Ms Chau all the best in her return to Paramatta High School.

I would also like to welcome Ms Denise Roditis who will also be joining the English faculty as a permanent member of staff and Ms Joanne Mason who was successful at interview for the Legal and Business teacher position. Ms Mason will be joining the HSIE Faculty.

Excursions and activities in 2022

The school athletics carnival that was previously postponed due to bad weather will take place on Friday the 12th of August at Sylvania Water Athletics Track. Further information will be provided over the next weeks.

To further support student learning, faculties are in the process of planning a variety of incursions and excursions in Term 3 to engage student learning and make a connection to the real world and the broader community.

In addition, the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty will be launching their Band Club this term. This will provide students with an opportunity to learn an instrument and practice and perform in a band. We are looking forward to seeing the outcome of this project.

Building update

We are pleased to announce the second stage of the boys' toilet renovation. During the school holidays further work occurred on the toilets to build a separate toilet cubical that will provide access to students who need to attend the toilet during class time. New toilet paper holders and locks will be installed in existing cubicles, new mirrors, and new hand sanitisers will also be installed. We look forward to hearing the feedback from students on the renovation.

Our new STEM building plans are in the process of being finalised. The new facility which will include a newly designed and installed food technology kitchen to cater for up to twenty-four students, storage areas, a preparation area, a new theory space, STEM workshop and practical learning areas will foster innovation and creativity. This space will be constructed in a current building at the far end of the school carpark. This is a very exciting project that is being funded by School Infrastructure NSW. The new building renovation will be a showcase building that will aesthetically enhance the school environment and provide students with a state-of-the-art high-quality learning area.

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/>