

JJCMHS WINGS

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Upcoming Dates

30th April - Students return for Term 2

10th May - Cross Country Carnival

23rd May - Athletics Carnival

29th-31st May - Year 7&8 Camp

27th June - Big Night Out XVIII

5th July - Last Day of Term 2

From the Principal

This is our first newsletter for 2024. The reason that we have not had the usual 2 newsletters for Term 1 is because JJ Cahill has had a few changes in staff. Ms Low moved to another school at the end of 2023 leaving the school without a Media Coordinator. We are currently in the process of filling this very important position which will be filled by the end of Term 1. Thank you Ms Rosewarne for creating this newsletter.

I want to congratulate Ms Raquel Grammat for gaining a promotion to Deputy Principal. She did a lot of work to build partnerships with our primary schools and began the push towards delivering an HPGE enrichment stream at JJCMHS. She ran a STEAM challenge with prospective students from our feeder primary schools. Ms Sian Batista De Mello will take on this role from Term 2 this year focusing upon building partnerships with primary schools, universities, and business, further developing the HPGE enrichment stream and running the STEAM challenge. She will also manage media and communications. Thank you, Ms Batista De Mello for stepping into this role.

Ms Batista De Mello has already begun working with our primary schools with our Pacific Islander students supporting Mascot Primary Schools Harmony Day. I was not able to make this day, but Mr Mifsud attended and informed me that it was a great event where Ms Helen Te Rata, Principal of Mascot PS was acknowledged as Heffron Woman of the Year.



We have had a great start to 2024. Year 7 has settled in very well. Mr Truss is their Year Advisor, and he is already doing an excellent job of supporting his year.

During Term 1 we had Open Night Evening, which was a huge success with an increased number of families visiting our school and very positive feedback coming back to the school about the event. Thank you staff for the work you did to make this event a success and Mr Mifsud for your organisation and leadership. We have also run Parent Teacher Evening. Parent attendance was high. Thank you, parents who attended to discuss your child's progress. Thank you staff for your commitment in staying back to meet with parents.

Thank you to our amazing P&C

Our P&C has started strongly in 2024 with solid attendance from families. Thank you parents for getting involved in the P&C and attending meetings. Thank you parents who have taken on official roles, Daniel Girling Butcher, President, Rosie Reynolds, Secretary and Ashely, Fowles-Salmon, Treasurer. Unfortunately, Ashley and her family are moving out of Sydney. We wish her and her family all the very best. Ashley has been a power house of fundraising for the school even up to the end raising money with an Easter Egg Raffle. Thank you for your hard work and commitment. The P&C meet twice per term. Invitations are sent out prior to the meeting with the option of attending online. We are hoping to improve the online experience next term by purchasing a conferencing camera and allowing parents online to contribute through audio. If you want to be involved in the P&C please email Rosie Reynolds at, jjcahillpandc@gmail.com

Student Leadership

Having a strong and positive student voice is a sign of a thriving school. I am very proud to write that leadership at JJCMHS continues to grow. More students are expressing interest in taking on leadership roles. Thank you, Mr Nguyen, for your leadership of this team and again to Mr Mifsud for your ongoing guidance and support to staff and students in this area. This year we made the decision that all our student leaders will be provided with a school blazer. The blazer includes the students name and the role that they have in the leadership team.

School Uniform

As you know our school is in the process of changing uniforms. Our previous supplier was Lowes at EastGardens. Our new supplier is Daylight. A significant change is that JJCMHS purchases the uniforms from Daylight and will then sell them from the school. This means that it will be easier for families to purchase uniforms.

We have had an extended process of consultation about changes to our uniform. We need to get it right so that students have a uniform that is comfortable, durable and one they like to wear. The new uniform is currently in production but will not be available until the middle of term 3. While we are changing uniforms, we have informed families that students are to in the first option purchase the

old uniform. If that is not possible due to stock not being available families need to purchase items that match as closely as possible the old uniform. Same colour, appearance, and style. Please help by encouraging your children to come to school in clothes that match our current uniform as closely as possible.

Attendance

“Regular attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential and increase their career and life options.”. DoE Attendance Policy, 2014

It is very important that students attend school everyday unless they have a valid reason. The more school students miss the more they will fall behind in their learning. As a parent you can have a significant impact upon your children’s attendance. Please work with the school to support better attendance. What can you do to help with this?

- Establish expectations in the home about the importance of school attendance.
- Support your child in establishing good sleep habits.
- Set clear expectations around technology use, particularly technology in the bedroom. There is very clear evidence that this is a significant factor that impacts the sleep of young people.
- Teach good routines so that they are organised, i.e. getting clothes ready the night before, preparing lunch, waking up in sufficient time to get ready for school.

An important part of attendance is getting to school on time. School starts at 8:50am for most students. Some senior classes start earlier. So, if students have an early class they will need to plan to leave home earlier. Other senior classes will extend beyond 3:00pm. It is essential that students attend these lessons if they want to achieve all the outcomes of the course.

It is important to be on time otherwise students miss out on important information during homeroom and roll call. They also miss out on building the positive connection with their home room teacher who is there to be that friendly welcoming face for students when they arrive at school. If students are arriving later than the start of period 1, 9:00 am they will miss the beginning of the first lesson of the day. This disrupts the learning of other students and makes it hard for a student to know what is happening in a lesson.

I have included the information for parents from the Department of Education NSW at the end of this newsletter. If you have any questions or wish to talk to someone, please call the school and request to talk to the Principal Mr Ralph David or the Deputy Principal Mr John Mifsud.

Ralph David

From the Deputy Principal



Term 1 has gone by so quickly with so many events at school.

We have begun 2024 with an atmosphere of excitement at JJ. Year 7 students arrived with the excitement of High School life and reacquainting with Primary School buddies and engaging in a thorough Induction program during their first week. Since then they have impressed us all with the way they have settled

into High School life. Years 9 and 11 have had the opportunity to commence new elective courses which were chosen last year and Year 12 went straight into learning mode continuing with their HSC courses and assessment tasks.

Harmony Day brought our school community together with the celebration of cultural diversity and pride in our own heritage. The pride of students and celebrating each other's national flags, and backgrounds allowed for a respectful and happy day. I want to thank all the students who made the effort to dress in national costume and colours and presenting themselves on stage.

It was great to see so many parents at Parent Teacher interviews last week. Families play such an important part in the educational partnership with teachers and our school. You are always welcome to gain that feedback, we are just an email or a phone call away. There will be another Parent Teacher Night in August.

Should you require further information about your child's academic progress please call the Year Advisor of your child's year group for a collection and summary of that information from each teacher. We also rely on families to inform the school immediately should contact details; phone numbers or residential and postal addresses change.

Congratulations to the students who have represented the school so well in sporting teams, excursions and school events. We look forward to providing more opportunities for individual representation as the year progresses.

John Mifsud



Open Night at JJCMHS

Year Advisors

Year 7

Year 7 has started with a wonderful transition into High School and have begun their journey here off to a flying start. It's been a busy start to the year but Year 7 are showing tremendous dedication and commitment towards their school experience. Students have already participated in their first Swimming Carnival, Gala Day, and Harmony Day. Year 7 also has their Junior Camp coming up next term and it would be amazing to have everyone attending and having a memorable experience. We welcomed our first SCR representatives Beyza P and Emmanuel D.



William Truss

Year 8

As we bid farewell to the first term of the school year, it's time to reflect on the whirlwind of activities and achievements for our Year 8 cohort. From competitive sports to cultural celebrations, our school community has truly embraced the spirit of camaraderie, resilience, and inclusivity.

The Swimming Carnival - Kicking off the term with a splash, our Swimming Carnival fostered a sense of teamwork and sportsmanship, with students supporting each other both in and out of the water. Congratulations to all participants for their dedication and enthusiasm!

Our Year 8 soccer stars took to the field with determination and skill during both the Zone and Knockout Soccer Competitions. Facing off against teams from neighbouring schools, our players displayed outstanding athleticism and strategy, representing our school with pride.

Our cohort came together to celebrate Harmony Day, embracing diversity and promoting inclusivity, in a vibrant display of cultures and traditions. From colourful performances to interactive games and workshops, students and staff alike had the opportunity to learn from and appreciate the rich tapestry of backgrounds within our community. Through shared experiences and meaningful conversations, we reaffirmed our commitment to fostering a welcoming and harmonious environment for all.

As we reflect on the successes and memories of Term 1, let us carry forward the lessons learned. Whether in the pool, on the field, or in our daily interactions, may we continue to strive for excellence, unity, and inclusivity in all that we do. Here's to a Term 1 filled with achievements, camaraderie and JJ spirit.

Ian Hooper

Year 9

This term our Year 9 cohort have hit the ground running, and our calendar has been packed with many fantastic school events including inspirational stories from our staff, students and special guests for International Women's Day, as well as an incredible array of cultural representations for Harmony Day and stepping up to represent us in variety of sports, including the Swimming Carnival.

We also welcomed our official SRC leaders for 2024 - Alex D, Mikayla B, Ryan R, Steven S and Alya W. Well done for stepping up and being our representatives!

Term 1 has enabled us to engage with our chosen electives, and it has been great to see students performing, cooking, developing theories and sharing ideas in new subjects. Our Berry Street focus has been relationships, and students are developing skills and using strategies to be better communicators and developing reflective practices to create and maintain positive relationships. As we wrap up for the term, it is great to see our year group learning, growing and developing positive habits for 2024.

Kahina Kharitos

Year 10

Year 10 have returned with maturity and drive; taking their application to learning and completion of tasks seriously. They have grasped opportunities to represent themselves and our school with pride in knockout basketball, volleyball, soccer and netball, and have danced beautifully across the local community.

Congratulations to the new Year 10 SRC representatives - Bagus Omar L, Ella R, Joanna L-S and Mele T. This is a unique opportunity and I believe in their ability to be the voices for this cohort.

I am excited to see students continue to flourish throughout 2024 and beyond. Choice, not chance, determines your destiny... so keep making choices that serve you. Many opportunities await!

Jenna Evans

Year 11

It has been a fantastic start to Stage 6 for Year 11. Students were connected with universities, including UNSW, they helped with Open Night in leading school tours and showcasing their skills in CAPA and Hospitality, and participated in the Swimming Carnival, Volleyball and Soccer. They have been focused on their studies and working steadily through their assessment tasks. We have looked at revision strategies in Year Meetings and will be completing a series of workshops with Elevate Education next term to maintain a focus on developing productive habits for revision. The Library is open to students at lunch and before school for those who are needing a space to study.

We have Senior Varsity Jackets in the process of being ordered this term and School Camp has been organised for Week 1, Term 4. Information regarding this camp will be released in Term 2.

Georgina McInnes

Year 12

I am privileged to take on the role of Year 12 Advisor this year and work with this wonderful group of students during an exciting time in their educational journey. This term has been a busy and productive one as we deliver initiatives to enhance opportunities for students.

We are proud to announce the commencement of the Year 12 Mentoring Program this term. Students who took the opportunity to participate in this program have been assigned to a staff mentor and have been meeting fortnightly over a fully catered morning tea to review short and long term goals and discuss study strategies, motivation tips, time management and stress management. This program provides an added layer of support for students as they navigate this challenging year. A big thank you goes to all the staff who have volunteered to mentor our Year 12 students. In doing so they've demonstrated the commitment that we have at JJ to ensuring students maximise their potential.



This term we have had a large focus on increasing the effectiveness of our study habits as students prepare for the HSC. In Year Meetings, we have learnt about effective note making and research-based methods for revising and memorising content. This focus will continue throughout the year. We have engaged Elevate Education to deliver a series of workshops to Year 11 and 12 students early in Term 2. These workshops will empower students to optimise their study routines, overcome procrastination, develop conceptual learning skills and learn strategies for standing out from other students in assessment.

Sally Jessop

The School Representative Council (SRC) enjoyed a productive Term 1, fostering a strong and inclusive school environment. Their efforts culminated in a vibrant celebration of Harmony Day, which successfully promoted cultural understanding and appreciation within the student body. This initiative served as a testament to the SRC's commitment to building a cohesive and diverse school community. Furthermore, the recent SRC elections have resulted in a broadened representation across all year levels. This ensures a wider range of student voices are heard, fostering a more equitable approach to leadership and school development. The expanded council is well-positioned to effectively represent the needs and interests of the entire student population as they move forward with exciting plans for the remainder of the academic year.

We will be providing regular updates on the SRC's initiatives throughout the year. A strong partnership between students, faculty, and our extended school community is key to cultivating a thriving learning environment for all. We value your continued interest and support!

Phil Nguyen

SRC & Student Leadership Coordinator

Vaccinations

Year 10 students received their Meningococcal vaccination on the 19th of March. The team of nurses from South Eastern Sydney Local Health District will return in Term 3 to see our Year 7 cohort for HPV and dTpa vaccinations and also catch up with any students who require it. If your child is in Year 7 or 10, consent can be given online. If you do not have a Medicare card a hard copy card can be requested from the school.

Ireine Gunawan Daly

Consent for school vaccinations is now online



Tips for providing consent online:

- Use the link provided by the school on your **laptop** or **desktop**, engage.health.nsw.gov.au
- Have your **Service NSW** log in and **Medicare** details ready
- Go back to this portal to **edit details** or **consent**



Is your child in year 7 or year 10?

You can provide consent for their school vaccinations online.



Year 7

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 10

- Meningococcal ACWY



Wellbeing

In the Wellbeing Space, we have worked on enriching students' lives with an array of programs and recognition of important events. The International Women's Day Assembly, organised by our Girls Advisor Ms Gunawan-Daly, saw our female students and male allies hold space to highlight the importance of gender parity and recognition of important females in their lives. Mr French facilitated a Men's Workshop building traits of positive masculinity while dismantling societal expectations. It was a powerful workshop held with our Year 8-11 students in our newly established Wellbeing Space. We are excited to facilitate more programs there this year. We celebrated multiculturalism in our Harmony Day Assembly where we invited community members to witness the diversity in our school through a flag parade, cultural dances and speeches from our students as well as Calisha Bennet's powerful speech from Together for Humanity. We have RAISE Mentoring, Love Bites and Shine Girls starting next term as well as other initiatives to support the wellbeing and inclusivity of our students.

Georgina McInnes

Wellbeing Coordinator



International Women's Day Celebrations

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Activities

2024 has already been an exciting one for our JJCMHS Aboriginal community. This term, we have welcomed Narkiah Johnson, who will be supporting our students in and outside the classroom. Narikah has lots of experience within our community and surrounding areas, and she has been learning about our school and students. In week 10, our students enjoyed the sunshine and learned about the symbolism used in Indigenous art to tell a yarn. Labron M created a beach scape chalk drawing and his totem, the goanna.

Souths Cares Rabbitohs HQ Excursion

An exciting time for many of our students who have begun their Nanga Mai - Dream Big program with Souths Cares. Britany and Braiden from Souths Cares have been supporting our students in developing SMART goals and investigating career and further study pathways.

Additionally, we were lucky to enjoy an industry visit to Rabbitohs HQ, where students viewed and participated in many activities, including a Captains Run, a tour of the Rabbitohs headquarters, met some of their footy heroes, and a wellbeing session.

Kahina Kharitos

Aboriginal Programs Coordinator



Harmony Day



Sport

What a wonderful term of sport! Congratulations to Reon P for his shadow selection in the Sydney East Soccer Team and congratulations to Tom W who represented himself at the Sydney East Swimming Carnival and held his own across multiple races.

The Swimming Carnival was a notable event from the term and a collection of students qualified for the Zone Swimming Carnival - special mention to Michael E and Focus S for their commitment and representing JJ.



It has been exciting to welcome back Knockout Competition teams to our school! Students demonstrated diligence and commitment to their training and represented our school extremely well. JJ was represented in 5 different competitions including:

- Open Boys Basketball
- Open Girls Netball
- Open Boys Volleyball
- Open Girls Volleyball
- Open Boys Soccer



Year 7 had their annual Zone Gala Day where they competed in netball, T ball and soccer. It was a day full of healthy competition, fun and supportive energy. Thank you to the Year 9 and 10 students - Lucas M, Allira M, Gabriel N, Noah R F, Steven S and Mele T - who volunteered to coach and referee throughout the day.

Jenna Evans & Matt French

Sports Coordinators

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education in the Classroom

Junior PDHPE students have had the opportunity to refine their fundamental movement skills as well as practice and perfect specific fitness, athletics and gymnastics movements.

Senior classes - Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Exploring Early Childhood, and Community and Family Studies - have been refining their skills in exam techniques. Preparation for the HSC and beyond is going strong.

Year 8 and Year 10 attended a live, interactive performance - "Smashed". Students were able to engage and reflect on vital underage drinking themes including; relationships, consent, health, safety and career aspirations.

Ryan Monaghan & Jenna Evans



Creative Arts

Visual Arts

The highlight of our Term in Visual Arts was our successful excursion to the Art Gallery of New South Wales to see Artexpress. Visual Arts students from Years 9 to 12 experienced this exhibition of high achieving Bodies of Work from last year's HSC and walked away filled with inspiration for their own work. In addition to Artexpress, we were given the opportunity to view the Louise Bourgeois exhibition and the Yiribana gallery in the new building. Students responded positively to the wide range of artworks they experienced and had a great time learning outside of the classroom.

Sally Jessop & Georgina McInnes



Senior Students at the Art Gallery of New South Wales

Artwork by Tahlia H - Year 11

Performing Arts

Music

Congratulations to Bethany in Year 12 who was successful in her audition for the 4-day Sydney Chamber Opera Development Program.

Term 1 music classes have had so much practical learning and fun!

Year 7 has learnt West African rhythms on djembes while Year 8 has enjoyed a unit of Music of the 1960s. Year 9 has learnt about diatonic chords, chord progressions and structures and applied them to lots of pop songs. Year 10 has been rocking out with a Rock composition and performance task with our new teacher Ms Warwick, who is a valuable addition to the staff here at JJ.

Senior Music has shown development in individual performance with both classes performing solos for assessment. These classes are building skills to show off at Big Night Out XVIII on Thursday June 27! Here we have some unseen photos of Big Night Out XVII to get you excited!

Adrian Lim-Klumpes



Big Night Out XVII

TAS

So much is already happening in TAS this year! Year 7 has started to learn technical skills in the timber workshops. Students have used acrylics to create their own keychains. Students in Year 8 have been learning Coding where they are even learning how to create their own video games with their own characters and stories. Year 8 are also completing agriculture, where we are learning all about urban farming and how we can create small gardens in our cities to provide healthy and sustainable food sources. Year 9 food technology students are learning about the history of food in Australia and how multiculturalism shapes modern cuisine in our country. Year 10 Food technology students are completing their first catering event, preparing food for customers using the skills they have developed in class.

Our Year 12 Design and Technology class are also working hard towards completing their Major Design Projects. All students in the class have come up with creative ideas and are working towards submitting them midway through Term 3. We are excited to see what they produce and how their ideas develop over time.

TAS Faculty

Hospitality

Year 11 Hospitality

Year 11 students have started off the year with a positive start, demonstrating an incredible amount of potential for the future chef's. Students in year 11 have already made wraps, sandwiches, toasties and salads.

Year 12 Hospitality

Year 12 are about to begin their final work placement where they will go out into the workforce and work in kitchens amongst the local community. Students will gain invaluable experience and potentially gain employment if successful in their placements.

William Truss



HSIE as always is having a busy and exciting term, all courses have completed their first or second assessment tasks. Students have been taking their learning and classwork seriously. We also had a wonderful Harmony Week and Harmony Assembly where SRC students and HSIE teachers led a powerful assembly to celebrate diversity in our school and we thank Together for Humanity for their continued support and for the powerful words of the guest speaker Calisha Bennet.

To finish the term off Year 10 attended the Jewish museum to support the learning of the current topic the Holocaust. Students had the opportunity to listen to the testimony of Mark Spigelman, a Polish born survivor of the Holocaust. While he was only quite young during the events of the Holocaust, Mark spoke of his early memories in the small village of Bedzin, and of all of the stories and experiences of his family. These included hiding in a makeshift bunker in the ghettos, being smuggled in a sack by his father, and even being disguised as a girl to avoid being identified as a young Jewish boy. Part of Mark's experiences can be found in the Pulitzer Prize winning graphic novel "Maus", which was written by his cousin Art Spiegelman. Mark currently lives in Maroubra and has been living in Australia for over 70 years. His final words of advice for our Year 10 students were "Never hate. Sure, you can dislike people, but you should never hate anyone for simply being who they are."

This was then followed by a final school assembly led by the HSIE faculty and our SRC to commemorate Australia's veterans with an ANZAC Day assembly.

There will be a change to staffing, Ms Batista De Mello will now be relieving as Deputy Principal Community for the rest of the year, from Term 2, Week 2 we welcome Ms Kharitos as relieving Head Teacher HSIE/PDHPE/Sport from term 2 and Mr McGuire will take over Ms Batista De Mello's Year 7-11 classes. Welcome and we look forward to you both joining the faculty.

HSIE Faculty



Year 10 at the Jewish Museum

Staff changes within the Mathematics and Science Faculty

We would like to welcome Edward Barrett to the Mathematics and Science team. His knowledge and passion for teaching students is only going to strengthen the faculty whilst providing expertise in providing the best education to his students.

Congratulations to Alex in Year 9

A huge congratulations to Alex in Year 9 for securing a bronze medal in the prestigious World Science Olympiads over the summer break. Alex's dedication and passion for scientific inquiry serve as an inspiration to us all, showcasing the incredible talent within our student body.

Exploring the Chemical World Science 7 - 10

In Science classes spanning Year 7 to 10, students are currently immersed in a fascinating exploration of the chemical world. Through engaging lessons and hands-on experiments, they are delving into how chemicals are utilised in the world around us. This exploration not only enhances their scientific knowledge but also cultivates a deeper appreciation for the role of chemistry in our daily lives.

Pi Day Success

Our recent celebration of Pi Day was a resounding success! Students across various year levels showcased their mathematical prowess by memorising Pi to an impressive amount of decimal places. Congratulations to all the students who received prizes for their remarkable achievement, highlighting their dedication to mathematical excellence and numeracy.

Mathematics 7 - 10 Focus on Geometry and Number Relationships

Mathematics classes from Year 7 to 10 are delving into the captivating realms of geometrical shapes and number relationships. Through engaging activities and problem-solving tasks, students are honing their mathematical skills and developing a deeper understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts.

Senior Sciences and Mathematics

Our senior students are nearing the completion of their assessment tasks. Their hard work and enthusiasm for these subjects are evident in the exceptional quality of work they are producing. We commend them for their dedication and look forward to witnessing their continued growth and achievements. A reminder the Year 11 Biology excursion is on 16th of May, Term 2. Be sure to hand in your permission note to apply your skills in a field study around Cronulla Beach.

Steve Smith

Support Unit

A busy term in the Support Unit, where we have been working on our Mexico Project making our very own Chichen Itza Pyramids. In Science we have been learning about solids, liquids and gases and have done some cool experiments looking at how changes occur. Some of our senior students participated in TAFE this term, learning about screen and media. As always, we had fun on our big school days at the School Swimming Carnival and Harmony Day.

Support Unit Faculty



English, Drama & LOTE

The English/Drama/Languages faculty has been as busy as usual, nurturing the minds of students and hopefully imparting some knowledge and wisdom along the way!

Drama

We currently have two Drama classes up and running and they are clearly loving the challenge of expressing their creative abilities on the stage. Year 9 are having fun improvising their acting skills, while the Year 10 class are learning all about Commedia dell'arte, a form of masked theatre which was hugely popular in Europe between the 16th and 18th centuries.



Spanish

The Year 8 Spanish classes have been thoroughly immersed in this wonderful Romantic language and have been learning to speak about themselves as well as the various forms of greeting and farewell. Here is an outline of all the fascinating things the students will learn this year.

Year 7 English

The Year 7 students have been the pilot group to start the brand new English syllabus and have been enjoying a genre study focused entirely on Adventure. They have read and viewed a vast assortment of Adventure texts and been thoroughly versed in all the conventions of this action-packed genre. The term has culminated in an opportunity to compose their own stories, and we look forward to sharing some of them with you in Term 2.

Year 8 English

Year 8 has just finished a thematic study on the concept of the 'hero's journey' focused on 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' which is an excellent example of the archetype. They enjoyed reading this text and many of them have searched the school library, looking eagerly for sequels. A couple of them are already well on their way to finishing the entire series! This is great news, especially as they and our Year 7 group are working towards completing the 2024 Premier's Reading Project!

Year 11 English

This cohort has just finished a unit called 'Reading to Write' which is designed to help them develop and refine their writing skills by reading lots of beautifully-crafted texts. They have just completed their first assessment task for their senior studies, which required them to compose an original story and complete a short reflection. Most of them have made an excellent start to senior school and we look forward to challenging them in Term 2 with the next unit!

Year 12 English

Congratulations must go to Year 12 as they have just reached an important milestone: exactly halfway through the HSC course! This term saw the Advanced cohort study a unit called Textual Conversations, focusing on the interplay between the poetry of Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes, which has certainly made for some interesting discussions in class! Meanwhile, the Standard cohort learnt a great deal about the perceptions of migrants and refugees in Australia through their study of Contemporary Asian poetry..

All in all, it has been a productive start to the year, and we will all enjoy a well-earned rest after a somewhat frenetic 11 weeks. Stay safe, everyone, and we will see you in Term 2!

The English, Drama and LOTE Faculty

Library

Welcome to our school library, where knowledge knows no bounds and curiosity is always encouraged! We're thrilled to announce that our library doors are open wide, ready to welcome students eager to explore the wonders of literature and learning. Whether you're seeking a quiet corner to dive into a captivating story or in need of resources for your latest research project, our library is here to support you every step of the way. Come join us in this haven of books and discovery, where each visit promises new adventures and endless opportunities to expand your horizons.

The Library is open:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
8-20am-8:50am, Break 1 & Break 2

Wednesday: Break 1 only

Breakfast Club is on Monday and Thursday mornings!

LIBRARY BREAK ACTIVITIES TIMETABLE

MONDAY

MINECRAFT

TUESDAY

BOARD GAMES & QUIET COMPUTER PLAY

WEDNESDAY

QUIET READING & STUDY

**CLOSED
B2**

THURSDAY

CHESS CLUB & QUIET STUDY

FRIDAY

QUIET READING & STUDY

Year 9

All students participated in the Survivor Life Skills Program incursion to learn about how to get a part-time job and their rights. Congratulations to Lily Carter and Aldardelger Dagiiranz who were the prize winners of the competition at the end of the session.

Year 10

Students created their Unique Student Identifier (USI). It is an individual education number for life. It also gives students an online record of their vocational education and training (VET) undertaken in Australia. If they are at university, TAFE or doing other nationally recognised training, they need a USI. Students also expressed interests in various career opportunities which include short TAFE courses in Term 2 such as carpentry, introduction to cafe skills and forensics skills to name a few.

Year 11

TAFE students were excited to start their courses this year which include Real Estate, Plumbing, Electrotechnology and much more. This year, we are pleased to form a partnership with the University of New England to host the delivery of the Allied Health: Human Services course at our school.

Year 12

Students have had their careers interviews and have a better understanding of their direction after high school. Year 11 and Year 12 participated in a UNSW Gateway Presentation to learn about the various university courses, admission procedures and other wonderful programs UNSW have to offer. We have more Careers initiatives and opportunities next term to support the post-high school pathways of our students.



Mr J. Chen

Careers Adviser



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

Your Wellbeing Nurse

You can talk to your wellbeing nurse about:

- health and wellbeing concerns
- healthcare options
- finding health and community services.

Any student enrolled at a school with a wellbeing nurse and their family members can get support from a wellbeing nurse.

Parents

- Contact the school to ask to see or speak to the wellbeing nurse
- Let a teacher or the school learning and support team know you would like to see the wellbeing nurse.

Students 14 years and older

- Let a teacher or the school learning and support team know you would like to see the wellbeing nurse
- Approach the wellbeing nurse directly to speak with them privately.

Your wellbeing nurse is at the school on

Wednesday

Contact your wellbeing nurse

Your wellbeing nurse is a highly skilled registered nurse from NSW Health.

Your wellbeing nurse helps students and their family get health and wellbeing support.



Visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/whinprogram or scan the QR code for further information about wellbeing nurses.



Wellbeing and Health In-reach Nurse Coordinator program



JJ Cahill Memorial High School Uniform

Junior Uniform (Year 7 – 10)



Girls Light Blue Blouse



Girls Navy/White Skirt



Girls Navy Tailored Pants



Boys Light Blue Shirt



Boys Light Blue Long Sleeve Shirt



Boys Navy Shorts



Boys Navy Tailored Pants

Senior Uniform (Year 11 – 12)



Girls White Blouse



Girls Navy Skirt



Girls Navy Tailored Pants



Boys White Shirt



Boys White Long Sleeve Shirt



Boys Navy Shorts



Boys Navy Tailored Pants

Sports Uniform (Year 7 – 12)



Girls' Light Blue Sports Polo



Boys Light Blue Sports Polo



Navy Sports Shorts



Navy Trackpants

BELL TIMES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY A	FRIDAY B
ROLL CALL	8:50	8:50	8:50	8:50	8:50 YEAR MEETING	8:50
PERIOD 1	9-10	9-10	9-10	9-10	9:20-10:15	9-10
PERIOD 2	10-11	10-11	10-11	10-11	10:15-11:10	10-11
BREAK 1	11-11:30	11-11:30	11-11:30	11-11:30	11:10-11:40	11-11:30
PERIOD 3	ASSEMBLY 11:30-11:40	11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30	11:40-12:35	11:30-12:30
PERIOD 4	11:40-12:40	12:30-1:30	12:30-1	12:30-1:30	12:35-1:30	12:30-1:30
BREAK 2	12:40-1:10	1:30-2	1-1:30	1:30-2	1:30-2	1:30-2
PERIOD 5	1:10-2:10	2-3	1:30-3	2-3	2-3	2-3