

'WINGS'

J J Cahill Memorial High School
school newsletter

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HONOUR

EXCELLENCE

RESPECT

OPPORTUNITY

'Wings' Issue 4 Term 3

August 2016

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COMING EVENTS

19 August - Big Night Out
 12 – 21 September – Year 11 Preliminary Exams
 22 September – Year 12 graduation and dinner
 24 September – Holidays commence
 10 October – School resumes for all students
 10 – 14 October – Year 11 Crossroads program
 14 October – School vaccination program

**RELIEVING
PRINCIPAL'S
MESSAGE****A GREAT START TO TERM 3**

After bidding a fond farewell to Mrs Cowin at the end of Term 2, the school started Term 3 with a mission to continue the great spirit generated towards great teaching and learning and the culture of a supportive and cohesive learning environment.

Term 3 promises to be another busy term for everyone at JJ. Along with our school's commitment to provide quality teaching and learning opportunities for students and staff, we have a host of scheduled events which will keep everyone busy and focused. In addition to Parent Teacher Night and Big Night Out Year 12 will have several practical examinations for subjects as well as deadlines for submitting major pieces of work for courses such as Society and Culture and Visual Arts. Year 11 will finish the term with Preliminary exams.

Students of our partner primary schools will engage with our school for an exciting day participating in taster lessons. We will go through the process of selecting our student leaders. This process involves an endorsed nomination, interview and opportunity to speak to the whole school at a formal assembly. We will also induct our new School Representative Committee at a formal assembly.

Please visit our school website regularly to gain updates of school events and current information. As well as the website you can acquire knowledge linking to our JJ *skoolbag* app and our official JJCMHS Facebook page. We understand not all notes sent home are given to parents. Whilst we encourage students to provide you with information from the school, we also ask parents to seek information from their children with regards to their experiences at school and issues they need assistance. So please accept the invitation to connect with the school's social media platforms to gain information about our school and your child.

PARENT-TEACHER NIGHT – TUESDAY 9 AUGUST 3.30 – 7PM

Students were issued with a booking form and information regarding our next Parent-Teacher Night. Please take advantage of the platform to make bookings online to save yourself the experience from waiting for other interviews to conclude. Bookings can be made online using the Millennium Schools Admin Parent Portal or students can arrange a mutually convenient time with their teacher on behalf of their parents.

BIG NIGHT OUT – FRIDAY AUGUST 19

Our exciting annual community event, 'Big Night Out' showcases the musical, creative and performing talents of our students and teachers. We appreciate the commitment and support of our students, staff and P+C who will also help with catering for the event. Many thanks go to the staff and students who will devote hours and hours of their personal time to make each performance and the night a huge success.

NEW STAFF

We have welcomed Mrs Rosalie Maher who returns from leave as Head Teacher Special Education. Mrs Maher will teach a class of the Special Education unit and I am sure she will provide great leadership and direction for staff and students. Whilst Stephen Theodorou has worked at JJCMHS during Semester 1, we have been able to increase his working capacity to five days of the week. Mr Theodorou will teach English and History classes for the remainder of 2016. Ms Leanne Morris has replaced Ms Wynn for the remainder of 2016 whilst she is on maternity leave. Ms Morris will be teaching Home Economics and Hospitality.

STAFF NEWS

Ms Wynn welcomed a baby boy on 5 July 2016 and we hear both mum and bub are doing well.

Mrs Stathis has accepted a secondment with the Learning and Engagement Team at Arncliffe office for the remainder of Term 3. We hope she enjoys this opportunity to engage in the Department in a different way, supporting students with their educational development.

If you have questions regarding your child's education please do not hesitate to call the school and ask to speak to the appropriate person fully supporting them with their learning.

John Mifsud,
Relieving Principal

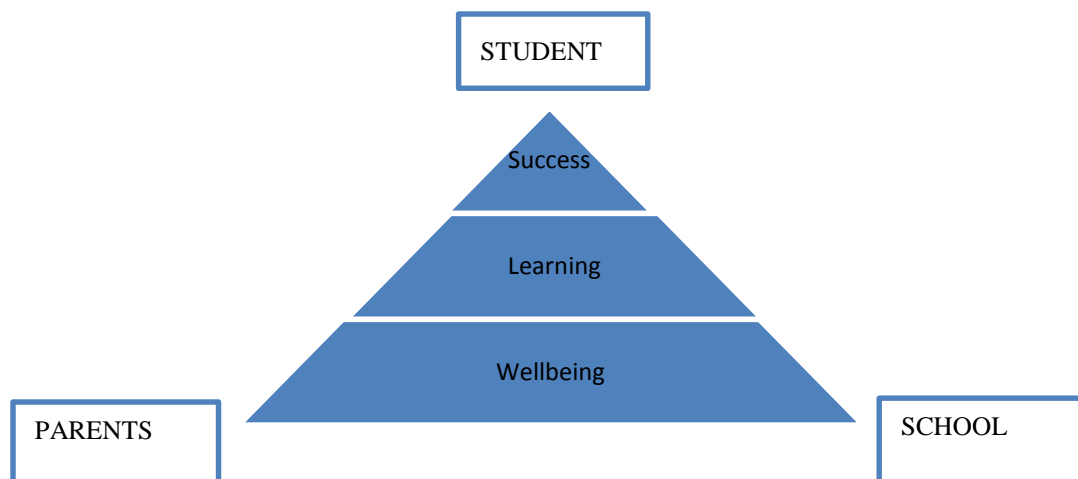
**RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

It is a great honour to undertake the role of Relieving Deputy Principal to play a larger role in the success of JJ Cahill Memorial High School. I would like to offer Mr Thomas Feinberg my congratulations in his new opportunity as Relieving Head Teacher English/LOTE/Drama.

21ST LEARNING SUCCESS!

Over the last few years, JJ has built momentum in our culture of teaching and learning with our focus on Numeracy and Literacy, technology and critical thinking skills (21st Century Learning). I look forward to working with our staff to enhance these focus areas with a view to bring more success to all our students.

This success relies on a triangle of relationships:



If the three key partners work together, we can set up our students/children for success in whatever endeavour they choose. We must talk together and work as team. I invite all our parents and students to 'check in', phone in, write a letter or send a message via Google Classroom to discuss how we can work together and ensure the success of our students.

This week we have had the great opportunity to share our learning with our Primary School Partners at Gardner's Road Public School, Eastlakes Public School and Mascot Public School in Discovery Week. The students have been engaging in lesson covering Science, TAS, Food Technology, Music, Drama and Visual Arts. It is a real taste of High School and helps our young learners get a sense of what High School *looks* and *feels* like. My great thanks to all our Primary School Colleagues for their support and I also thank the team here at JJ who plan, organise and deliver engaging lessons to inspire and excite our young learners.

David Gracie,
Relieving Deputy Principal

AN UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

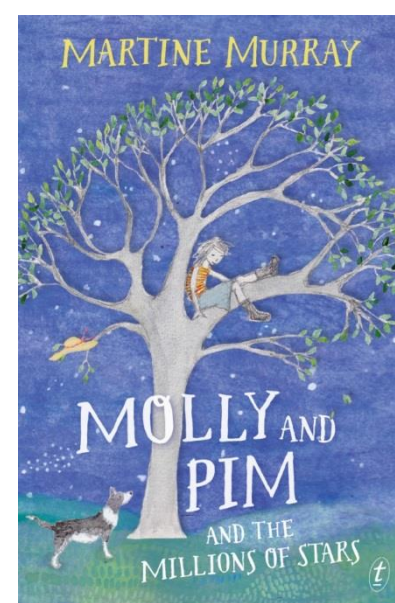
NEW TEXTS

Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars

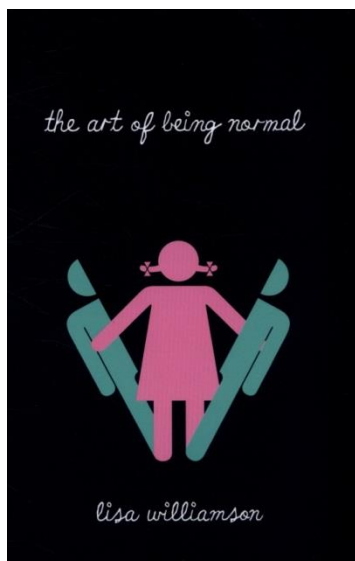
Molly has a strange life. Her mama collects herbs at dawn and makes potions, her father and brothers have gone away, and her house feels like a gypsy caravan. Molly doesn't want to know anything about herbs and potions. She wishes she could be more like her best friend, Ellen, who has a normal family and a normal house. But she is also secretly interested in Pim, who is inquisitive and odd and a little bit frightening.

When Molly's mama makes a potion that has a wild and shocking effect, Molly and Pim look for a way to make things right, and Molly discovers the magic and value of her own unusual life.

Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars is a delightful story about friendship and acceptance and learning to see the wonder in the world
(<https://www.textpublishing.com.au>)



The Art of Being Normal



Two boys. Two secrets.

David Piper has always been an outsider. His parents think he's gay. The school bully thinks he's a freak. Only his two best friends know the real truth – David wants to be a girl.

On the first day at his new school Leo Denton has one goal – to be invisible. Attracting the attention of the most beautiful girl in Year 11 is definitely not part of that plan. When Leo stands up for David in a fight, an unlikely friendship forms. But things are about to get messy. Because at Eden Park School secrets have a funny habit of not staying secret for long . . . (<http://www.davidficklingbooks.com>)

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

JJ Cahill Memorial High School library continues to be a hub of activity. Outstanding NEW books are being placed on our shelves every day! These books offer students a huge range of fiction and non-fiction reading.

In other news, students in science have also been involved in a hands-on research task in the library. As the Teacher-Librarian I have been working collaboratively with Mrs Griffith in the Science Faculty to enhance the research skills of Year 7 students. This research task has involved teaching students about: Google search terms and the search engine, effective note taking, avoiding plagiarism, analysing websites for accuracy, currency, authority, purpose and relevance, and finally, planning and designing a model of a cell. Year 7 are excelling in their application of research skills and will no doubt be transferring these skills to other KLAs across the curriculum.

Remember: if in doubt, visit the library!

Tara Mylan
Teacher Librarian

STATE MUSIC CAMP – AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!

State Music Camp was one of the most unforgettable experiences ever! Mr Fienberg, Rafael and I had heaps of fun. We met heaps of kids and teachers from all across NSW with so many different personalities. We spent all day playing instruments/singing and ended each day practising the camp item with the discovery that Mr Fienberg can sing both Bass and Tenor. At the camp we call the teachers by their first name, but as a habit Rafael and I thought it was a bit weird to call Mr Fienberg by his first name 'Tom' so we still called him Mr Fienberg.

From Monday to Friday we had a concert each night. The first three concerts were from students who volunteered to perform. Rafael performed 'Minor Swing' on Monday night, while on Tuesday I performed 'What a Wonderful World' with Mr Fienberg accompanying me with the piano. On Thursday we had a concert involving one of our ensemble groups including Mr Fienberg and Rafael's Jazz Ensemble, and the Music Theatre group involving me.

On the last night, all the main ensembles performed for parents and friends. These groups included an orchestra, two wind ensembles, vocal ensemble and stage band - who created an original composition with the help of Mr Fienberg.

So long story short, State Music Camp started amazingly and ended spectacularly. It's all thanks to Mr Fienberg for encouraging us to sign up for something this big and a huge thanks also goes to the School's P&C who offered to donate the money for us to join. I strongly recommend other students to take up this opportunity in the years ahead!



This photo (right) shows Raf giving his performance of 'Minor Swing'.

Tobias Alesana-Rennie,
Year 11



BIG BAND 2016

Thanks to a generous donation from the South Sydney Graphic Arts Club in 2013, the school purchased instruments for a Big Band. A Big Band consists of a rhythm section (Piano, Guitar, Bass and Drums) and horns section (trumpets, trombones and saxophones). It also provides opportunities for gifted vocalists to collaborate with the band. Big Bands play a wide variety of music from jazz and popular genres. This year we will also be initiating a senior jazz ensemble, which is available to students who have participated in the Big Band for a minimum of two years.

To be part of the band, students who hire instruments are required to pay a yearly fee of \$50, which covers servicing and tuition. These lessons will be critical for improving the overall quality of the band. In addition, all big band students may be required to pay an additional fee to attend/participate in band excursions/incursions at various points within the year.

Whole band rehearsals will take place on Tuesday afternoons from 3:10 - 4:30pm and be conducted by Mr Fienberg and Mr Chapman. Three sectional tutor groups will be formed in addition to the band: Saxes, Brass and Rhythm. These tutor sessions will be held on a separate morning before school and be co-ordinated by Mr Fienberg, Mr Chapman and Ms Hallahan.

Currently we have the following Big Band vacancies for trumpet, trombone, alto saxophone and tenor saxophone. If your child is interested in joining, an information session for students and parents will be held on Tuesday 29th of March from 3:10 - 4:00pm. Here they will have the chance to try the instruments to see whether they better suited to woodwinds or brass. If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Thomas Fienberg,
Music Teacher

thomas.fienberg1@det.nsw.edu.au

YEAR 12 SPORT, LIFESTYLE AND RECREATION



ARCHERY

Year 12 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation students are participating in archery as one of their activities throughout their final term of high school. They will be using the school's archery equipment to practice and enhance their skills.

Our archery kit is just one example of the great resources available to our students here at JJ Cahill Memorial High School. The class will also partake in rock climbing, ten pin bowling and other recreational activities.

NGAMARU PROGRAM

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are partaking in the Ngamaru program. Ngamaru means 'to see the way' in the language of the Dharug people.

The program aims to develop student's strength in identity, self-esteem, resiliency and leadership capacity. The program will consist of ten workshops, delivered in school at no cost to students.

All lessons and resources have a strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander grounding.

The program is led by Amelia Corr who is the Recruitment and Outreach Co-Ordinator at the Walanga Muru Office of Indigenous Strategy at Macquarie University.

Amelia is a proud Bundjalung woman and she is a trained secondary teacher, currently studying a Master's degree in Indigenous Education.

Luke McNaught,
Teacher PDHPE and Indigenous Education



INTERNATIONAL AND NESB STUDENTS AT JJCAHILL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

JJ Cahill Memorial High School is proud of its success with students from the international community, as well as those from non-English speaking backgrounds. We welcome all new enrolments, who may be confident they will get the support they require as they transition to school in Australia, or simply require extra help in speaking, reading and writing English. They are all very ably supported by Ms Amanda Hull and her team.

*Some of our
international
and NESB
students*



The School
thanks the
Graphic Arts Club
for its continued
support

**GRAPHICARTS
CLUB**

182 Coward Street Mascot
PHONE 9667 4321
WEB www.ssgac.com.au



TICKETS:
SINGLE PASS: \$8.00
FAMILY PASS: \$25.00

JJ CAHILL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS:

BIG NIGHT OUT VIII

DATE: FRIDAY 19TH AUGUST 2016
CONCERT STARTS AT 6:45PM IN THE HALL
FOOD STALLS FROM 6PM IN THE QUADRANGLE

   **#BNOVIII** POSTER DESIGNED BY JAHIN ZAWAD