

'WINGS'

J J Cahill Memorial High School
school newsletter

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HONOUR

EXCELLENCE

RESPECT

OPPORTUNITY

'Wings' Issue 5 Term 3

September 2016

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COMING EVENTS

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
 12 October School leader induction ceremony
 13 October HSC exams commence
 14 October – School vaccination program
 17-28 October – Construction work placements

**RELIEVING
PRINCIPAL'S
MESSAGE**

Schools are a busy place and JJ has been very much so recently with many activities and opportunities made available to students. In addition to our delivery of great teaching every day, we have had HSC Visual Arts major works and HSC Drama performances submitted as well as HSC Music performances completed. Combine all this with Year 11 Preliminary exams, Big Night Out preparations, Year 12 reports, excursions, community access experiences, sport events including Girls Rugby League and guest speakers and it really speaks of the complexity of school business outside of the classroom. I know several teachers have made themselves available for extra tuition and classes to complete preparations for these tasks and the HSC examinations.

BIG NIGHT OUT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

It was as a proud Principal and school leader I watched the student performances and experienced the tremendous atmosphere on our Big Night Out. In the lead up to the event I saw fantastic camaraderie and support between staff and students to ensure performances were being developed and performers had the opportunity to rehearse. Their devotion and commitment was rewarded with high quality performances. Thank you to all who attended the night and supported the school with our stalls and the P&C with their food stall. Without the work from our P&C committee we wouldn't be able to provide such hospitality. A special thanks is extended to Jim, Dimi and the Karonis family of M+M Chickens for their donations.

Congratulations to all THE performers and a special thank you to Mr Feinberg, Mr Sneddon and all staff who helped them with organising the event or ran food stores, sold tickets or had significant roles on the night. Without your commitment to our school and students we would never be able to hold such an event on our calendar.

I am sure you would agree with me that it was a fantastic night, showcasing the fantastic talents our students have. If you were not able to make it on the night please try and keep the date available next year to ensure you can attend. You will be impressed!

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF RAISE MENTORING

Three years ago the school was approached by RAISE who had developed a connection with Macquarie Bank in terms of a community project. RAISE provide a mentorship program and together with a group of bankers from Macquarie Bank they volunteer their time to mentor, guide and support youths helping them to communicate and set out personal goals. In turn positive outcomes have seen the development of qualities such as resilience in overcoming obstacles and a sense of ambition for their future. Each week in Term 3 selected Year 9 students have been involved in mentoring sessions. Outcomes of this significant mentoring opportunity include: stronger personal confidence, increased ability to communicate, improved understanding of challenges and how they can be overcome, increased motivation to succeed at school, increased school attendance and submission of assessments.

The school is very fortunate to have this connection with RAISE and offer the opportunity to our students. We look forward to continuing this connection and observing the continued growth of students who have participated in the program. We very much are appreciative and thank RAISE and MACQUARIE BANK for their continued support and commitment to our students.

FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK TO YEAR 12!

This is the final newsletter Year 12 will be issued as students of our school. Of course they have access to and can read future editions on the website should they want to catch up on all things JJ!

I want to take this opportunity to remind Year 12 students to keep on striving for personal best and excellence. They are a dynamic group of students who have so much to offer society. Bright and prosperous futures await. In the next few years they may take different pathways. Some may continue to study; locally, interstate or abroad, some may take occupational opportunities and some may travel but the experiences and friendships they have shared at school will forge their connections and memories when they meet again next.

I know they will continue to support each other whenever that need should occur. Some have shown a thirst for learning and a drive to succeed, others have been consistent in their application and attendance, while some others have managed their study commitments with part time employment.

The school community, including all staff and students wish Year 12 the best of luck with their HSC exams and their future pathway and want them to know they are welcome to visit and share their stories at any time.

HSC Examination starts Thursday 13 October 2016.

WELL DONE TO JAMIE-LEE

The school has nominated Jamie-Lee Ferguson of Year 7 as a worthy candidate of the 2016 DEADLY KIDS AWARD. In indigenous dialect '*Deadly*' means *good*. Her dedication to her studies has been recognised by her teachers especially her Year Advisor, Ms Bonacci. Jamie-Lee has been recognised for her excellent transition to High School. She has applied herself with diligence and provides valuable contributions to class discussions. Jamie-Lee was presented with this award by the School Executive Director, Murat Dizdar at UTS on Friday 9 September 2016.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION GOES TO RUBY-ANNE VUGREK

Ruby-Anne Vugrek-Burns (pictured) was presented with a Herbert Smith Freehills scholarship award earlier this year.

It was presented to her by Fast Education and was a lovely and very proud moment for Ruby-Anne, her family, the teachers she works with and the school. The school and in particular Ms Stathis and Mr Armson have provided a lot of support to Ruby and her family transitioning to High School. But it has been Ruby-Anne's desire to grow, meet challenges and achieve her goals which has enabled this to happen. She deserves acknowledgement for her own development and maturity.



Ruby-Anne was nominated by her psychologist for her successful transition into mainstream classrooms in Food Technology, Mathematics, Science and Visual Arts and for the enormous all-round improvements she has made to her learning.

John Mifsud,
Relieving Principal



RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This is my first opportunity to present a report as Relieving Deputy Principal, and I would like to thank all the staff, students and the whole school community for their support and well wishes in undertaking this new role. I cannot do my job properly without the support and guidance of colleagues and the school community.

LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER FOR HSC SUCCESS

I would like to acknowledge all the hard work by teachers and students in preparing for the HSC, including the subjects that have already been assessed such as Drama and Visual Arts. There is more work to be done, and I encourage parents and students to join with us to support the success of our JJ students in undertaking the HSC examinations. Parents can help by encouraging their children to attend school every day, participate at the homework centre on Wednesday's, creating a learning space at home where it is quiet, offer a cup of tea and a healthy dinner and encouraging their children to seek feedback on their learning. Most classes are set up on Google Classroom so all learning material is available 24/7 and students can communicate with their teachers after school hours through that medium. Please contact the school for other ways to support our students at home. Your children's success relies on all of us to join together and work together.

This message, however, is not exclusive to our HSC students. It applies for all our students. JJ is continuing to improve and our NAPLAN results continue to demonstrate the effort of our learning together toward achievement.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE

I had the opportunity to attend the Secondary Deputy Principal's Conference last week. The conference theme "We're All in This Together" draws on supporting delegates in building communities and delivering outstanding educational leadership. The conference showcased samples of exceptional practice and reinforced essential components of leading and managing schools in the current educational landscape.

The keynote speakers focused on our role in leading communities and leading learning. They included Jihad Dib MP (Ex-Principal Punchbowl Boys), Wayne Pearce OAM (Leadership and Team Performance), Manoj Chandra Handa (Divergent Thinking/Gifted Education) and John Fischetti (Teaching and Learning for the Innovation Age).

I learnt so much from the experience and I look forward to bringing my learning to JJ to improve how we teach, what we teach and how to improve learning for our whole school community. Listening to Mr Dib was particularly inspirational and a great privilege.

I wish all of HSC students the very best for the upcoming months of study, examinations and hopefully, celebrations.

David Gracie,
Relieving Deputy Principal

AN UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

NEW TEXTS

Dark Fires Shall Burn

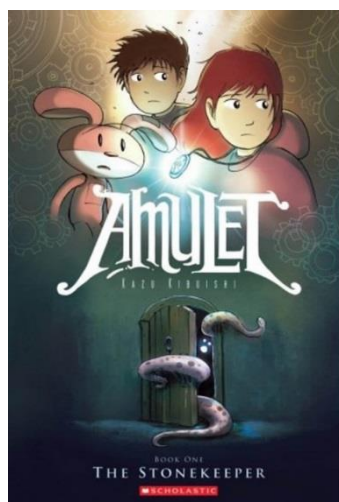
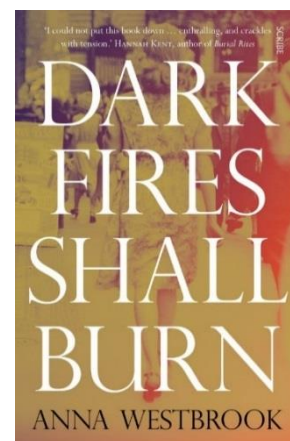
Inspired by the true events of an unsolved murder, Sydney, 1946.

Eleven-year-old Frances and her best friend, Nancy, are growing up in the doglegged streets of Newtown and into a world they do not understand. It is the aftermath of World War II, and thousands of damaged soldiers have returned to their homes, bearing the psychological scars of battle with them.

Meanwhile, in the seediest part of the city, fifteen-year-old Templeton lives amid bootleggers, gangs, and prostitutes with his sister Annie and her friends. Threatened by Annie's abusive lover, the nefarious Jack Tooth, they are forced to seek protection from a Darlinghurst madam: the once-powerful grog runner Dolly Jenkins. Soon, Templeton is drawn into an enigmatic underbelly of violence, sexuality, and secrets.

When Frances witnesses a shooting one night, these two worlds become inevitably intertwined. Templeton and the girls must grow up quickly and confront the darkness in the lives of those around them.

Dark Fires Shall Burn is a superbly atmospheric, powerful debut about justice, vengeance, and the power of grief (scribepublications.com.au).



Amulet – Book 1 The Stonekeeper

Graphic novel star Kazu Kibuishi creates a world of terrible, man-eating demons, a mechanical rabbit, a giant robot---and two ordinary children on a life-or-death mission.

After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous. Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals.

Eventually, they enlist the help of a small mechanical rabbit named Miskit. Together with Miskit, they face the most terrifying monster of all, and Em finally has the chance to save someone she loves (goodreads.com).

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE LIBRARY?

Author Visit by James Knight for Book Week

On Thursday the 25th, we had a special guest presentation by acclaimed author and journalist, James Knight. James' presentation was enthralling and captivating as he got numerous students up on stage to be involved in his story telling.

James reminded students of the importance of storytelling in our daily lives and in the modern age. James was so impressed by JJ Cahill students, who flocked at the end of the session to thank him and gain valuable advice about journalistic careers and writing skills.



This is what he posted on our JJ Cahill Official Facebook page;

"Today was a real highlight: I spoke with Year 9 to 11 students at the JJ Cahill Memorial High School, Mascot, in Sydney. What a great bunch of 'tomorrow's adults': courteous, friendly, vibrant, and with beautiful warm smiles.

"Thank you guys. And a big thank you to Tara and Tom, and all the staff. I walked away with a real pep-in-the-step. We're all in this together!

Smiles, James".



Oliver Training!



"Oliver" training has been rigorous this term. The entire school was witness to an outstanding demonstration of the software by Game Limsila. In addition, year 9 students have been undertaking library lessons where they have been shown around the capabilities of Oliver and a guided tour of scientific websites that will help them in the future of their research.

Homework Club

The library will be open from 3:05pm to 4:30pm on Wednesday afternoons as Term 3 comes to a close. This is a very busy time of the year for students and teachers alike and the homework club will help to support students who need that little bit of extra help.

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

JJ Cahill Memorial High School library is now packed with new resources that have just been released by the board of studies. The new HSC Exam work books are now ready for students doing that last little bit of study for their final exams.

Our next meaningful movies session will be running next week with the movie to be announced on Monday. Meaningful movies at JJ Cahill MHS library focus on showing films that comment on humanitarian issues and provide insight into the human condition. The previous meaningful movies session was a hit, with the library packed with students to the extent where we need to get some extra seats! This next session will no doubt be a fruitful, educational venture.

Student printing is now available from any desktop computer in the library. Parents and carers are reminded to pay their school fees so that printing is possible. If fees aren't paid, then students' accounts remain empty and they are unable to print assessment tasks and important documents required throughout the remainder of the year. Students should go to the school admin office to pay these fees.

Lastly, with so many new novels it may appear that other text types are becoming dated but this is not the case. This week I have placed 20 new Manga texts on the shelves and an armful of Graphic Novels are on display. I encourage students to come in and have a look in the "New Books" section and Manga section to see what's new for them! Remember: if in doubt, visit the library!

Tara Mylan
Teacher Librarian

A WORD FROM MR POTTER RE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Year 10 students are strongly advised to organise work experience during the up and coming school holidays if they have not already done so. This will be Year 10 students' second opportunity for work experience this year and will take place in Term 4, week 9, 5th-9th December. All information including the **Student Placement Record** can be found on the schools' website under "Curriculum & Activities">" Student Career Development">" Work Experience".

By the end of this term all Year 12 students will have had 2 interviews, a *HSC progress interview* by either Mr Bosco or Ms Hallahan, and an *exit interview* by Mr Potter to support students with post-school work and/or study goals and direction. Year 12 have also been provided with an *Apprentice and Traineeship information session* as well as multiple *Applying for Uni sessions*. If Year 12 students require assistance at a time when they cannot access help from school or other means, the Careers Advisory Service is a place where they can seek information and support in addition to the information below for all students. Go to <http://www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au> to access the Careers Advisory Service.

All students in the school can gain access to external Career Development online material through the schools website under "Curriculum & Activities">" Student Career Development">" Career Guidance". The three main external websites that can be accessed under "Career Guidance" are;

- <https://jobjump.com.au>
- <https://myfuture.edu.au>
- <https://www.education.gov.au/career-development>

SOME GREAT CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- **Beauty Therapist - 2 apprenticeships available**
- [http://venustus.myshopify.com/Beauty therapy](http://venustus.myshopify.com/Beauty%20therapy)
- 381 Oxford Street, Paddington
- Jeannie Bourke
- 93614014
- 0400825 237
- jeannie@venustus.com.au
- **Warehousing Traineeship**
- Smeg
- <http://www.smeg.com.au/contact-us/>
- 2-8 Baker street, Banksmeadow
- Raeir.etuale@smeg.com.au
- **Transport and Logistics Traineeship**
- CT Freight
- <http://www.ctfreight.com/>
- 2-4 Bradford Street, Alexandria
- Richard 8337 8850

ALL THE LATEST FROM HSIE/VISUAL ARTS/MUSIC

SOCIETY AND CULTURE 'PIP' DAY, 2016

Early next term our new Year 12 Society and Culture students will have the opportunity to begin their major work – The Personal Interest Project (PIP). The PIP is a 5,000-word research 'essay' which will prepare students with skills for further study and contribute to their personal growth. The Society and Culture Association of NSW organise various workshops that allow students across NSW and Sydney to interact with each other and gain a better understanding of the major work and the Society and Culture subject as a whole.

In October, Year 12 will travel to Wesley Conference Centre on Pitt Street to participate in PIP Day 2016. At this workshop they will be exposed to new ideas and concepts which will help them shape their research and essays. They will have the opportunity to talk with students who are undertaking the same course and teachers with accumulated experience of more than a century (100 years).

This opportunity will provide our students with the energy and enthusiasm to begin their own PIP Journeys. We are all looking forward to the wonderful research projects that will be created for submission in 2017.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK AT JJ!

The week starting September 5th has been Literacy and Numeracy week at JJ Cahill. Students and staff have been engaged in a variety of activities to prompt discussion about literacy and numeracy in their daily lives. This is a part of a government initiative to "raise awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy at school and beyond."

Students have been exposed to a number and word of the day to prompt discussion in each of their key learning areas. Staff also engaged in a 6-word story activity each morning to promote creative thinking.

On Thursday our school assembly was run by the Literacy and Numeracy team and staff and students were entertained by a number of literacy and numeracy focused items. Staff got into the spirit of the day by dressing up as either their favourite literary character, mathematician or author.



*Staff
enjoyed
dressing up
as their
favourite
literary or
maths
heroes!*

Brenda Doran-Higgins,
Literacy and Numeracy Coordinator

PDHPE NEWS



While the Rio Olympics has drawn to a close, the 2016 event has certainly served to create increased student interest in sports in general.

The PDHPE staff has noticed the renewed energy with which students are participating in gymnastics which is the current practical lesson focus for Year 7 and 9.

This is a real win-win result; with the students experiencing more enjoyment / involvement and, at the same time, maximising their learning opportunities.

Claire Riley,
PDHPE Teacher

SOME NEWS FROM THE TAS FACULTY!

VET CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS COMPLETE THEIR WORK PLACEMENTS

Year 11 students have completed a one-week work placement in the eastern suburbs giving them access to what really happens on a construction site. Local builders have kindly given up their time to allow JJ students to participate in construction activities.

Milan Vuksanovic said, "I participated in the construction of a house at Clovelly. It was interesting to see how these projects work when you are on site. It has strengthened my interest in a possible future in the industry," while Michael Goumas said after his placement, "This may not be the job for me into the future, but I will focus on achieving a good result at school."

Work place learning programs form part of the NSW secondary school curriculum. They enable students to spend a planned period of time in a workplace, enhancing their classroom learning, assisting their career choices and building their industry skills. They do this while completing their HSC and the option of completing an exam to contribute towards their ATAR.

Workplace learning helps students to:

- Test their job and career choices
- Engage with the wider community
- Complete course work in relevant industry setting
- Learn what employers want in their workforce



*Michael and Milan
after their work
placements.*

This qualification provides a pathway to primary trades in the construction industry with the exception of plumbing. Trade outcomes are predominantly achieved through the Australian Apprenticeship and this Certificate II allows for inclusion of skills suited for entry to off-site occupations, such as joinery and shop fitting as well as carpentry, bricklaying and other occupations in general construction.

VET HOSPITALITY REPORT

Following a long, difficult process and a Herculean effort from Mr Topping (Head Teacher VET), JJ Cahill Memorial High now has a wonderful new kitchen. The new kitchen boasts full stainless steel benches, brand new gas stoves and a

commercial dishwasher. The project has been ongoing for quite an extended period of time and was a project that the previous Principal, Mrs Robyn Cowin, dearly wanted to see completed before her leave.

This facility will allow the Hospitality students to access a realistic, real world environment in which to complete their competencies towards a Certificate III in Hospitality, Food & Beverage. Ms Morris has been waiting all term for the kitchen to be finished and is excited at the opportunity to take classes into the brand new kitchen next term.

The project was only made possible with the assistance of numerous staff and students: -

- Mr Topping- **Design, Project management, Fabrication**
- Mr Herd- **Demolition**, assisted by Year 11 Construction (A. Ashley, A. Awad, W. Charalambous, E. Engwicht, T. Fifita, M. Goumas, M. Hardy, B. Kaya, H. Nancarrow, M. Pakofe, N. Papaioannou, H. Prescott, N. Remondos, R. Taylor, C. Ungaro, S. Vei, M. Vuksanovic, C. Witting,)
- **Bench assembly**- F. Ahokava, Shentelle and Shekira Arrogante, G. Ashley, C. Bounatsos J. Budak. M. Burke, X. Dai, M. Elliott, R. Escalona, C. Kiswanto, K. Kritikos, V. Pham, Z. Phillips, I. Redman, S. Allan, J. Arbis, K. Bartenev, N. Cheung, N. Cuapingco, J. Dupas, D. Henson, M. Kleoudis, M. Lynn, R. Natawidjaja, K. Perera, D. Sebastian, J. Tran, T. Watariguchi, J. Wilianto

I would like to thank Beck Electrical and Bligh Plumbing for their professional and timely completion of all work in the kitchen at a fair price.



Classes such as Mrs Prasad's Year 8 (above) will enjoy cooking in the brand new professional kitchens (right).



EVEN MORE COMPUTERS NOW AVAILABLE AT JJ!

This term saw the installation of 40 new computers into two new computer labs (one pictured, right), bringing the total learning spaces containing computers for student use to six. This will allow much greater access to computers by more classes throughout each and every day. Having a total of 120 computers available for student access gives JJ Cahill Memorial High a computer to student ratio of 1:3 which is much higher than most schools in the local area. This installation came at a cost of \$25,000 and has been well received by both staff and students alike. This follows on from the installation of 21 Interactive White Boards over the last 12 months, demonstrating our commitment as a school to technology and the future of your children's education.



David Topping,
HT TAS

THE ENGLISH/DRAMA/LOTE FACULTY HAS HAD A GREAT TERM!



This term has been extremely busy in English/Drama/LOTE, with student assessments, reports, performance evenings, listening tasks, assemblies and much more.

Earlier in the term the Faculty organised a whole school assembly which showcased student achievements and was hosted by 'V' from the film, 'V for Vendetta' by the director James McTiege. This was to demonstrate Year 11 Standard and Advanced English's focus on 'Representations of Power' this term.

We also screened a short documentary on Year 12 student Louisa De Angeli as an example of the work achieved by Year 9 English students this term. We heard a fabulous short story based in Nevada in 1803, written by a Year 7 student, and also watched Year 12 student, Alex Belivanis, perform his HSC drama monologue (pictured below).



These assemblies, which are regularly hosted by the various faculties in the school, are an amazing way for everyone to get a glimpse of what is happening in different subjects and year groups. It is also wonderful for everyone to see the talent and potential of students at the school.

The English/Drama/LOTE faculty wishes the current Year 12 cohort the very best for their HSC exams and beyond. We encourage them all to redouble their study efforts and make the most of the time between now and the HSC exams.

It is amazing how much students can improve their final outcomes with some concentrated focus and effort in the lead-up to the final exams. Any students who wish to receive further help with their studies in the holiday break are encouraged to arrange a time to come in and meet with their teachers. Year 12 students can also arrange times to come and see teachers during the HSC exams but should always ring in advance to ensure a teacher is available.

Have a great holiday everyone, and see you all in Term 4!

The English/Drama/LOTE Faculty.

ATSI STUDENTS LEADING THE WAY!



It is no surprise that we have more ATSI students leading from the front. In particular, Kyisha Sue in Year 8 and Jamie-Lee Ferguson in Year 7 (both pictured, left) have been rewarded for their efforts.

Kyisha Sue was invited to participate in the 2016 Twugia program. This program is for ATSI students who are exceeding in NAPLAN. During the program, students build friendships and develop an understanding of important issues relating to Aboriginal Cultural Identity and are involved in enrichment Literacy and/or Numeracy tasks.

The students involved in this program are from a number of schools and involved 30 students. A group will be producing short films regarding Identity and Connecting to Country and the second group will be producing 'The Great Taronga Race' with a Numeracy focus. The Twugia program took place as a three-day camp at Wedderburn and a further day will take place at Taronga Zoo.

On September 9, Jamie-Lee in Year 7 was the recipient of the 2016 Deadly Kids Doing Well Award. 'Deadly' is an Aboriginal English word for 'great', 'excellent' or 'fantastic'.

This award can be received by one ATSI student from each school in the Ultimo region. These students must attain some or all of the following:

- Attend school regularly
- Completes set tasks (such as homework and assigned duties)
- Has improved in their school work
- Is achieving at a high level
- Is a positive leader



Above are some of the student art works completed for our NAIDOC Assembly.

Jamie-Lee is a hardworking student who contributes positively to not only the ATSI community, but the school in general. This is a fantastic award to receive and is well deserved. Congratulations to both guragalunggalyung (young women), marri (great) work!

Luke McNaught,
ATSI Programs Coordinator

WELL DONE YEAR 7/8 RUGBY LEAGUE!

On Thursday 25th August junior female students played in a Year 7/8 Rugby League "Legends" Gala Day held at Macquarie University. The team played a total of 4 games and showed a lot of spirit by persisting against other teams who had nearly twice as many players as JJ Cahill could not even field a full side of 9 that was required on the field. Congratulations to the following students; Jennifer Amponsah (7), Lili-Scarlet Furey (8), Charina Jackson (8), Jada Karam (8), Cecilia Manttan (8), Karis McGrath (8), Aisha Ors (8), Kyisha Sue (8), and thank you to the 3 Year 10 students acting as team managers, Tasilina Folau, Kaea Murphy, Litia Togoloa.

Nathan Potter,
Careers Advisor and Sport Co-ordinator

A FEW WORDS FROM YEAR ADVISORS...

YEAR 7

Year 7 students have been busy working hard in their learning and extra-curricular activities. Students have been participating in a building resilience program to support their continued transition into high school, developing skills in stress management, conflict resolution, positive self-talk and emotional regulation.

Year 7 are developing positive relationships with their peers across the school, as many have participated in events such as the school's annual Big Night Out performing and helping out. Year 7 and 8 camp will be held in week 4 of term 4 at the Great Aussie Bush Camp, Tea Gardens. We would encourage all students to participate as the camp is a wonderful opportunity for students to challenge themselves, build team work skills and self-confidence.

Finally, the school would like to wish Year 7 student Annabelle Trotnar (pictured) the best of luck in her upcoming Camden High School Equestrian Competition, where she will be riding her horse Cloud and participating in the Under 14s jumping competition.

Octavia Edelkoort-Bonacci
Year 7 Advisor



YEAR 8

In Term 4, week 4, Year 7 and 8 will be attending The Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens. Students will have an opportunity to build teamwork skills, resilience and friendships. Staff and students will be participating in activities such as:

- Abseiling
- Canoeing
- Duel flying fox
- Giant swing
- High ropes
- Rock climbing

Year 8 have also had the opportunity to choose their elective subjects for 2017. It is an exciting time for these students as they are able to select specialist subjects that they would like to study. The transition from stage four to five is quickly approaching and I look forward to the journey ahead.

Mr McNaught
Year 8 Advisor

YEAR 9

RAISE PROGRAM FINISHES

The RAISE mentoring program will shortly finish and to mark this momentous occasion there will be a formal presentation ceremony in the school hall. The ceremony will celebrate the end of what should have been a journey of self-discovery for participating students. Students have built what can turn into ongoing relationships with their mentors and have learned assertive communication skills and self-reflection. Congratulations and thank you to all the students who participated.

PART-TIME WORK AND EDUCATION

Many Year 9 students have commenced part-time work recently and as such there is no better time for parents to start discussing how to balance part-time work with commitment to education. Students should still be reading every night for between 25 - 30 minutes and they will need to further develop their time-management and work-load management skills in order to complete their assignments. If students need help managing their time they should come and see me, I'm an expert!

ROSA REQUIREMENTS

Students and parents should be aware that the completion of assessment tasks, in-class work, and making a sustained effort in class are essential in satisfying criteria to be awarded a ROSA or Record of School Achievement. Students should check with their teachers if they have assignments outstanding. Incomplete assignments may result in a student not achieving particular outcomes and will put at risk the award of a ROSA.

RESILIENCE

Resilience is such an important skill and Year 9 students are by now very familiar with the concept. Knowing about resilience and being resilient, however, can be two very different things. Being knocked back for a job, performing below your expectations on a test or assessment or peer conflict are all situations in which students need to exercise their resilience. Resilience is also developed through support from home. Students need to have self-confidence, to persevere, and have high expectations of their academic and social achievements. They will do this by being supported at school and at home. Take the upcoming holidays as an opportunity to begin conversations about being resilient, persevering at school and setting the bar high for academic achievement. Most of all, come back refreshed and ready to rip in.

Ricky Drabsch
Year 9 Advisor

YEAR 10

On the 19th of September Year 10 had a great opportunity to go on an excursion to Skyzone. It was great to see Year 10 having fun and looking out for each other.

Mr McNaught was seen doing double twists, many were attempting synchronized jumps and much fun was had in the dodge ball pit where I could see people bouncing off the walls, literally!

It was truly fun to see everyone participating. If you've ever been trampolining at this venue you will surely know how hard it is to negotiate an exit out of the foam pit! I was rescued on a few occasions; Year 10 could clearly see I was struggling!

Maria Perez,
Year 10 Advisor



YEAR 11

All year 11 students were recently interviewed to help support their academic achievement by identifying any barriers that are holding them back. It is important to address any issues early as all too often they can become more difficult to deal with as time goes by, especially once students are in Year 12. Areas that were discussed were attendance, motivation, study habits, current achievement, and career goals that drive students towards the bigger picture of life after school.

The *Crossroads* program will be run the first week in term 4 for all Year 11. This mandatory Stage 6 program focuses on preparing students for the pressures of the 'real world', and includes such topics as the dangers of drugs and alcohol, safe travel and partying, positive relationships and having a positive self-identity.

This year we have also chosen to include a full day safe driving workshop, run by Rotary International. This is a full-day, theory-based training course designed to help young people become more aware of the need for safety and responsible driving on our roads. Students are not required to have any driving experience or to hold a driving permit in order to take part in this course. The NSW Fire Department will also be running their *Rescue Ed. Program* within the crossroads program and this involve a simulated car crash and passenger rescue using the "Jaws of Life".

Students will be issued with a mentor in Term 4 who is a staff member who is willing to support and guide their student towards achievement in the areas mentioned in the paragraph above. Students should be aware that every effort will be made to provide a mentor who the students have identified but it may not be possible for all students to get the teacher mentor that they have identified due to staff unavailability.

I would like to wish Year 11 all the best for their Preliminary HSC exams.

Nathan Potter,
Year 11 Advisor

YEAR 12

The coming weeks will see Year 12 reach the culmination of their schooling. The HSC is seen as the pinnacle of achievement in High School and a great deal of pressure comes with that. The best way to deal with that stress and high level of expectation is to study and prepare. It is never too late to do so. Some ways to revise include:

- **Create "flash cards" of the key terms, study them and test yourself.**
- **Create dot point summaries of the section.**
- **Read detailed articles about a particular topic – highlight and take notes.**
- **Do essay scaffolds/essay plans related to the topic.**
- **Create mind maps or tables of information of the topic.**
- **Test yourself - complete practice exam questions.**
- **Complete whole essays and submit them for feedback.**
- **Organise a study session with your mates and take turns teaching each other sections of a topic. Ask the "teacher" tricky questions to make sure they know their topic.**

In other news the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony will be taking place on the 22nd of September, with the event kicking off at 11:00am. All family and friends are encouraged to attend and share in Year 12's last formal day at J.J. Cahill memorial High School. The Ceremony will be followed with a Graduation dinner at the Lakes Golf Club commencing at 6:00pm. It would be wonderful to have students and parents present to celebrate an impressive milestone.

Finally, I'd like to thank Year 12 for their efforts to date and to encourage them to make the best of the time they have remaining, to remember to behave in an appropriate manner and to finish of their studies to their personal best.

Rocco Bosco,
Year 12 Advisor

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL SASS STAFF



Schools would not be able to run if it were not for hard work of the 'SASS' staff (pictured above). These dedicated people are truly the unsung heroes of any school, ensuring that our all-important paperwork is done on time, assisting with school finances, providing support in the classroom and much more. JJ Cahill MHS recently observed 'SASS Staff Appreciation Week' as a small gesture of recognition for all the help these people give on a daily basis.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our school Breakfast Club, generously sponsored by Kellogg's and Mascot Bakers Delight, has become a regular feature of school life. It runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8.00 am through to 8.30 am.

Besides the obvious nutritional value, the get-together function of the club has significant social benefits as well; fostering better student-to-student and student-to-staff communication.

Students are invited to drop in and try out the club for themselves. It offers both food for the body and food for thought!

We invite you to join the JJ Cahill Memorial High School Community

To ensure the success of our students, we need a professional and active school community.

We are building a school that reaches out to our community members and we are looking for your involvement and commitment to help us make JJ great.

One way you and/or your business can participate in our school community is to offer a bursary.

This is a commitment to funding a student to assist them on their learning journey. This can be acknowledged and celebrated as an award on presentation days or graduation days each year.

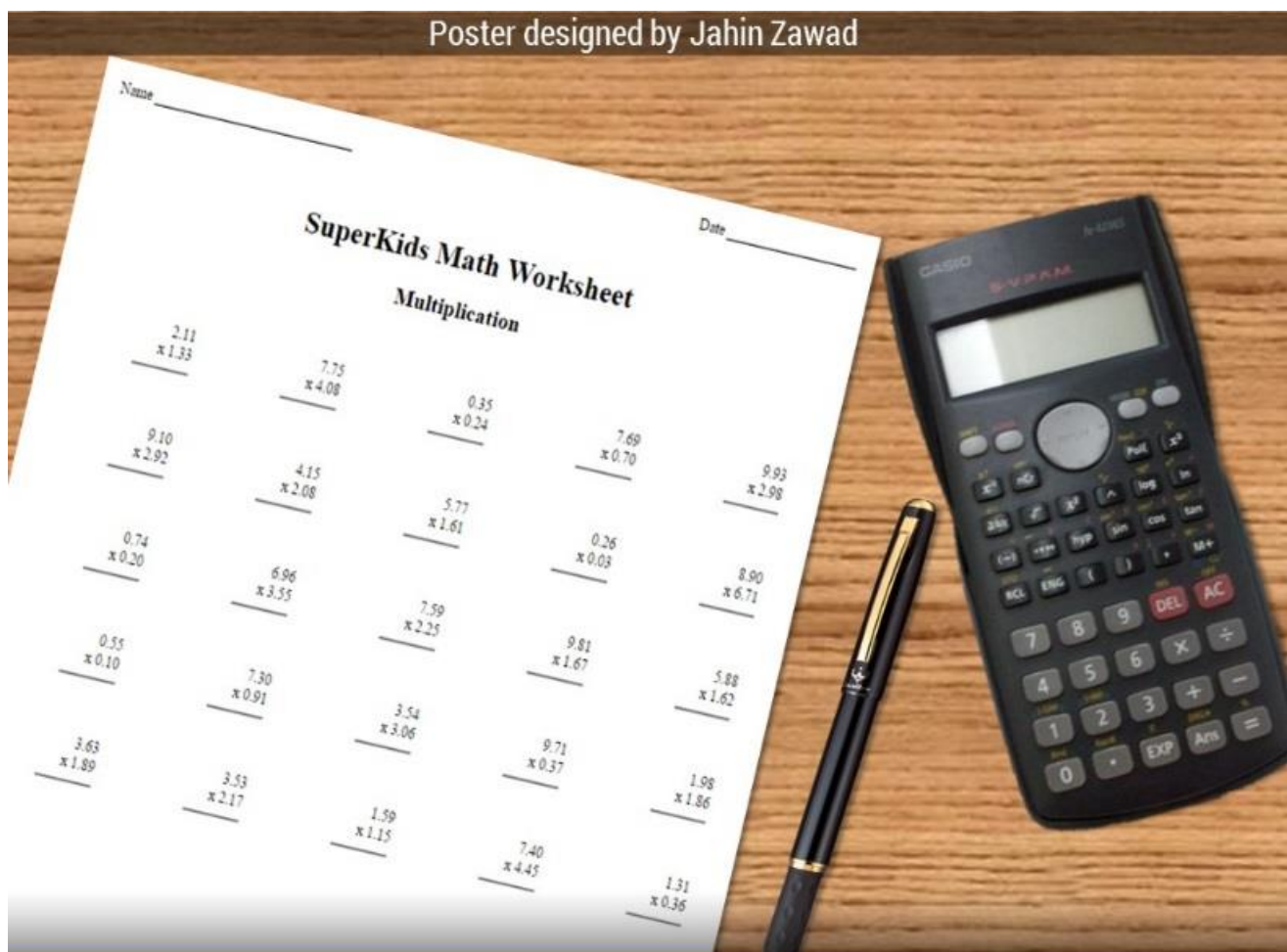
*Each bursary will be named in your honour as a valuable contributor to the success of students
We ask for your consideration to join us and share in the success at JJ Cahill Memorial High School*

A FEW PICS FROM BIG NIGHT OUT!





Poster designed by Jahin Zawad



Homework Club

Students from **ALL YEARS** can come for assistance with homework, revision and developing study skills such as active reading, note-taking and note-making, time management and study planning and academic writing.

Wednesday 3:05 PM at the library



Seeking Hosts/Carers for our High School International Students

- ENJOY SHARING the 'Australian lifestyle' with visiting students.
- EXPERIENCE THE REWARDS of close cultural relationships.
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS from around the globe that can last a lifetime.

If you would like to host an international student attending our school, then please contact one of the registered Homestay Providers listed below or visit their websites for details on how to apply today!

All Homestay Providers offer 24 hour friendly service and support to students and their registered host families.

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OZ HOMESTAY

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