Upcoming Events

Wednesday September 21
Year 12 Graduation
St George Leagues

Monday October 10
First Day
Term 4
Students & Staff

Monday October 31 & November 28
P & C Meetings
6.30pm
Common Room
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

With the end of term next week, it is timely to reflect on the work of our senior school leaders and congratulate them on their efforts. Our school captains Ali El Husseini and Anthony Nedanoski have an extremely heavy workload as they cope with the demands of University courses as well as sitting for the remainder of their HSC. Having completed HSC Chemistry in Year 11 they were invited to study advanced chemistry at the University of NSW. They have been required to spend some time out of school at the University as well as working via distance education. In addition to the independent learning skills they demonstrate so well they have taken a leading role in directing student focus in fundraising, community service and school governance. They have been wonderful role models and mentors to the student body at James Cook throughout their time in the school. We wish them and all Year 12 students the very best in coming HSC examinations.

Our school has been fortunate to have forged links with the Beacon Foundation, a not for profit organisation, that works with schools across Australia to develop a career oriented focus under the banner of earning or learning. Students are encouraged to set goals that result in greater engagement in learning and better defined career and job pathways.

The major student focus is Year 10 and our students have recently been able to participate in a number of important events. The first of these involved two groups of students who were invited to attend the recent Transport and Logistics launch. Called Green Light Day the event was organised by the Transport and Logistics council in conjunction with the RTA to highlight the variety of careers available in the transport industry. One group went to the official launch in the city while the other was invited to tour the Qantas Centre for Service Excellence. The school received very positive comments regarding the behaviour, interest and attitude of our boys.

Only last week some members of our year 10 student group participated in a series of mock job interviews in the school library. Some executive members from an international company called Accenture provided their time freely to help students develop skills in interview techniques and once again our students were commended on their attitude and commitment.

Some time next term, all year 10 students will be asked to sign a pledge committing themselves to continued learning for enhanced job opportunities.

Another Beacon relationship that should prove invaluable to many students involves the international construction and development company Leighton Holdings. Preliminary meetings with Leighton indicate that they are looking to our school as a source of future killed labour in areas that include construction, finance, carpentry and civil engineering works. It is hoped that they will offer at least two positions in the company from the end of the year expected to be a Carpentry Apprenticeship and a Civil Traineeship. The school will be asked to nominate a number of students who will be taken through a selection process to identify the best candidate. The program is expected to widen over the following few years to provide some exciting opportunities for our students. It must be stressed however that the students who are able to take best advantage of these opportunities will be those who are actively engaged in their own learning.

A recent letter from the Director General for Education indicates that all year 10 students are expected to be in school actively participating in learning activities until Friday 16th December. After School Certificate exams students will undertake preparation for senior school studies as well as mandatory Board of Studies workshops on plagiarism and digital citizenship.

At the commencement of term 4 Year 11 students start their HSC courses. Generally Year 11 is excused from sport from this time. However any student who has not fulfilled the requirements of the mandatory Cross Roads PE/Health and PD course will be expected to attend workshops on sports afternoons until all requirements are met. Any student with outstanding sports truancy will be expected to make up missed time before they are given permission to go home to study on the Wednesday afternoons.

“Plus 4” is a concept that the school community can expect to have as a focus for all our work as we move into the next planning cycle for NSW schools. Based on a platform of continuous improvement in all endeavours. For example:

- Four extra marks in every test
- Four extra merit certificates during the term or semester
- Four community service activities
- Four out of school activities for staff
- Four lessons taken for colleagues so that school programs can run effectively
The project has Teaching for Quality as a framework that is supported through:

- High expectations of all school community members
- Planning for success
- Explicit teaching and scaffolding

The concept was presented at the last P&C meeting and will be explained in more detail to students during the next term to come in fully in 2012.

To all families who may be travelling during the October holidays a safe and relaxing journey.

Stephen Outram

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**TAS NEWS**

**JCBTHS Students Help Local Primary School**

James Cook students enrolled in the Year 11 and 12 VET Construction classes have been assisting Brighton le Sands Public School staff with garden re-structuring tasks. Towards the end of Term 2 the Principal of Brighton PS asked the TAS Faculty for student help in a number of construction tasks around his school. As the VET Construction subject is competency based this request was ideal as the students could be involved in “real time” tasks gaining their competencies and Brighton PS would gain improved facilities - a win-win situation.

Every Wednesday a small group of JCBTHS students were transported to Brighton PS and carried out a variety of tasks, including concreting, site preparation and timber fabrication. The boys were a credit to our school and performed to a very high standard. Brighton PS Principal, Mr Power, has complimented our students on their positive attitude, courtesy and hard work, he also acknowledged the positives for both schools and is very keen to continue this interaction.

D Clark
Head Teacher
Thank you to Ron Bergin and the other Old Boys, foundation students of James Cook, for their donation of $370 to the Library.

These funds have been used to purchase some significant books celebrating both Australian History and Charles Darwin.

The books include:

_The Story of Australia: the epic journey from Gondwana to the present day_

This collection of information, photographs, letter and document facsimiles and illustrations offers thought-provoking insights into Australia’s past and present.

_First Australians: An illustrated history_

First Australians is the dramatic story of the collision of two worlds that created contemporary Australia. Told from the perspective of Australia’s first people, it vividly brings to life the events that unfolded when the oldest living culture in the world was overrun by the world’s greatest empire.

_Charles Darwin: On the Origin of Species_

Few books have had such a sweeping effect on science, politics, and society that can truly be said to have changed the world. This new edition of Darwin’s masterwork gives us an unprecedented insight into the development of the theory of evolution by natural selection. More than 300 illustrations, and facsimile pages from Darwin’s other books, meticulously depict the 19th century world and its comfortable certainties Darwin overturned.

_Charles Darwin: an Australian selection_

The impact that Charles Darwin’s short visit of Australia in 1836 had on the man himself and on the emerging nation was profound. Darwin found much in Australia to challenge and inform his thinking.

_Charles Darwin and the Beagle adventure_

The voyage of the Beagle has been by far the most important event in my life and has determined my whole career... I have always felt that I owe to the voyage the first real training or education of my mind. I was led to attend closely to several branches of natural history, and thus my powers of observation were improved...

Ms J. Martin
Teacher Librarian

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WELFARE NEWS

The school late last term, sent out to all parents/caregivers with the half-yearly reports, a notification addressing the issue of Lateness. As of Week 4 of this term, weekly Thursday lunch detentions will be implemented for those students who are arriving to school late on 2 or more occasions without explanation. It is imperative that students arrive to school on time every morning and be present in Roll Call by 8.45. Failure to attend the lunchtime detention will result in a Principal detention on Thursday afternoon from 3.00 to 4.00.

Students are also aware that truanting from class will also result in an immediate Principal's detention on Thursday afternoon. Staff have been directed to submit an Absentee Form at the end of every school day indicating on that form, any students who are not present in class and who do not appear on the Absentee List for that particular day. Unless a legitimate reason is provided for that student not attending that particular class that he has been marked absent from (eg: sporting or extra-curricular activity), a detention will be issued for truanting.

Students are notified of their truancy via a letter handed out in Roll Call at least 24 hours before the detention. Currently, the truancy procedures have been modified so as to minimise the large number of truants serving Thursday afternoon detentions. Daily afternoon detentions are being held (excluding Wednesdays) for the remainder of term.

It has also come to the attention of the staff at the school, that bullying incidents have again spiked across the school environment over the last few weeks. The school takes a strong stance against bullying and anti-bullying programs such as "Bravehearts" and the Year 7 anti-bullying program run in Term 2 highlights the endeavours the school takes to address this issue. Welfare lessons in Year 7 also covers the issue of bullying and embedded in our welfare outlook is a bullying and restorative approach which can be utilised by all staff when addressing a bullying incident.

As the term progresses, more anti-bullying programs will be canvassed for discussion and implementation to supplement the programs and procedures already in place as we try and tackle this issue.

Mr S. Tsaridis

ENGLISH NEWS

YEAR 8 DEBATING

Four of our star pupils from Year 8 recently represented James Cook Boys Technology High School in the New South Wales Premiers Debating Challenge for Years 7 and 8. Neil Amaral, Danyal Aslam, Harry Maidiotis and Ali Najm competed against teams from Moorefield Girls High School and St George Girls High School.

On each occasion we were narrowly defeated, but over the duration of the competition, developed speech skills and enjoyed the opportunity to think on our feet and express our viewpoint on different controversial topics such as 'that homework should be banned for Years 7 and 8,' 'That censoring internet sites should be left up to families,' and ‘that computers hinder our education.’

Unfortunately we seemed to lose the toss on each debating occasion having to argue the opposite to what they believed. However, we still put up a valiant fight and, ultimately, got to eat cupcakes!

Thanks to Kaan Kavaz and Christian Jovanovski for chairing and time keeping the debate we hosted at James Cook and also a big thanks to Ms Tarleton for organising these debates and spending time to come and watch this debate, and also giving us her expertise.

Danyal Aslam and Ali Najm
Years 10, 11 and 12 have had visiting speakers from MEGT, My Freight Careers and Defence Force Recruitment recently.

MEGT provided information on Apprenticeships and traineeships in a wide range of industries in addition to outlining requirements for Resumes, Interviews and Job Applications.

MY FREIGHT CAREERS representative, Mr Chris Lopez, gave an insight into a variety of options available in the Logistics Area, including Import, Export, Shipping, Customs, Warehousing and IT.

THE DEFENCE FORCE personnel provided information in regard to the three services in both general enlistment and officer entry.

This presentation generated a lot of interest and several boys accepted the invitation to the recent ADFA Open Day in Canberra. Several others have completed applications and initial interviews with the Defence Forces.

COMING EVENTS

Term 4

October 6 – Army Careers Day at Victoria Barracks. Any boy interested in attending needs to see Mr Forrester to obtain an agreement form as requested by the Army.

November 15 onwards – Work Experience for Year 10. Please return the completed permission notes by September 9.

Mr H. Forrester
The 13s Rugby League team ended their outstanding season with a convincing win over Kogarah High School on Wednesday the 31st of August at Hurstville Boys’ High. The team entered the grand final undefeated, and although the team was confident in their ability, early penalties saw them 6-nil down in the first 10 minutes of the game.

The fearless defence by Liam Dilworth and Cameron Mason, and some good metres gained by Tyrone Tiedemann in the front row, enabled the boys to get themselves back in the game. With two breakaway tries from Rabih Rizk, a try from David Baker, and consistent conversions from Hassan Mousselmani, the JC Boys entered the break in the lead with a score of 18 to 6.

The second half again started with momentum going Kogarah’s way, but through the strength and speed of Rabih, and a great team try finished by Waqa Batibalei, the boys were able to hang on to win the game with a final score of 28 to 20.

It was great to see Cameron Mason receive the MVP Jersey for his commitment and leadership throughout game, whilst Tyrone Tiedemann received the encouragement medallion for his efforts in the grand final victory.

I would also like to congratulate Antonio Falematagi, who was voted by his team mates as 'Players' Player', for his consistency and guts throughout the entire season.
James Cook Grade Tennis
Grade Finals

On Wednesday August 31, James Cook Grade Tennis played their Grand Final. Three of the four teams won the right to play. All three teams won!

The 14Cs played a tight match against Sydney Tech. It was only in the last singles game that the winner was decided.

The 15Cs also played Sydney Tech – our players won every singles match!

The 15As played Blakehurst HS in a very tough match. The teams were tied, and Matthew and Shubham won the tiebreaker.

Players:

14C
Danyal Astam
Tennay Chauhan
Tom Singleton
Adnan Alamin

15C
Alex Kadinski
Filip Tipevski
Brandon Villazon
Alex Mitkovski
Steven Rozos

15A
Mehdy Diab
Shubham Prajapati
Matthew Ng
Kenny Wong

Thank you to the 14A team for scoring: William Xippas, Tom Tomasi, Shivam Prajapati, Kaan Kavaz.

Special thanks to Konstantin Tasevski.

It's been a great season of tennis thanks to the coaches Ms Sutton, Ms Dauter and Mrs Alibrio.

SPORTS REPORT
SPORTING CULTURE ALIVE AT JAMES COOK

The amazing exploits and skills of the boys have continued to shine in TERM 3. No other school in NSW has been able to eclipse the wonderful efforts of the boys. The success kicked off with the fabulous performance of the Open Soccer. These boys made it to the last 8 in the State! This was a remarkable performance from the team. The spirit and dedication of these boys was an inspiration to the rest of the school.

Just when it looked like the exploits of our school was over, up popped the 15 years Rugby League team. The team played in the St George Gala Day undefeated- well in front of private schools like Kogarah Marist and Christian Brothers, Lewisham. This remarkable effort was recognised by the team, gaining representation in the NSW Rugby League Schoolboys Championships. They were recognised as one of the top 16 teams in NSW SCHOOLS. All the boys represented James Cook with pride, passion and commitment. The boys were only defeated in the last 10 seconds of their final match otherwise they would have reached the quarter finals of this prestigious competition. The note sent by the NSW Rugby League Association congratulate the team on its outstanding performance. These boys really recaptured the enormous sporting tradition that this wonderful school is built upon. Congratulations to all concerned on a job well done.

You may think that it is not possible for any other performances to occur in a small State High school. You would be wrong and have no understanding of the ability of our students. The Under 16 years Indoor Soccer team were next to rewrite the record books for success! They were Regional Zone Champions at Marrickville and were selected to compete in the NSW Indoor Futsal Championship at Penrith. Imagine the boys’ disappointment when they arrived late and were informed that they had to forfeit their first game. This meant they only had two games to finish top of their pool and go to the Quarter Finals. They won their next game 5-1 and so they had to win their remaining match by 8 goals to qualify. The boys, in the true sporting tradition of James Cook, defeated the previously undefeated Kingsgrove North team 12-1. In the quarter finals the boys led Endeavour Sports High School 2-1 but a couple of lucky goals sunk our intrepid team. Well
done to all boys who gave a lot of their time to represent the school so well. On at least three occasions I was asked where this private school of James Cook was located, such was the impressive attitude of the boys!

Now this report should be finished and we can reflect on a successful term – WRONG. Up come the St George Zone Finals and off to battle goes our junior team – the 13 years Rugby League team. This team remained undefeated the whole season and represented the St George Leagues Club in Wollongong, such is the talent of the youngsters. A report on the match appears in this newsletter so I will not sing the praises of the boys or their wonderful coach, Ms Cork, any more.

On the same day, the Open Rugby League team played in their final, and were successful in defeating the very big Canterbury High School team 28-12. This was a very comprehensive victory and brought back the days when Wes Naiqama was captain of our successful First grade team. The team was well represented with a large number of Year 12 boys electing to play and represent the school. They were well led by Ness, Luke, and Kokako. The star of the match was Cleveland Strickland but the most pleasing thing was the mixture of Year 12, 11, 10 and 9 in the team.

While all the huff and puff of big league was going on at Hurstville, the more gentle game of tennis was also underway at Rockdale, and once again James Cook was right in the action. Of the three teams we had in the Grand Final, James Cook was successful in winning all three age groups. We won the 15 C, 14 C and 15 A competitions. The 15 A had not beat Blakehurst High School at all this year but the final came down to a tie breaker and once again James Cook was successful. Well done to all the potential Roger Federers out there!

Finally, I know all boys will join with me in thanking all their coaches this year because without these teachers’ enthusiasm and dedication for sport, James Cook would not be as successful as it is today. At the time of going to press, the soccer boy sand softball team are yet to play their finals so we wish them the very best of luck. Wouldn’t it be good to some more success this term???

Yours in Sport,

G. ERRINGTON
Sports Co-ordinator

CREATIVE ARTS REPORT

Music Excursion to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

19 Yr 7 students travelled, by train, to Sydney Olympic Park for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra’s kids’ concert on the 4th of August. The students were introduced to the different instruments and families of the orchestra. This was an experience that complimented the work studied in class.

An exhibition of Year 9 Visual Art work is currently on display in the school Gallery space. The Exhibition “Human Traces” is an exploration of Human Form and includes sculptures and lino prints. This is available also as a Digital Gallery on the school web site.

Year 12 Bodies of Work have been complete and are waiting for marking in term 4. This is always anxious time and a special thank you to Ms Dauter for her commitment to the students successfully completing this part of their exam.

Ms L Rae

PRIMARY LINKS

Primary Taster Day

On the 1st of September approximately 70 primary schoolers from Arncliffe and Brighton-le-sands Public Schools visited James Cook for a taste of high school life. They spent the day creating marvellous designs in woodwork and creative arts, before enjoying a sausage sizzle lunch. Thanks must go to Mrs Rae, Mrs Dauter, Mrs Blatchford, Mr Raj, Mr Curry and the senior helpers Ali Hosseini, Anthony Nedanoski, Jake Arrogante, James Lui, Kelvin Cheang, Johnson Xu, Johnny Ahladiotis, Kosta Ahladiotis, Ali Zahr, Dennis Risteski, Jack Faenjganda and Dylan Baxter.

Ms E. Neyland
LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist, wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Host an international high school student in February 2012 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

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