From the Principal

As the 2012 school year unfolds, I extend a warm welcome to all in our James Cook Boys High School community. The year ahead is going to be an exciting and challenging one, with continual improvement being the focus of all teaching and learning.

As the new Principal of JCBHS, I have very much appreciated the warm welcome and collegiality offered by staff. In the short time I have been at the school, I have enjoyed getting to know many of them and have been impressed with their professionalism and enthusiasm. Staff are committed to developing explicit quality teaching programs which will be delivered, evaluated and reported upon in order to engage students, in our care, with meaningful and high quality learning opportunities.

The students of our school have also made a positive impression upon me. They are a diverse range of students who add to the complexity and richness of our learning community. I eagerly look forward to getting to know as many boys as possible and finding out about their strengths, interests and talents. At the same time, I just as eagerly look forward to determining learning areas in which students may need extra support and then responding to those needs, in order for individuals to continue to improve, develop and fulfil their true potential.

Importantly, I hope to continue to foster genuine partnerships between parents, students and staff. Our shared objective is to care for and provide the best possible opportunities for our boys. Hence, fundamental principles upon which success and achievement are built, I am confident, will be supported by all in the school community. These principles include: learning is highly valued by all; expectations are set high; learning relationships are respectful and caring; and the wellbeing of all is paramount.

Each school year promises new beginnings full of reflections, goal setting, challenges, potential and achievement. I look forward to the journey ahead of us, where we can continue to support the development of our boys into lifelong learners who are confident, resilient, creative individuals who will, in turn, contribute to our society as active, informed and productive citizens.

Education is a serious business but we must always remember that it is fun, enjoyable and rewarding.

I wish everyone an exciting, productive, fun and rewarding 2012 school year at JCBHS.

Terry Vallis

Upcoming Events

Friday February 17—School Swimming Carnival—Sans Souci Pool—For all students
Monday February 20—P & C Meeting—6 pm in the Common Room—ALL WELCOME
Tuesday February 28—OPEN NIGHT—An opportunity for prospective students and their families to look around the school. New students to the school and their families are welcome to come for a tour.

YEAR 7 CAMP—Wednesday March 14 to Friday March 16
Information for Parents and Students:

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Great news! Our school has subscribed to the ELES Online Study Skills Handbook.

The ELES Online Study Skills Handbook provides a comprehensive and interactive online guide for the school community (students, parents and teachers) as to the study skills needed for success in high school studies. This approach taps into students’ affinity with technology to create a new and effective way to improve students’ study skills.

This is a great online resource for parents and students to address all their study skills issues and concerns and enable students to learn new ways to improve their results at school. The handbook has a huge amount of information for both students and parents as well as a large number of interactive activities.

To access the handbook, go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and login as a subscriber with these details:

user name: forjamescoookonly

password: 92 results

The topics currently covered by the handbook are:

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<th>at home</th>
<th>specific skills</th>
<th>extra ‘general’ mini-units</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Organisation and Filing</td>
<td>2. Writing Skills</td>
<td>2. Becoming a Senior Student</td>
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<td>5. Dealing with Distractions</td>
<td>5. Research Skills</td>
<td>5. Your Brain and Memory</td>
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<td>7. Developing Motivation</td>
<td>tests and exams</td>
<td>+ Educational Kinesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Goal Setting</td>
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<td>+ Living Across 2 Houses</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Lifestyle and Balance</td>
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<td>+ Travel: A Motivator to Learn</td>
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<td>10. Managing Stress</td>
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<td>+ Uni: Lecture Note-Making</td>
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<th>at school</th>
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<th>extra ‘technology’ mini-units</th>
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<td>1. Will we ever use this?</td>
<td>1. Summarising</td>
<td>1. Technology Tools</td>
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<td>2. Using Classstime</td>
<td>2. Active Studying</td>
<td>2. Basic Computer Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Dealing with Conflict</td>
<td>4. Test-Taking Techniques</td>
<td>+ Useful Apps for iPads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Groupwork Skills</td>
<td>5. After Tests &amp; Exams</td>
<td>+ Microsoft OneNote</td>
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In addition to the huge amount of content, the systematic program for students to work through includes: online quizzes, summary sheets, worksheets, lots of FAQs answered, articles and links, online polls, facility to submit questions, helpful grids and planners, jokes and quotes, student thoughts, images and photos, students can submit ideas to win, competitions, audio and video files, streaming audio (to allow students the option to read or listen to the content) And: new content added regularly, new units added each year, new features added regularly. There is also a tracking system where students save the results of their end of unit quizzes and modules over the years.

Please note:
The above user name and password is for the use of the secondary school parents and students AT OUR SCHOOL ONLY. Please do not pass our school’s details onto students or parents from other schools or other individuals or organisations as this is a prosecutable breach of copyright and will result in frequent password changes for our school. Please also ensure you read through the terms of use the first time you access the handbook.

We encourage all parents and students to take advantage of this opportunity to further develop their students’ study skills abilities through this online resource.

Deputy Principal’s Report

I would like to begin by welcoming Terry Vallis, our new Principal to the wonderful JCBTHS community and look forward to many years of collaborative partnership as we all work in unison to bring the best teaching and learning experiences to all staff and students.

2012 has certainly begun in earnest in the classrooms of JC. Our boys are actively involved in their learning and it is pleasing to hear the positive reports from all the staff who report how enthusiastic, well prepared and motivated our young men are as they embark on a new year of learning opportunities.

Our new cohort of Year 7 students had impressed everyone with their seamless transition to high school and the application and attentive approach they have demonstrated towards their studies. We welcome them to the JC community and look forward to six years of productive learning where they can experience the many opportunities that we offer here as we watch them grow into men with increased ability, confidence and readiness to be contributing members of their communities.

I would like to bring to the attention of parents the need to ensure your son is in correct school uniform each day. If for any reason he is unable to be in full school uniform, you simply need to provide a signed note of explanation and your son will be given a uniform pass. Not applying for such a pass will result in an after school uniform detention which occurs on Tuesday after school from 2.20 to 3pm. It is also imperative that your son has black leather school shoes as we are required by OH&S regulations to ensure the safety of all school members, especially in specialty rooms which necessitate solid footwear.

Our first P&C Meeting this term will be held on Monday 20th February in the Common Room, beginning at the revised time of 6pm. This is an opportunity for you to meet other parents, ask questions pertaining to the school and your sons learning and be involved in things that are happening around the school. We look forward to seeing you at this meeting where we can build the relationship between home and school as we all strive for the delivery of quality education for our boys.

There are many wonderful initiatives we have on our agenda to present to students this year. The Welfare team will be presenting the students with Bravehearts Day, a day where Anti-Bullying strategies are examined, as well as inviting guest speakers in to deliver valuable presentations on the dangers of Cyber bullying. Our Careers Advisor will be organising a day where our senior students are presented with strategies to help them with the development of effective study skills, time management and methods to enhance exam performance.

Our student leaders have been wonderful ambassadors of the school and continue to be positive role models for all our community. They will be mentored by Mr Chung, our new Librarian while Mrs Diwakar is absent recuperating from a shoulder operation.

We hope to continue our involvement in district and regional Student Leadership workshops and conferences as we work to develop leadership qualities in the wonderful young men who make up our SRC and Prefect groups. I congratulate Ms Diwakar for her nomination in the Inspirational Teaching Awards. She is a constant source of inspiration to us all.

I would like to congratulate the 2011 Year 10 and Year 12 cohort for their excellent School Certificate and Higher School Certificate results. They reflect the hard work and effort applied by the teaching staff who aim to provide each of our boys with a level of personal success.

On Tuesday 28th February we are conducting our annual Open Night for prospective 2013 students. This is an opportunity for families to come in and see firsthand the outstanding facilities of our school and the wonderful young men we nurture here.

I look forward to the exciting challenges that lie ahead as we move into the new academic year. Please contact me if you require any information regarding your son or his studies.

Vicky Manos
Deputy Principal
WELFARE REPORT

It is with a sense of excitement we begin 2012.

Our new Year 7 cohort have commenced with enthusiasm and are in the capable hands of E Neyland, whom I am sure will do a marvelous job as their Year Advisor. This is also true for all the Year Advisors who have again taken on a very important role, along with their normal teaching load, to act as mentors and provide support in many areas to their respective year groups.

This year will see many programs running, with activities, workshops and meetings taking place covering issues such as bullying, guides to safe transport, Crossroads, U-turn the Wheel and others which will provide all students with an important addition to their normal curriculum.

As in previous years, the Welfare Team will work closely with external stakeholders so as to provide our students with the best possible services in the pursuit of personal growth.

Steve Tsaridis

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

James Cook Boys Technology High School has been enriched over the years with a steady number of International students, nearly all of whom have commenced tertiary studies after completing their HSC. These students have originated from a wide variety of countries that includes China, Vietnam, Thailand, Nepal, Burma and Korea.

Upon arriving in Australia, the International students usually complete an Intensive English language program before commencing their studies at our school, returning home to visit their families only during the school holidays.

Our students at James Cook Boys’ Technology High School have gained a valuable experience in cultural exchange by meeting and associating with International students from such a wide range of backgrounds.

MUSIC REPORT

On Tuesday 28 February James Cook Boys Technology High School will be conducting its “Open Night” for the local community.

Music students from years 7 to 12 will be performing a variety of solo and ensemble pieces outside the Administration Block. Prospective students and interested parents will be able to sample the Piano Laboratory in Music Room 2 and the composition in the Music Computer Laboratory.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS FOR 2012
Kerem Dormanli
Aaron Bartlett
VICE CAPTAINS FOR 2012
Ali El Husseini
Fares Fares
ST GEORGE SPECIAL SCHOOL

At James Cook Boys Technology High School we value the strong links and interactive activities that exist between our school and St George Special School.

At St George Special School there are over 50 students with special needs who range from kindergarten to Year 12.

Our school has an ongoing commitment every Wednesday afternoon during sport time to visit the students at the school and provide assistance with a wide range of activities. James Cook students assist with activities such as ball games, movement, entertaining the students and providing support to the students wherever they can.

At James Cook Boys Technology High School we are very proud of our students’ caring ways and ability to empathize with students who require extra support, and we look forward to creating stronger ties with St George Special School in the future.

M Lee

COMPUTING NEWS

Entries are open for the ICAS computing skills competition.

- The entries cost $7.70/student and close on April 24.
- Entries for the Australian Informatics competition are available for $5.50/student and the closing date is April 5. Please see Ms Neyland for more details. Also a reminder that the computer room is open every Thursday lunch for the game design and robotics clubs. New members are welcome.
**Year 9 Report**

Firstly, I’d like to welcome back all the Year 9 students and their families to another exciting school year. With the commencement of elective subjects and arrival of the laptops, already this year is shaping up to be an exciting opportunity for the boys in Year 9 to further their learning opportunities and showcase their many talents.

With start of the new year the students of Year 9 have been eagerly anticipating the arrival of their new Digital Education Revolution Think Pad, their very own personal laptop.

These laptops are an excellent opportunity for the students to become active members of the digital world, enabling them to be connected to the latest and most innovative online learning applications and programs.

At this stage the students have received the information pack that outlines the expectations and care that is needed to ensure that the laptops are maintained and used in a responsible manner, both in class and at home. Please read through the information pack with your son and return the signed agreement to school so that the roll out of the laptops can commence. We anticipate that every student in Year 9 will have their laptop, ready to use in class by the beginning of Week 4.

Each student is expected to bring their ‘fully charged’ laptop to school everyday but they are also reminded that some subjects will still require writing materials. It is suggested that all Year 9 students come to school prepared with their laptop and pens, pencils, books etc.

If you have any questions regarding the laptops or otherwise, please feel free to contact me at the school. I look forward to working with you and your son throughout the course of 2012.

Ms Cork
Year 9 Student Advisor

**From the Mathematics Department**

A reminder that all students studying ANY Mathematics course must have their **calculator and equipment** with them at all times.

Calculators are available for purchase from the Fees Office for the cost of $25.00

**Upcoming Mathematics Competitions:**

- **Australian Mathematics Competition**—on the 2nd August 2012—ENTRY IS $5.50
- **University of New South Wales Mathematics Competition**—on the 14th August 2012—ENTRY IS $7.70—**BOTH COMPETITIONS MUST BE PAID FOR BY THE 30TH APRIL 2012**
**Term I, 2012**

**Meritorious performance in HSC**

Last year 5 year twelve science students achieved band 6 grades. Four students achieved band 5 grades (80-89%). Congratulations to the families of these motivated and diligent students.

**Science Competition**

Congratulations to the students who participated in last year’s competition. This test provides students with practice for major examinations in the future. 9 credits and 1 distinction are pleasing results.

**Laptops**

Laptops have been used effectively by most students. Students are reminded that laptops are part of the normal equipment which must be brought to classes. Laptops must be fully charged at home. Year 9 Science students, who will be studying Forces/Machines, will use their laptops immediately after receiving them: the start of week III.

**New Laboratories**

Throughout the holidays two of our laboratories in C-block (C1 and C4) were progressively demolished. The next phase, the building of modern, up-to-date facilities will start soon and will be finalised by the end of this term. The Science Faculty thanks the P & C for the strong commitment to the project – especially its political campaigning over the last 3-4 years! Thank you also to Ms Manos for her support.

**Student Research Projects**

Soon our year 8 and year 10 students will start their project work. Students will be asked to research and present a report on a subject of their own choosing (subject to teacher discretion). Two years ago a year 10 student was able to convert cooking oil into lawn mower fuel. This innovative project was supported by an excellent report. Hopefully we will get projects just as imaginative this year.

The very best of the coming project reports will have the opportunity to be exhibited at the Wollongong Science Fair (at The University of Wollongong).

**Mrs Diwakar**

Congratulations to Mrs Diwakar for being a finalist: NEiTA 2011 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards.

NEiTA is an organisation which offers communities an opportunity to celebrate the work of great teachers who inspire their students and their communities.

**Sunburn**

It is disturbing to see many students with sunburn, especially just after the summer holidays. Even though there has been a scare in the media about nanoparticles in sunscreens, a high SPF factor sunscreen should be applied on the skin. UV light is very damaging! Of course, other preventative measures are also important (e.g. wearing a hat).

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**YEAR 7 REPORT**

The Year 7 group has settled in very well at James Cook this year. To help them further adjust to their new high school environment, there will be a compulsory “Big Fish into Little Fish” workshop conducted on Thursday 23rd February at a cost of $7.70/ student.

The **Year 7 Camp** is another important upcoming event on our calendar where students can develop their new friendships. It will occur from **Wednesday 14th to Friday 16th of March** at the Great Aussie Bush Camp on the Pacific Hwy at Tea Gardens. Our year 10 peer support leaders will be there to help the year 7s with the fun activities. This camp will be very memorable for all students and will round off their successful transition to high school. The cost is $250, payable by installments if necessary - to the fees office by the end of February.

On **Monday 2nd April** there will be a **Year 7 Open Night** from 4pm to 6pm in the Common Room. This will be an occasion where parents can meet the teachers and view student work samples. At 6:30pm on the night there will be a cyber-bullying presentation and Q&A session. All Year 7 parents are encouraged to attend and I look forward to seeing you on the night.

E. Neyland
Year 7 Advisor
Welcome to the 2012 year in Creative and Performing Arts. There are a number of events planned for this year including an excursion to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra for Year 7. There will be a Performance Night at the beginning of Term 3 for Music and excursions to The Art Gallery of NSW for Creative Art.

All students studying Music this year are asked to bring their own earphones (ear buds) for health reasons. These are readily available and should cost around $10.

Year 7 and 8 Music require a display folder. These are in the Year 7 book pack or can be purchased from any school supply store.

At times during the year some students may be unable to participate in the Board of Studies Music program for religious reasons. To assist our staff in providing appropriate learning material it is important to inform us in writing prior to the event. A form will be available on the School website. For extended periods the Principal must be contacted before students will be given alternate work.

All Visual Art students are required to have a Visual Art Process Diary. To assist students we have junior books (A4) available for purchase for $4 and senior book for $10. Students are also asked to provide a 2B pencil. Most other materials will be provided. The cost of these is covered by the subject charges. We would appreciate if these could be paid as soon as possible.

All students in 9-12 have laptops and are required to have them as part of their equipment for each lesson. This is particularly important for Photography and digital media students, as our Darkroom has been indefinitely closed for repairs.

Please feel free to contact Mrs Rae (Head Teacher) to discuss the equipment requirements for Art or Music.

Students will be required to complete homework tasks. The school Moodle site will have copies of the schedules and tasks.

L Rae
Creative Arts Head Teacher

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**Staff Information**

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<th>YEAR ADVISORS</th>
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<td>YEAR 7</td>
<td>Ms E Neyland</td>
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<td>YEAR 8</td>
<td>Mr G Errington</td>
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<td>YEAR 9</td>
<td>Ms H Cork</td>
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<td>YEAR 10</td>
<td>Mr S Grose</td>
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<td>YEAR 11</td>
<td>Ms M Loutfy</td>
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<td>YEAR 12</td>
<td>Ms M Lagoudakis</td>
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<th>HEAD TEACHERS</th>
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<td>WELFARE</td>
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<td>CAREERS ADVISOR</td>
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<td>SCHOOL COUNSELOR</td>
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**School Term Dates for 2012**

- **Thursday 5th April** - Last day for Term 1
- **Monday 23rd April** - School resumes for Term 2
  Staff Development Day
- **Tuesday 24th April** - STUDENTS RETURN
- **Friday 29th June** - Last day for Term 2
- **Monday 16th July** - School resumes for Term 3
  Staff Development Day
- **Tuesday 17th July** - STUDENTS RETURN
- **Friday 21st September** - Last day for Term 3
- **Monday 8th October** - School resumes for Term 4
  All Students and Staff
- **Wed. 19th December** - LAST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS
- **Thursday 20th December and Friday 21st December**
  STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS
ENGLISH FACULTY REPORT

Welcome back to all students and congratulations to the students who achieved excellent results in the 2011 H.S.C. and School Certificate exams. Outstanding results were achieved by Anthony Nedanoski and Ali Hosseini who achieved Band 6 results in English Advanced and Abed Hammam, Ron Ng and Mohamed Wehby who were placed in the top 8% of the State in English Standard. Congratulations also to Jamie Kantarovski who achieved a strong Band 6 result English in the School Certificate. There were also many students who attained pleasing Band 5 and 4 results in the H.S.C. and School Certificate exams and many who worked diligently and consistently throughout 2011 and made excellent progress.

At the end of 2011 Ms Loutfy coordinated the Presentation Day for our last School Certificate graduates. The achievements by this group of boys have been outstanding with students receiving academic, citizenship and leadership awards. Both parents and teachers were very proud of this wonderful group of young men. As I expected, most Year 11 English students have been very diligent, organized and enthusiastic in their approach to senior English courses this year. This term teachers are introducing their classes to the Area of Study and students are building their skills in responding to and composing a variety of texts about Journeys.

Year 12 students have also made a very positive start to 2012. Our HSC students are also studying their Area of Study, Belonging. The Area of Study is a very important component of the English course, forming 40% of the HSC Assessment. It is essential that students maintain an organized program of study and revision of class notes so that they can achieve their potential. Thank you to Mr. Grose who gave an excellent presentation to the Year 12 students where he gave them valuable feedback on their last assessment task and provided sound advice about how to work towards improvement.

Year 10 are currently working on their first unit focused on character development in novels. All students should be engaged in reading their class novel and we look forward to some entertaining monologue presentations at the end of the term. Congratulations to the Year 10 students who are showing such a mature and focused approach in DEAR. It is pleasing to see that these boys understand the benefits of consistent reading.

Year 9 students are engaged in a study of the Horror genre and Year 8 students are exploring the many images of Australia. Year 9 students will be composing their own horror story and Year 8 students are preparing to present an Aboriginal Dreamtime story.

It is very pleasing to see our new Year 7 students adjusting so well to High School. Our first unit of work is called, “All About Me” and students are writing about their personal history and getting to know their classmates. They are also learning about biographies and autobiographies and building their literacy skills.

M Rix

Two of our long serving and much respected teachers, Ms Tarleton and Ms Martin sought new career opportunities at the end of last year. I would like to wish them well and thank them for their valuable contribution at James Cook.

H Forrester
Careers Advisor
Welcome to Year 11

After a well deserved and restful holiday, I would like to welcome back our students who have started their senior studies in Year 11 with great enthusiasm, diligence and anticipation. Year 11 is a preliminary year to the Higher School Certificate (HSC) which provides our students with courses designed to extend and prepare them for Year 12.

I would like to congratulate the current Year 11 group for their excellent results in their School Certificate in 2011. It is very pleasing that we have 9 students who have attained Band 6 and 62 students Band 5. Well done! Congratulations to Jamie Kantarovski – the DUX of Year 10. I am asking Year 11 to continue their dedication and interest to ensure that this year will be as rewarding and fulfilling.

The year started very well for Year 11. They are very settled into their classes and have chosen subjects which will equip them to further their studies after secondary school whether at the university or at TAFE. The curriculum will also assist our students to develop their social and workplace skills.

This year, as our Year 11 students start preparing for the Higher School Certificate, so it is important that they settle into a good routine that balances between study, social life and family commitments. I would like to encourage students to take advantage of their time at school this year and to focus on their development and do things that are personally satisfying.

As much as I encourage our students to take a part-time employment, as it can be fulfilling and help preparing them to the workforce, I would like to remind them that it does not take priority over their school commitments. Setting priorities and time management will help them manage their time effectively and enjoy their lives both at school and at home.

All Year 11 students have already started the ‘All My Own Work’ program online. They also will take part in effective programs such as ‘Crossroads’ and ‘Study Skills Program’ throughout the year. These courses will help students develop their study skills and improve the way they manage their time.

Good luck to all our students and I look forward to monitoring their continued progress and excellent achievements throughout their Preliminary Course.

Ms M. Loutfy
Year 11 Advisor

YEAR 10 REPORT

It has been a positive start to 2012 for Year 10, who are about to undertake their most academically rigorous year yet. While the School Certificate is no longer in place, all Year 10 students will have the incentive of gaining the best possible results in all subjects so that they can undertake their choice of senior study in the coming two years.

Along with their academic responsibilities, it's fantastic to see many Year 10 students take on real leadership positions in the school. There is no better example of this than in our peer support leaders for 2012, Tom Tomasi, Zack Geaney, Seth Jones, Ahmad Muslemani, Travis Stibbard, Hassan Sheeth, Femi Amo-Appiah, Elija Sautu and Julius Perez, who have already done a fantastic job helping Year 7 settle into life at James Cook.

With the combination of academic, sporting and leadership talent present in Year 10, it's sure to be a successful year.

Mr Grose