Principal’s Report

July 2012

We welcome everyone back to school for the start of Semester 2. After a very relaxing break we look forward to continue building and further developing our achievements and good work from Semester 1. On the first day of term 3, Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} July, all our staff participated in our mandatory professional learning day. The focus areas for the day included: Dignity & Respect in the Workplace; Youth Mental Health & Wellbeing; Information Communication & Technology Resources for the Classroom and individual in servicioing in the use of our new photocopying machines. All the presenters were very engaging and well received by the staff.

It was very pleasing to see large numbers of parents and students attending our Parent – Teacher evening on Tuesday 26\textsuperscript{th} June in the school library. Student school reports were distributed during the evening and all remaining reports were mailed home the following day. It is extremely important for all the stakeholders – students, teachers and parents – to work together in identifying and supporting ways to further improve student performance. On behalf of all our teachers, I would like to congratulate all our students who received letters of commendation for achieving an excellent set of school reports in Semester 1. Please see the attached list.

All year 12 students must focus on preparing for the upcoming Trial HSC examinations to be held during weeks 5 & 6 (Monday 13\textsuperscript{th} August – Friday 24\textsuperscript{th} August). Also, year 11 students need to ensure they concentrate on consolidating their studies in all subject areas and ensuring a good performance in their final Preliminary HSC exams during weeks 9 & 10 (Monday 10\textsuperscript{th} September – Friday 21\textsuperscript{st} September).

It is with great excitement that we announce the formation of The Bayside Community of Schools: A Connected Learning Partnership. This new partnership of primary and secondary schools will be working collaboratively to develop an effective transition program and enhance student learning outcomes in literacy, numeracy and the performing arts. Teachers from all the respective schools will be provided with opportunities to share professional dialogue regarding best practice in teaching, learning, assessment and curriculum initiatives. The Bayside Community of Schools comprises of: James Cook Boys THS, Moorefield Girls HS, Arncliffe PS, Brighton – Le Sands PS, Carlton South PS, Ramsgate PS and Rockdale PS. Our school will be hosting year 5 & 6 students, commencing in week 6, to participate in a talented and accelerated science program coordinated and presented by our teachers over a 5 week period. The objective of this middle – years initiative is to enhance student learning for all students in our local area through systematic planning, collaborative work and ongoing partnerships between the local schools.

Our school will be celebrating Education Week ( Monday 30\textsuperscript{th} June – Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} August ) with a series of musical performances in public throughout the week at Rockdale Plaza. Our students will be showcasing their talents on Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} August (11:30 am) at Rockdale Plaza. The concerts throughout the week will be a wonderful opportunity for all students in Public Education to individually and collectively showcase their wonderful talents and celebrate the musical achievements of our local public schools.

After a long wait – we have great news to report about our school facilities! We have finally been given access to our two newly refurbished and upgraded science laboratories in C – block. Both modernised laboratories will ensure our teachers are better equipped to provide our students with 21\textsuperscript{st} C educational experiences. Also, the Department has finally approved the long-awaited upgrades to our school hall and TAS building. Our entire school community awaits, with great anticipation, the commencement of work!

Finally, it is with great pleasure that we announce the visit of Mr Geoffrey Rush, Marita Cheng (Young Australian of the Year 2012) and Lynne Sawyers (Australia’s Local Hero 2012) to our school on Tuesday 7\textsuperscript{th} August at approximately 12 noon. Geoffrey Rush is Australian of the Year and an internationally famous actor who will visit our school and speak to a select group of students. We take this opportunity to extend an invitation to any parents who may wish to attend on this day (please contact the school to make a reservation).

Mr Terry Vallis
Australian of the Year 2012

Geoffrey Rush
Actor
Geoffrey Rush has now celebrated 40 years as an Australian actor, achieving the rare international distinction of the ‘Triple Crown’ – an Oscar, a Tony and an Emmy. He also has three Australian Film Institute honours, three British Academy Awards, two Golden Globes, four Screen Actors’ Guild Awards, and last year was inducted into the ranks of Australia’s elite with a Helpmann Award. When he received his fourth Academy Award nomination playing Australian therapist Lionel Logue in The King’s Speech which he also executively produced, the revival of Belvoir’s The Diary of a Madman played to acclaim in Sydney and in New York. He starred in and executive-produced Fred Schepisi’s film of Patrick White’s Nobel Laureate-winning novel The Eye of the Storm, and played Lady Bracknell in the Melbourne Theatre Company’s celebrated production of The Importance of Being Earnest. Seen as a creative mentor by many, Geoffrey philanthropically supports young actors and arts companies. He is Patron of the Melbourne International Film Festival; of Toowoomba’s Empire Theatre Foundation distributing bursaries to young performers; and of the Spina Bifida Foundation Victoria. He is an Ambassador for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and UNICEF Australia. In 2011 he was honoured to be appointed as foundation President of the newly-established Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts.

Young Australian of the Year
Marita Cheng—Women in Engineering advocate
Marita Cheng’s dedication to encouraging young women was awarded the ultimate accolade when she was named Young Australian of the Year 2012. If she has her way, Australian students are about to fall in love with maths and science. The Young Australian of the Year, Ms Cheng has taken aim at the Federal Government’s education reforms to ignite students’ passion for engineering, particularly among young women. The 22-year-old student was born and raised in Cairns. She was acknowledged for her achievements in fostering interest among young women in the field of engineering and aims to cement the subject across Australian schools.

Australia’s Local Hero 2012
Lynne Sawyers—Foster mother

For 15 years Lynne Sawyers has been on call to care for lost, abused and bewildered children in heartbreaking circumstances. She has fostered more than 200 children, many of whom arrived on her doorstep with huge problems, physical, intellectual and emotional. Lynne lives near Cowra and even though she has had up to six children at a time (as well as her own daughter, Emma), she has given them a rounded, supportive and non-judgmental family environment, often their first such experience. Her warmth, humour and generosity have had an enormous impact on these children. Because of her, many are now leading fulfilled, happy lives and have adopted Lynne as their ‘second mother’.
Deputy Principal’s Report

Term 3 has begun in earnest with many learning, sporting and career programs in full swing. Our Year 12 cohort is in preparations for their HSC trials coming up in Weeks 5&6 (13-24th August). They are working solidly in unison with their teachers to complete all tasks and be in readiness for these important exams. It is crucial that at this point all boys are following a study regime and making sure they are keeping lines of communication open with their teachers in regards to extra assistance or extension work they may require to best prepare them for success in the Trials and coming HSC.

The Homework Club is once again in operation each Monday after school in the Library from 3-4.30pm where Mrs Faros is available to assist any student with work. The Year 12 boys would be wise to take advantage of this wonderful service so they enter their exam period with the least stress and highest confidence possible.

The Years 8 and 10 cohorts will be embarking on the all-important selection of their subject choices for 2013. It is imperative that all boys communicate with their families and widely discuss career aspirations and best subject choices. Selection should be based on interest and ability, not what subject friends will be applying for, or what subjects your siblings did. We encourage all boys to take the time to speak to teachers and Head Teachers so their choices are appropriate for them as they will be tied in to these subjects for the next two years and we want this time to be productive and successful for our students. The subject selections will be conducted through an online service and we ask that parents speak with their son/s and be sure they are aware of the choices lodged. The deadline for the online subject choices will be Friday 3 August. If you have any questions regarding subject choices please contact myself or the Careers Advisor.

As is mentioned in every newsletter and on each assembly, we have a high standard of expectation when it comes to uniform, attendance to classes and application. We ask that families work with us to ensure your son/s is in full school uniform each day. We have the new black jumpers and jackets available at Lowes at Rockdale Plaza which we expect each boy to wear in the cold months. It goes a long way to help establish the culture which we want to exist at the school. Boys out of uniform are expected to attend an after school detention, run on Tuesdays.

Truancy is also being closely monitored and we seek parental support and encourage open and regular conversations with your son/s about the importance of attending each class and being a productive and proactive learner. Truancy detentions are conducted each Tuesday afternoon for Years 7 & 8 and each Thursday afternoon for Years 9 & 10 and repeat offenders may be issued with a suspension if they persistently disobey school rules by not attending classes.

All parents should now have received their son/s report if they were unable to attend the Parent -Teacher night held at the end of last term. If you have any concerns stemming from the reports, please contact the class teacher or Student Advisor for further clarification. For additional information, as of Semester 2, boys in Years 7-10 will be assessed using the A-E Grading system, and in 2013 this will be extended to Year 11.

Our Careers Advisor for the remainder of the year will be Julie Blatchford, who has previously filled a variety of casual positions in the school and whom we now welcome as our relieving careers support. She has already begun to introduce many career initiatives with the boys which they have taken to with enthusiasm and interest.

As Year 12 slowly come to the end of their high school life, Mrs Lagoudakis is working tirelessly with the boys to ensure that not only are their study commitments met, but also their social ones. The planning for the Formal is well underway as is the Graduation evening, scheduled for Tuesday 18th September. If you have a son/s in Year 12 you will receive information about these events in ample time and we anticipate a good turnout for the Graduation evening as it will be the last formal school event for those boys in Year 12 and their parents to share.

I thank all the staff for the energy and professionalism they exude each day and their part in continuing to make James Cook a productive, successful and happy learning and working environment.

Vicky Manos
GRADING

The Board has developed a set of General Performance Descriptors that describe five levels of achievement, A-E.

For each course, a set of Course Performance Descriptors has been developed based on the General Performance Descriptors. Each descriptor is a positive statement about achievement related to the knowledge and skills relevant to the course.

Teachers will collect assessment information regarding student achievements in a course and relate it to subject specific Course Performance Descriptors. The information will cumulatively contribute towards the grade awarded for each student at the end of each reporting period.

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<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>GENERAL PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Indicates <strong>excellent achievement</strong> in the course. The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the course content and can readily apply the knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a high level of competence in the processes and skills of the course and can apply these skills to new situations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Indicates <strong>high level of achievement</strong> in the course. The student has thorough knowledge and understanding of the course content and competence in the processes and skills of the course. In addition, the student is able to apply the knowledge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Indicates <strong>substantial achievement</strong> in the course. The student has demonstrated attainment of the main knowledge and skills objectives of the subject and has achieved a sound level of competence in the processes and skills of the course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Indicates <strong>satisfactory achievement</strong> in the course. The student has demonstrated an acceptable level of knowledge and understanding of the course content and has achieved a basic level of competence in the processes and skills of the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Indicates <strong>elementary achievement</strong> in the course. The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding of the course content and has achieved limited competence in some of the processes and skills of the course.</td>
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Congratulations to all students receiving Commendation letters for an excellent Semester One Report

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<tr>
<th>YEAR 7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mohammed Al Gharib</td>
<td>Sahil Chowdhury</td>
<td>Emmanuel Lidden</td>
<td>Ibrahim Srour</td>
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<td>Ali Al-Mohamed</td>
<td>John Corcuera</td>
<td>Gavin Lin</td>
<td>Jayden Steele</td>
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<td>Masrur Ali</td>
<td>Houssien Fardous</td>
<td>Paul Lu</td>
<td>Hadi Taoube</td>
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<td>Alrizki Azhar</td>
<td>Shafeel Hussein</td>
<td>Arch Patel</td>
<td>Andre Veleski</td>
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<td>Daniel Cerra</td>
<td>Bahy Imam</td>
<td>Phi Pham</td>
<td>Claren Ye</td>
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<td>Saeb Chamaa</td>
<td>Muhammad Khamis</td>
<td>Supreme Rawal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alaa Al dirani</td>
<td>Liam Dilworth</td>
<td>Georgio Koloveros</td>
<td>Neil Prakash</td>
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<td>David Baker</td>
<td>Abdallah Ibrahim</td>
<td>Cameron Mason</td>
<td>Christos Siafakas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo Calica</td>
<td>Hussein Khanafar</td>
<td>John Ng</td>
<td>Michael Yao</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justin Del Prado</td>
<td>Ali Kobeissi</td>
<td>Dion Paraskievopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justin Abellera</td>
<td>Sergen Kurtkapmaz</td>
<td>Abraham Rivas</td>
<td>Aaron Su</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danyal Aslam</td>
<td>Daniel Kuskovski</td>
<td>Johan Roodt</td>
<td>Hassan Taleb</td>
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<td>Tennay Chauhan</td>
<td>Tutai Manu</td>
<td>Tony Sekulovski</td>
<td>Guo Han Tang</td>
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<td>Mohammad Chrara</td>
<td>Ali Najm</td>
<td>Ajay Sharma</td>
<td>Hassan Tehfe</td>
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<td>Farhan Gena</td>
<td>Ashay Narayan</td>
<td>Thomas Singleton</td>
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<td>Christian Jovanovski</td>
<td>Antonio Neskovski</td>
<td>Aden Stoyanof</td>
<td>Ahmed Zahr</td>
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<td>Kaan Kavaz</td>
<td>Shivam Prajapati</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mohammed Ali</td>
<td>Ali Fares</td>
<td>Sergey Litvinov</td>
<td>Ridhwaan Shah</td>
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<td>Femi Amo-Appiah</td>
<td>Bill Foundouradakis</td>
<td>Ray Miao</td>
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<td>Andrew Apoleski</td>
<td>Hussein Issa</td>
<td>Ahmad Muslemani</td>
<td>Tom Tomasi</td>
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<td>Adam Bogos</td>
<td>Seth Jones</td>
<td>Matt Oberg</td>
<td>Kenny Wong</td>
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<td>Lewis Chang</td>
<td>Tobias Kongbralatpam</td>
<td>Bryan Pan</td>
<td>William Xippas</td>
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<td>Jaiden Day-Simpson</td>
<td>Jacky Lee</td>
<td>Ali Akber Rajani</td>
<td>Abbas Zaher</td>
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<td>Ali Dormanli</td>
<td>Yun Li</td>
<td>Jawad Saadi</td>
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<td>Saleh Abdelaziz</td>
<td>Mohamad Fakih</td>
<td>Álex Mitkovski</td>
<td>Gemini Sanaphay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bradley Cini</td>
<td>Godwin Huang</td>
<td>Farriz Mohamed Sawal</td>
<td>Shuai Shao</td>
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<td>Hussein Dakdouk</td>
<td>Hassan Jomaa</td>
<td>Matthew Ng</td>
<td>Konstantin Tasevski</td>
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<td>Nathan Damcevski</td>
<td>Yoo Jin Kang</td>
<td>Shubhamkumar Prajapati</td>
<td>Filip Tipevski</td>
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<td>Mehdy Diab</td>
<td>Jamie Kantarovsky</td>
<td>Emilio Puntillo</td>
<td>Nikola Todoroski</td>
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<td>Tam Du</td>
<td>Terry Lin</td>
<td>Hasan Rahman</td>
<td>Brandon Villazon</td>
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<td>Mehdi El-Hage</td>
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<td>Aaron Bartlett</td>
<td>Zac Fares</td>
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<td>Anders Larborn</td>
<td>Marko Petrovic</td>
<td>Angus Wong</td>
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<td>Watson Liang</td>
<td>Stephan Petrovski</td>
<td>Nathan Zhang</td>
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Record of School Achievement – Credentialing for Year 10 Students in 2012 and beyond

As a result of changes by the NSW Board of Studies, Year 10 students in 2012 and beyond will not undertake externally set and marked School Certificate tests in English-literacy, Mathematics, Australian History and Australian Geography Civics and Citizenship, Science, Computing Skills.

James Cook Boys Technology High School has an excellent record of good student achievement at School Certificate level in past years. In 2012, all Year 10 students at James Cook Boys High School will undertake end of year examinations in English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. The examinations will be school-based. All students will be advised about assessment in all other courses by their respective teachers. Year 10 students at James Cook Boys High School will be receiving their Semester 2 reports in December and will be required to attend school until the end of the school year (the date officially set by the Department of Education and Communities.

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) came into effect for the 2012 Year 10 cohort. The following information regarding eligibility, credentialing and ‘N’ determinations is provided for parents and students.

Eligibility for the RoSA
The eligibility requirements for the RoSA are essentially unchanged from the School Certificate, except for the deletion of the School Certificate tests. Requirements relating to curriculum, school attendance and the completion of Year 10 are identical to those that previously applied for the School Certificate.

In summary, to qualify for the award of a RoSA, a student must have:
- attended a government school, an accredited non-government school or a recognised school outside NSW;
- undertaken and completed courses of study that satisfy the Board’s curriculum and assessment requirements for the Record of School Achievement;
- compiled with any other regulations or requirements (such as attendance) imposed by the Minister or the Board; and
- completed Year 10.

Mandatory curriculum requirements
Students are required to complete the same mandatory curriculum in junior high school years (Years 7-10) as before – it is just that there are now no external tests at the end of Year 10 and no piece of paper called the School Certificate saying they have done so.

However – there is available a document called the RECORD OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT to be known as the RoSA.

School attendance
Rules relating to school attendance remain unchanged.
As was the case with the School Certificate, a requirement for the award of the RoSa is that students attend until the final day of Year 10 as determined by the Department of Education and Communities. Schools ensure that syllabus outcomes and course study requirements, including indicative hours of study as specified by the Board and Department of Education and Communities are met.

Issuing of RoSA documentation by the Board of Studies
The formal Record of School Achievement credential will be awarded to eligible students when they leave school AFTER they have completed Year 10. Schools will be required to notify the Board of eligible students leaving school at end of Year 10, 2012. The Record of School Achievement will be provided by the Board in printed format.

Students leaving school who do not meet the RoSA requirements will be issued with a printed Transcript of Study.

Students who do not leave school at the end of Year 10 will not receive a RoSA until they leave school and/or gain the Higher School Certificate.

Content of the RoSA
The RoSA will contain the following information:
- Stage 5 courses listed in sequence consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, Australian Geography, Australian History, followed by other Board Developed Courses and then Board Endorsed Courses in alphabetical order with the student’s grade shown to the right of each course.
- All mandatory curriculum requirements (i.e. English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE, Languages, Technology, Music, Visual Arts, PDHPE) listed under separate heading with an indication of completion by the student.
- A statement that the student is eligible for the award of a Record of School Achievement.
- VET courses will be recorded as ‘Completed’ with the footnote Refer to Vocational Documentation.
- Courses based on Life Skills outcomes and content will be recorded as ‘Completed’ with the footnote See Profile of Student Achievement. (Where an ‘N’ determination is received in an additional study (elective), the course will not appear on the RoSA.)

Content of the Transcript of Study
The Transcript of Study will contain the same information as the RoSa for courses satisfactorily completed.

Where an ‘N’ determination is received in a Stage 5 mandatory course it will be recorded on the Transcript of Study as ‘Not completed’. Where an ‘N’ determination is received in an additional study (elective) the course will not appear on the Transcript of Study.

The Transcript of Study will also include a statement that the student is NOT eligible for the award of the Record of School Achievement.

‘N’ determination
‘N’ determinations are issued for the non-completion of requirements in a course.

Students who have not complied with the requirements for satisfactory completion of a course at the time of finalising grades cannot be regarded as having satisfactorily completed the course. The principal will then issue and ‘N’ determination.

Where a student fails to satisfactorily complete a mandatory Stage 5 course the student:
- is ineligible for the award of the RoSA if they leave school at the end of Year 10;
- may be ineligible to enter Preliminary (Year 11) courses.

Life Skills
The Profile of Student Achievement provides details of the specific Life Skills syllabus outcomes achieved by students undertaking Life Skills outcomes and content in Year 10. It will be printed and issued by the Board to school leavers, together with the RoSa (or Transcript of Study for ineligible students).

If you wish to know more contact Deputy Principal and/or Principal.

Or visit the Board of Studies website www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au
Beacon Foundation Update
Beacon, a national non-profit organisation working in more than 120 secondary schools across all Australian states and territories. They believe every young Australian should develop an independent will to achieve personal success for themselves and their community.

In conjunction with the Beacon Foundation, James Cook Boys Technology High School has offered various educational programs throughout Terms 1 & 2, and will continue to offer our Boys’ experiences, that help to inspire and motivate students to either stay in school and increase their educational engagement and attainment or choose a positive pathway that enables successful transition to employment, further education or training.

Semester 1 Events
Community Business Breakfast
The 2012 Business breakfast was held at St George League Club and saw in excess of 40 local community members, business leaders and distinguished guests in attendance. Not only did this event raise awareness of James Cook’s involvement with the Beacon foundation, but also helped to encourage our local business community to become actively involved with the upcoming events of 2012.

SKM Uncovered
On Friday 1st of June, 15 year 10 students and Mr. Kentwell visited SKM Sydney to participate in an SKM Site Visit. SKM is an international engineering company. Students were given the opportunity to learn about the different career opportunities available within the organisation and the varied pathways to a career in the industry.
Student feedback from the day was very positive. 100% of the students reported the content was new, 100% said it was useful and 92% said it was well delivered. 100% of the students reported that the program had changed their perspective of the industry.

Accenture Business Blackboard
Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with more than 249,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. On the 19th of July, Accenture afforded 18 James Cook students with a passion for the IT/software industry the opportunity to attend a 3 hour seminar which covered topics such as:
- Program development,
- General programming,
- Law/society/IT,
- Business Management, and
- Employment pathways.

Below are some testimonials that capture what this event meant to the students:
“Focus more on my school and enter University”
“Start to think about what I want to do in the future”
“Change the way I think and the way I work”

Accenture Student Mentoring Program
This program is delivered on an ongoing basis and it allows students who are interested in studying subjects such as commerce and economics in their HSC the opportunity to form links with business leaders from these fields. The student/mentor relationship fosters in our students’ a better understanding of what is required to ‘make it’ in the associated career paths.

As you can see, it has been a busy Semester for our students and the upcoming Terms will offer great educational and vocational learning opportunities for your son. I encourage you to ensure your boy makes the most of the Beacon events our School will participate in over the remainder of the 2012 school year.

Mr. Ben Yelavich
Beacon Foundation Coordinator
PDHPE Teacher
Sport Organiser
Year 7 Report

At the beginning of Term 3, the Year 7s received certificates for successfully completing their peer support course, throughout which they developed their resilience and empathy skills. Last term the Year 7s participated in handball, soccer and touch competitions with a pizza lunch on Friday the 1st of June. The Year 10 Peer Support Leaders were very helpful in the organisation of the competitions and should be thanked for their efforts. During Term 3, the Peer Support Leaders will help the Year 7s to design anti-bullying banners to put up around the school.

E Neyland
Year 7 Advisor

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS REPORT

James Cook Boys Technology High School is excited about the significant increase in the number of International students who are attending our school. Our international students are valued and always welcomed upon arrival at our school and we appreciate the opportunity for all our students to benefit from the cultural exchange provided by their presence in our school. Every year our international students perform well in the HSC and then pursue further studies at university. It is always a rewarding experience when they return to our school for a visit and recall the happy memories that they spent at James Cook.

M. Lee

Term 2 Computing News

On the 22nd of June, the game design club participated in a game design master class at Macquarie University with Dean Tuttle, co-founder of Alternator Industries, the Sydney based games and transmedia production company. On this day the boys created a storyboard and map for their emerging game.


Year 12 Report

With the trial HSC examinations and the HSC examinations fast approaching, Year 12 has been busy preparing for this crucial time both academically and socially.

In Term 2 Year 12 participated in the study skills program which aimed to provide all students with practical techniques and skills associated with effective study methods. The day proved to be a success and hopefully all Year 12 students will use the techniques they learnt on that day for the trial HSC examinations in weeks 5 and 6 of Term 3 and for the HSC examinations. Thank you to all the teachers who helped organise this day and for the teachers who ran the sessions.

On Tuesday 18th September James Cook will be holding the Year 12 Graduation Dinner. This event is an opportunity for Year 12 students, teachers and families to acknowledge student’s achievements throughout the year and to present the boys with their Year 12 portfolios. We look forward to seeing you on this special occasion.

The Formal Committee has also been busy organising the Year 12 Formal which will be held on Monday 12th November at the Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, Pyrmont. This promises to be a wonderful evening and all students are encouraged to attend.

M Lagoudakis
Year 12 Advisor
**Year 11 Report**

Welcome back to Term 3. I trust that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing time with their family over the Winter break.

Year 11 senior students have had a very productive and busy time in Semester 1 and I would like, on behalf of our students, to record our thanks to all the dedicated teachers who worked tirelessly whether in marking students’ assessments, writing reports or supporting our students in their endeavours. A sincere thanks also to Mr David Clarke, Ms Leslie Rae, and all our SASS Staff for their great assistance in the administration of students’ reports.

A great thank you also goes to all the parents who attended the parent-teacher night on 26th June 2012. I had the pleasure of meeting many of them and closely discussing with them their sons’ progress and together making suggestions on how to make significant improvements in students’ performance, attitude and application for the remainder of their sons’ HSC Preliminary Course.

I would like to welcome back Daniel Liptak who has been a pleasant addition into the cohort. Students have embraced him with enthusiasm, offering all assistance he needs to settle back into his studies which makes any year adviser pleased. Well done young men!

A merit assembly was held on Friday 8th June 2012 to recognise the many achievements of our students. With the assistance of the Principal, Mr. Terry Villas, students were presented with certificates to recognize their success in many areas such as: participation in Mathematics, Science, English, PDHPE, Visual Arts, Wood and Timber Work, Technology, in addition to students’ citizenship and participation in all aspects of school life. As a Year Adviser I was very pleased to see the dedication and devotion of a great number of our Year 11 students and I would like to encourage these students to continue to do well for the remainder of their Year 11. For the ones who have not received an award, I would ask them to put the necessary effort into their studies so their achievements could be recognized in our next merit assembly. Congratulations also to the Year 11 students who won many events in the Athletic Carnival.

A ‘Talk About It’ session was organized for our Year 11 students where a guest speaker from St George Youth Services, Mr. John Dangas, addressed our students on important issues such as bullying, respect, and consequences of aggressive behavior. This session proved to be very successful as our students were attentive and responsive. They were encouraged to ask questions in an open and constructive environment.

I would like to remind students that the Homework Club is running on Mondays from 3.00 – 4.30 p.m. in the Library. I would like to encourage every student to make use of this wonderful support to their learning. Extra expert tuition, help with finding resources for assignments, help with personal study organisation...you name it, staff are on hand to help!

All our students will have a very busy time in Term 3 and I hope that they are all well rested in preparation for it. Students are reminded that at the end of Term 3, they will sit for their yearly examination in weeks 9 & 10. This examination will mark the end of their Year 11 Preliminary HSC Course and the start of their HSC Course which will start in Term 4 2012. I am looking forward to a very productive, enjoyable and rewarding term. Good luck to all our students!!!

Ms M. Loutfy

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**STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL**

ALL students arriving late to school—including Year 12 students with a permitted late arrival are required to sign in at the Fees Office.

Students who do not sign in are marked as absent for the day and parents are sent an SMS message regarding their son’s absence.

Employers require employees to be on time for work.

We too, require our students to be on time for ‘work’.

Our school day begins with roll call at 8.45am

Your assistance is sought to ensure that your son is at school in time to attend roll call.

Students who are late are required to bring an explanatory note to the Fees Office.

Thank you for your assistance

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**Eftpos Machine**

The school now has an EFTPOS machine installed into the Fees Office.

Parents and students are now able to pay for excursions and school fees by debit or credit card. When the school fees are sent home there is an Credit Card Authority sheet to authorize credit card payments to the school, which you can fill out, sign, and send back to school with your son.

A reminder that school fees need to be finalized as soon as possible.

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**DONATIONS OF UNWANTED UNIFORMS**

If your son has outgrown some of his uniform please consider donating his uniform items to the school. For example—shirts, jackets, sports tops etc.

Sometimes we have a student in need of assistance and donating uniform to the school enables us to provide them with the items they require.

Your items may be dropped off at the Front Office and should be clean and in good condition.

Thank you.
School Athletics Carnival

After a wet and cold start to the week, forecasts were pointing towards a miserable Athletics Carnival. However, this was far from reality as I arrived early to be greeted by a bright and sunny Thursday morning. Four buses, filled with energetic James Cook Boys left the school and headed to Sylvania athletics track for a day of running, jumping and throwing.

The day was staggered so that each age group had either a Track event or a Field event to be competing in at any given time. There were some outstanding results throughout the day, of particular note was Claren Ye in the 12 years, he blitzed the field to streak away and win the 100m and 200m with ease, Claren also picked up the 12 years age champion for his outstanding all round efforts on the day. Another great effort from the day was David Baker in the 14 years and his dominance of the throwing events.

The 16 &17+ Years age groups were a group who, in my opinion, really reflected the type of boys we have at James Cook. They were loud, they were energetic but most importantly, they participated in every event and had a good time doing it.

Thanks must go out to all the staff who on the day of the carnival, performed outstandingly in their roles and helped the carnival to be a huge success. The Morning tea was delicious, the officials, supervisors and house patrons did a great job and the scorers were as dependable as ever.

Congratulations to those athletes selection to represent the school at the zone carnival and also to those selected to represent the zone at the regional carnival later this month.

D. van Dijk
Carnival Organiser

Official Results

Age Champions

12yrs  Claren Ye  ~  13yrs  Billy Haidar  ~  14yrs  David Baker  ~  15yrs  Kamel El-Chikrawe

16yrs  Nikola Todorovski  ~  17+yrs  Tony Lam

Government Funding for Students

EQUITY for ALL

Have you heard about the findings of the Gonski Review? Well, potentially it is very good news for our school and our students.

Headed by senior businessman David Gonski, the review was the most comprehensive national investigation of school funding in almost 40 years. It found not only was the current funding system broken but Australia is investing far too little in schools.

The lack of funding is having significant consequences for students with widening gaps between what students achieve in disadvantaged areas compared to those in wealthy areas.

Gonski said a major funding increase for public schools and (some private schools) is urgently required to ensure a high quality education for all.

That increase translates to an average of $1,500 per student extra per year in public schools. If we were to receive that amount it would mean an additional $700,000 budget.

For our school, additional money would be spent in the areas we know make a real difference for students such as smaller class sizes, more individual assistance for students with particular needs and additional staff.

The problem is that, despite the positive response from all education sectors to the report, there has been no commitment by either the Federal Government or the Opposition in Canberra to the new system or the additional funding.

The Australian Education Union, which represents teachers and principals, is running a national campaign to get a commitment to the funding and new laws passed based on the Gonski recommendations before the end of 2012.

If you would like to see additional resources flowing to our school, you can register your support at the Australian Education Union’s campaign website www.igiveagonski.com.au.

Alternatively, if you would like to contact our federal MP Robert McClelland directly you can do so at 9553 4111.

You can also find out more about the Gonski Review at the Federal Government’s website http://www.schoolfunding.gov.au/
WELFARE REPORT

Over the last term, many interesting and challenging programs were undertaken by students on the Welfare Front here at James Cook Boys High School.

The Rock and Water program was once again revisited with a group of up to 11 boys from Years 8 and 9 being involved. The program once again called on the assistance and skill of John Dangas from St. George Youth Services, and together with Mr. Tsaridis, the boys were challenged in a number of ways through physical activities and through discussion on a number of issues ranging from self-esteem, anger, respect and dealing with emotions.

The program ran over 3 weeks which included 5 intensive workshops - a demanding effort which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated.

The Links to Learning program, coordinated by Maria Psaltis from St. George Youth Services continues to offer our students from Year 10 another perspective and angle to their education. Those boys, who may feel slightly disengaged from their learning, attend a one day a week workshop in which certain educational and emotional issues are addressed with the prospect of enhancing confidence and motivation in those who participate.

Luke Chesworth from MTC Work Solutions also continues to visit boys from Years 8 - 11 to provide case management, personal development workshops, outreach activities and Life skill development to those who are most at risk of disengaging or have already disengaged from education, training and/or family and community.

Also during Term 3, St. George Youth Services organised an award winning program titled 'The Muslim Youth Program' in which boys from James Cook were invited to participate. Under the co-ordination and supervision of John Dangas, boys from various schools in the Sydney Region were treated to team building, self-growth, management of anger and various other skills through a variety of workshops. Many guest speakers were involved through different occupations, providing their guidance and mentorship which left a positive impression on those who participated. A final trip to Stanwell Park was organised as a special thank you and those who were lucky enough to have experienced this program, continue to say what a wonderful experience it all was and how worthwhile it was.

To compliment the schools "Bravehearts" day in which all students were in-service on the issue of bullying during Term 1, a cybersafety presentation was organised and presented to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 by a representative from Australian Communications and Media Authority. Many important and relevant issues were canvassed and the afternoon was met with much enthusiasm by all who attended.

Our annual Parent/Teacher night was held towards the end of Term 2, and whilst the organisation was left to the Welfare Team as is customary, a big thank you to the Year Advisors who immersed themselves in “putting all the pieces of the puzzle together” before the event so as to ensure the evening ran smoothly.

Towards the end of last term, John Dangas was asked to present another one of the many programs that St. George Youth Services offer, called 'Talk about it'. This one hour discussion was directed to Year 11, and issues varied from Domestic violence, respect in the school environment to dealing with the myriad adolescent issues. Needless to say, the discussion was met most favourably by all the students, staff and guests who were present.

Last term, the school commenced a new approach to tackling the issue of truancy. Students and staff at this point in time, are fully aware of the procedures and this process will continue this Term. It is a requirement that every student attends class and those who are found truanting, will have a letter sent home indicating details of truancy.

Year Advisors are and have been closely monitoring the attendance of their particular cohort throughout the year. Regular attendance at school is of paramount importance and is also the law for those under the age of 17. If you have any concerns or questions about the attendance of your child/guardian, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Learning Support has also been busy last term with students being placed and offered positions in other external educational institutions better fitted to deal with their needs. A special thank you to Cook’s school at Loftus and to the St. George Hospital school who have closely worked with the Learning Support Team in dealing with specific students.

Steve Tsaridis
Creative Arts Faculty

Year 7 Visual Art celebrated National Aboriginal and Islander Day of Commemoration NAIDOC, with a large drawing of a Rainbow Serpent in the Quad. This was the final artwork in a unit of learning on Aboriginal Art. Students used symbols to make designs drawn with pavement chalk.

Term 3 is an important time for Year 12 in the Creative Arts. Both Visual Art and Music have practical HSC tasks to complete as well as the Trial HSC. There will be a CAPA evening of performances, music compositions and an exhibition of Art works.

At times during the year students may need to observe religious events that require a variation to the school curriculum. Please contact the school should your son require permission to follow an alternate learning program to the Board of Studies syllabus. This is particularly relevant for Mandatory Music studies in year 7 and 8. The course studied has been carefully chosen to be respectful to students need to observe religious commitments and still fulfill the requirement of course outcomes. The Principal, Mr Vallis or the Head teacher Creative Arts, Mrs Rae may be contacted to discuss special provisions for your son as the school is required to have parental consent for an exemption from class.

Student works are on display in the gallery space in A block. They can also be viewed on the school web site.

MUSIC REPORT

On Friday 3 August students from JCBTHS will be performing at Rockdale Plaza at 11.30am as part of NSW’s celebration of Education Week. A variety of popular pieces will be performed by our students from years 9 to 12. Many of our Music students have acquired vocal and instrumental skills and experience in different performing ensembles. It is hoped that parents, family members and their friends will be able to attend the performance and thereby encourage and support our students during the performance.

The Bayside Community of Schools

A Connected Learning Partnership meeting at James Cook Boys Technology High School on the 7th June 2012
In Term 2 in HSIE we had a productive and busy term due to the hard work and efforts of staff and students, and we are now ready to do it all again in Term 3. I would also like to welcome Mr Pikis and Ms Eloss who are working in the HSIE Faculty this term and who are making a great contribution to the faculty and student learning.

There are a number of important events scheduled for all students studying HSIE subjects. Year 12 have their Trial Examinations in Weeks 5 and 6, and all Year 12 students are working solidly in preparation for this exam period. the HSIE Faculty would like to wish all Year 12 students the best of luck in their impending exams.

Year 10 will be making their subject selection for Year 11 2013. HSIE is offering the following subjects: Modern and Ancient History, Senior Geography, Legal Studies, Economics, Business Studies and Business Services. All Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to discuss the various aspects of these subjects and will be given information on each so they can make informed choices.

We will be running the ASX Schools Sharemarket Game this semester, allowing students to experience the workings of the sharemarket by buying shares and tracking the progress of their purchases. The students are involved in a hands on experience which is interactive and provides the opportunity to develop skills in problem solving, teamwork and research.

An excursion to the Nicholson Museum is being scheduled for students of Years 7 and Year 11 and 12 History students. This Museum has an extensive collection of Ancient Artefacts that the students will be able to study and analyse in their visit. Later in the year, The Australian Museum is conducting an exhibition on Alexander the Great. This is a rare opportunity that we hope to involve our HSIE students in and preparations are underway to allow this participation to occur.

All Year 11 Business Services will be participating in Work Placement in Term 4. During Term 3 all students in the course will be registered on line for their placement. This component of the course allows students to experience the activities of the workplace and to be involved with the practical running of a business. This is a mandatory component of the course.

I look forward to the term and seeing all students involved and engaged in productive and relevant learning experiences and seeing this continue throughout the year.

M Atzemis
Head Teacher HSIE

Term III, 2012

Science Competition

Congratulations to the students who participated in this year’s competition. This test provides students with practice for major examinations in the future. Results are forthcoming!

New Laboratories

Our two new laboratories in C-block (C1 and C4) are now ready for use! They are modern laboratories which are designed for safety and for maximum experimental space with adequate areas for chairs/desks.

We welcome any parent or teacher to visit the laboratories.

Mr Loucopoulos
Head of Science

The Importance of Spelling in High School ~ Ms. Loutfy and Mr. Edwards

A new booklet has been produced for Year 8 Homerooms to target the literacy and prepare students in NAPLAN style testing. While spelling is usually taught as a subject in Primary Schools, spelling activities for High School students can help them in developing their English language skills. It also prepares them to develop their reading and comprehension skills and their essay writing techniques in senior years. Spelling errors on job applications, cover letters, and resumes are often a first step in eliminating job candidates.

As part of increasing the spelling knowledge and improving the ability of our junior students, and provide them with an opportunity to further develop their mastery of the English language, the literacy team at James Cook Boys’ Technology High School has developed a spelling booklet which contains ten different spelling activities where students are required to complete them twice a week during DEAR under the instructions of their DEAR teachers.

Year 9.1 have been working hard on their script reading for English this term. They are reading an adaptation of the classic Gothic Novel, Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. A lot of effort and enthusiasm has gone into their lessons, with different students reading different characters. Their lessons have also been relating to the historical context, and legacy of the story of Frankenstein.
Year 11 Advanced—“Death of a Salesman”

It is with great excitement that our Year 11 Advanced class have secured tickets to the hottest play in town, the Belvoir production of Arthur Miller’s masterpiece “Death of a Salesman”. Often described as the greatest play of the 20th Century, it has certainly been a hit with audiences in Sydney and proven that great theatre transcends time and place.

As part of their Education program the Belvoir Theatre has put on various “School Performances” which allow students to view the production, as it was meant, on the stage! Our students will be viewing this play on Thursday, 26th July and I am confident that on viewing the play as it was written, to be performed in front of an audience, they will take away a greater and more sensitive understanding of this text.

The play fits in with our current unit on the ‘American Dream’ and I know the boys are excited about seeing the play and experiencing the English Classroom outside of James Cook.

M. Edwards
English Faculty Report

The English Faculty congratulates Mr Grose on his promotion to Head Teacher English at Endeavour High School and warmly welcomes Mr Edwards to our staff at James Cook Boys. Mr Edwards is an experienced teacher who is already making a very positive contribution to teaching and programming English. He has developed new resource booklets for the Year 12 Standard Unit, Close Study of Wilfred Owen’s Poetry and has organised a theatre excursion for students studying “The American Dream” in Year 11 Advanced English. Ms McDermott generously gave of her time to support classes and ensure continuity for students while the interview process was taking place.

Term 2 was very productive with the introduction of new programs and initiatives in English. Ms Rees attended professional development about the “Mind Up” program and she has devoted considerable time and energy into establishing a pilot program for her Year 8 class. This has involved professional development for Year 8 teachers and workshops for students. Students are gaining new skills and understanding that will support greater focus and achievement in class.

Congratulations to students in Year 11 Standard English classes who presented perceptive and insightful monologues at the end of Term 2. These monologues were based on our set text, “State of Shock” and students adopted the persona of a young Aboriginal man living on a reserve in Queensland. The overall standard of work was very high with Bradley Cini and Abbas Jomaa attaining full marks. I expect the same high standard of work when students submit their feature article tasks this term.

Last Term Year 12 Standard classes completed an elective unit, “Into the World” and analysed their set text, ‘The Story of Tom Brennan’. In this unit students considered issues related to growing up, personal responsibility and resilience. A number of students gained very pleasing results in their speaking and listening task. Students studying the Advanced English course explored the conflicting perspectives in Shakespeare’s “Julius Caesar”.

This term students are studying Wilfred Owen’s poetry and Speeches and should be carefully and thoroughly revising all their work in preparation for trial examinations in Weeks 5 and 6.

After studying a picture book composer, our enthusiastic students in Year 7 have worked very hard to write and illustrate their own picture books. Many boys produced outstanding work and were assisted by our teacher librarian, Mr Cheung who supported students in publishing their stories and Mrs Dunn who helped students to compile and laminate their books. Congratulations to many students including Alrizki Pratama Azhar for his outstanding art work and narrative, Andre Veleksi for his original, well expressed story, Arch Patel for his wonderful illustrations, Hassan Naji for his imaginative characters and Emmanuel Lidden and Ibrahim Sour for their continued high standard of work.

Ms Loufty and Ms Weekes continued to support ESL students in team teaching across the curriculum and also spent considerable time preparing the annual ESL survey. New resources were purchased for students studying the senior ESL course and teachers are very pleased with the commitment of students studying ESL English for the HSC.

Congratulations also to our Year 8 debating team and their coach Ms Okell who participated in their first interschool debate at the end of term 2. Another highlight of last term was the presentation by Monty Boorie Pryor, an Aboriginal writer, speaker, storyteller and didgeridoo player who entertained our senior students with wonderful tales about Belonging, told with warmth, empathy and humour.

Lastly I would like to sincerely thank our very committed English staff and wish all our students an enjoyable and successful Term 3.

Ms M. Rix

TAS FACULTY REPORT

For Term 3 the faculty welcomes back Mr Curry, who was on leave for Term 2, and we thank Mrs Blatchford and Mr Szymeczko who taught Mr Curry’s classes in his absence.

Term 2 proved to be a typically busy term with assessment tasks, Half Yearly reports and major projects taking final shape. Half Yearly Reports were handed out or mailed home in the last week of Term 2. Of those students studying TAS subjects it was very pleasing to see that a significant number in all Year Groups were working and achieving to the beat of their abilities. Well done and congratulations to those students.

At the other end of the scale it is very disappointing to note that a number of students have consistently not made a sustained effort in their subjects. For these boys please take note of the comments on your report and seek assistance from your class-room teacher. Students who attained an unsatisfactory report will have their parents contacted in the very near future to organise an improvement plan.

Term 3 marks the final preparations for our Year 12 students in their preparations for their HSC exams. The Engineering Studies class is finishing their final unit of study and the Industrial Technology Timber class have completed their major furniture construction project. Likewise the Year 11 Engineering Studies and Industrial Technology Timber classes are steadily completing their preliminary HSC studies.

Years 7 and 8 Technology classes will be starting a new unit of work this Term, Years 9 and 10 are continuing with their program of study in Technology Electronics, Technology Timber and Graphics Technology and the Learning Support class are establishing a vegetable garden at the rear of the school.

As JCBTHS is a state government school for reasons of safety the school must comply with Workplace Health and Safety regulations. One of the compliance requirements is the wearing of appropriate footwear in the TAS class-rooms and workshops. This matter has been constantly referred to in the classes but unfortunately there are still several students who have been unable to wear the correct leather or leather-like shoes to class. Sports type shoes made from nylon or canvas are not suitable. Students wearing non-suitable footwear cannot take part in the lesson and will be required to complete alternate work. In this case it does not reflect well on the individual in his preparation for the lesson and will cause a falling behind in class work.

D Clark
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Attend one of WEP’s information evenings
Call 1300 884 733 (for the cost of a local call)

Upcoming Information Evening
Sydney: 25 July, 8 August, 25 October
Level 2 / 95-99 York Street / Sydney CBD

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 7th August—School Visit by Geoffrey Rush—Australian of the Year 2012
Thursday 9th August—CAPA Showcase night
Friday 10th August—Years 7 to 10 Vaccinations
Monday 13th August to Friday 24th August—HSC Trial Exams
MONDAY 13TH AUGUST—P & C MEETING—6.30pm in the Common Room
Friday 16th August—Overnight excursion to the Zoo
10th September to 21st September—Year 11 Exams
18th September—Year 12 Graduation Dinner
Friday 21st September—Last day for Term 3
Monday 8th October—School resumes for Term 4
MONDAY 5TH NOVEMBER—P & C MEETING—6.30pm in the Common Room
Wednesday 7th November to Friday 16th November—Years 7 to 10 Exam Period
Monday 12th November—Year 12 Formal—Doltone House—Jones Bay Wharf
Monday 10th December—Year 10 Presentation Day—9am to 12pm
Tuesday 11th December—Presentation day for Years 7, 8, 9 and 11—in the Hall—9.30am to 12pm
Wednesday 19th December — LAST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS
Thursday 20th December and Friday 21st December—STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS