



# Cooks' Watch

James Cook Boys  
Technology High School

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## Principal – Mr Mark Marciniak

Once again it has been a very busy term, especially for our new Year 7 students. To start the term off we tested the students in Literacy and Numeracy to allow our Learning and Support Team to obtain some baseline data to make a comparison between the data collected from the primary schools. The testing also allows our teachers to be able to gauge the students individual learning needs and make the necessary accommodations as well as identify students needing additional support from our Learning and Support Team. The individual testing takes place at least twice a year so our teachers can assess the impact that they are making on their student's learning. Last year we noticed some great improvement in student growth over a twelve month period and we are anticipating the same result with our Year 7 cohort.

Along with the testing our Year 7 students also participated in our annual school swimming carnival, the Year 7 Camp, working with our Youth Outreach Worker on a weekly basis on the "Best Man Program", Year 7 Meet the Teacher, SRC Elections and they still have the school's athletics carnival in week 11 and our Easter Morning Tea and Easter Egg Hunt. All of our Year 7 students have made a great transition to high school and we welcome them as part of our community. A special thanks is needed to Mr Bulfon, our Year 7 Advisor for 2019, who has done a great job getting to know the students and their parents.

During the last three years JCBTHS has developed and refined our Year 6 to 7 transition program to ensure that every student that attends our school is known, valued and cared for. Last year our transition process started with students who attend our local primary school network (Bayside Learning Community) where through the "Good Man Program" we visited the primary schools and worked with boys in Years 5 and 6 on their social and emotional learning. Students from Arncliffe Public School participated in the program and this year we are in the process of developing the program to meet the needs of students from Ramsgate Public School. In addition to our Year 6 to 7 "Good Man Program", students from our Bayside Learning Community of primary schools and other local primary schools have numerous opportunities to visit JCBTHS and participate in our Lego Robotics Programs, our Rugby League Gala day, as well as our teachers visiting the primary schools and facilitating our STEM Roadshows and Our Respectful Relationships program in preparation for White Ribbon Day. Collectively these programs provide an

opportunity for students enrolling at JCBTHS the chance to understand the expectations of transitioning to high school and to resolve any anxiety or uncertainty about high school life. The transition program also provides future students the opportunity to build initial relationships with key teachers and support people to develop a sense of belonging to our community prior to them starting.

This term the Department of Education released its School Community Charter. The charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive. A copy of the charter can be accessed from our school's Face Book page.

## Deputy Principal – Mr Jim Mallios

Term 1 of each school year is filled with events for our new and returning students. This year we have introduced an updated Junior Assessment policy and process for years 7, 8, 9 & 10. The updated information formalises existing processes and provides clear expectations for students in successfully completing school work to a high quality. The Junior Assessment processes build the field around assessment practices in readiness for the rigorous Senior Assessment processes in Years 11 & 12.

**Junior Assessment Information** - <http://bit.ly/2YVY0wt>

### **Specific Assessment Schedules:**

Year 7 - <http://bit.ly/2YVxXWf>

Year 8 - <http://bit.ly/2FWdTKL>

Year 9 - <http://bit.ly/2uTJ2sV>

Year 10 - <http://bit.ly/2TZxt8V>

Year 7, 10 & 11 parents and students attended information sessions this term where Mr Mansour, Head Teacher Mathematics, and I presented the assessment processes and expectations. With Year 10, we also detailed the information regarding HSC minimum standards and the 2019 changes to the testing window.

**HSC minimum standards information video for Year 10** - <https://youtu.be/lpY2HTuYxX8>

Year 8 & 9 students were presented the Junior assessment information at year meetings in Term 1 where I articulated the key concepts of the policy and how they can consistently meet requirements.

If students in Years 7, 8 or 9 are not completing school work parents/carers will receive a Letter of Concern regarding the outstanding work. Year 10 students will receive a Record of

School Achievement (RoSA) Academic Warning Letter outlining the work that must be completed for progression within the course. These letters will be issued by the faculty responsible for the course and track the compliance with the Junior Assessment policy. For further information please contact the Year Advisor or Course Head Teacher.

## Open Evening –Mr Mark Marciniak

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> March JCBTHS hosted our annual information evening for students and parents who are looking at transitioning their sons from primary to secondary school in 2020 and beyond.

Over the two days we had a great response from our community. JCBTHS showcased the quality teaching that occurs every day to ensure that every students' learning and wellbeing needs are addressed. This was demonstrated through our open classrooms where our teachers and students engaged the audience in STEM lessons that consisted of the Flying Ace program, Robotics and Science demonstrations. Parents and future students were provided a tour of the school grounds and facilities and had the opportunity to speak with our dedicated teachers and students. The evenings were a great success and we received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Many of the parents were impressed with the authentic implementation and use of technology in the school to develop collaborative and technological skills within our students through our project based learning, Technology Transition Program (TTP) and co-curricular activities. Other parents commented on the extensive programs and support offered to develop every students' academic and social emotional learning to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

Overall the evenings were a great success in showcasing the fantastic programs that JCBTHS offers young men in our community. Over the last four years we have steadily continued to see an increase in our student enrolment numbers in Year 7 and are anticipating consistent growth in the future. JCBTHS specialises in educating young men and our teachers are experts in boys education. Our school is dedicated to develop every student to achieve their full potential academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually.





## Swimming Carnival – Mr Nick Pikis

Once again, Sans Souci Leisure Centre was the scene of the James Cook Boys Technology Swimming Carnival held on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. The House spirit and enthusiasm from all participants went a long way to making the carnival a success. **Solander** came out strong in the battle for the Allan Kentwell House Shield finishing first at the carnival ahead of runners up **Hicks**.

The novelty events provide an increased level of engagement and enjoyment for our students not performing in the main swimming events. In the main events students displayed many impressive individual performances, with the highlight of the day being the record breaking swim by Year 11 student **William Qiu in the 50m breaststroke**.

A huge thank you to all of the staff and students of James Cook Boys Technology for their efforts; to the PDHPE staff for their professional running of the day; and, to the staff of Sans Souci Leisure Centre for their assistance and use of such an excellent facility.

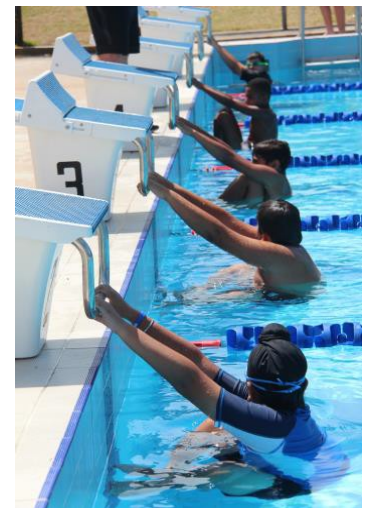
### Swimming Carnival - House points

1<sup>st</sup> – Solander 301

2<sup>nd</sup> – Hicks 271

3<sup>rd</sup> – Tupia 176

4<sup>th</sup> – Banks 84



## Opens Knockout Basketball – Mr Jason Bulfon

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, James Cook Boys Technology High School participated in the highly competitive Opens Knockout Basketball competition. This year we played against one of our rivals, Sydney Tech High School.

This year we had a number of new players who never represented James Cook at this level before. We went to Hurstville Aquatic Centre to play one of our most intense games against Sydney Tech. In the first half, our team was going point for point with Sydney Tech until our boys could no longer keep up with their full court press. In the second half, our senior players put up a valiant effort. Matching the intensity of Sydney tech, which enabled us to out-score them in the second half.

Despite the late surge in the second half, our team was unable to clawback from our first half deficit. A heroic effort from all members of the team.

A huge congratulations to the following students who gave it their all during the game:

- Meric Kavac
- Jordan White
- Mohammad Putra
- Hussein Ismail
- Ali Sakr
- Elmar Gacard
- Christian Ernest
- Omar Bani Mohammad
- Nishad Khanal
- Innocent Simwanza



## Year 7 Camp – Mr Jason Bulfon

This year we took 43 students to the Great Aussie Bush Camp, for our Year 7 camp. The camp allows the students to develop their long lasting friendships within the cohort. It also provides the students to get out of their comfort zones, put themselves in situations to trust their fellow classmates and build long lasting relationships. There were some tears shed on the early Wednesday morning. Which were mostly due to the students missing their home comforts and complaining of the early arrival at school.

Once we arrived at the site the boys were eager to take part in all the challenges. From throwing themselves off platforms completing the abseiling wall, high flying team challenge and the dual flying fox; to diving into the water-based activities of canoeing and the raft building; and the trust building activity of 'Alpine Rescues'.

A huge credit to the students who faced their fears, and attempted every activity during our three days away. Everyone who attended the camp, learnt the value of the four 'C's in life:

1. Consideration
2. Cooperation
3. Communication
4. Chill

Here are some quotes from the some of the students.

*'Camp was good because of all the activities, and it was so cool because we were able to roast marshmallows.'* - Abbas Kdouh

*'School camp was an amazing experience and low and behold, there were marshmallows! But seriously, it helped me go past my comfort zone.'* – Nathaniel Lumapac

*'The fun and overall experience helped everyone boost their confidence and self-esteem.'* – Hamoudi Ouldalbasher

At the end of the camp, friendships were made and everyone had a deeper appreciation of the relationships that they have, both new and old. A big thank you to Ms Cvetkovska, Mr Sawford and Mr Hedges for giving up their time to help the students over the three days, and thank you to the Great Aussie Bush Camp for hosting us.





## What's been happening in STEM? – Mr Riley Jordan

2019 has been a big year for STEM at James Cook Boys Technology High School with over 160 students now enrolled in scheduled STEM lessons. The Years 9 and 10 STEM Elective course has seen an explosion of students wanting to do STEM, leading to the establishment of a second class to respond to the interests of our students.

Students in Years 7 to 10 have been working on a myriad of different projects. Junior students (7-8) have been learning to plan their own scientific investigations. Much like the famed television program “Mythbusters”, students:

- pose questions
- come up with hypothesis to test
- work together to plan and test their ideas
- collect data
- organise data into results
- discuss the meaning of the data
- make inferences
- clearly communicate their findings with peers and teachers

Term 1 final assessments for Year 7 have students investigating the statement “It is impossible to walk in a straight line without your eyes or ears”. Year 8 students are investigating their choice of enquiry questions: 1) “Does music improve a person’s memory?”, or 2) It is possible to accurately sense time without a clock/stopwatch?”. I look forward to the results!

Year 9 and 10 students have been learning the many ways in which a strong understanding of STEM can help save you in the unfortunate event of a Zombie apocalypse. Students have harnessed the power of the sun by designing and building their own solar cookers to avoid the need for a failing electricity grid. Students learned how electric circuits can be used to create pressure switches which alert students of a hidden or oncoming danger. Students designed sound proofing systems to make it easier to avoid detection, using decibel metres and oscilloscopes to measure the intensity of sounds produced. Students also learned the importance of using systematic approaches in solving problems, by learning simple Morse code to communicate non-verbally with peers.

It has been a whirlwind of fun so far with many exciting lessons to come and many adventures yet to have. Onward and upward to Term 2, well done Gentlemen!



## Year 7 Meet the Teacher – Mr Jason Bulfon

During Week 8, on March 19, we held our annual 'Meet the Teacher' for our Year 7 cohort. This evening allows parents and guardians of our Year 7 students to come into our school in a more casual setting to meet the teachers of their son. There was a high turnout from our Year 7 students, who were eager to introduce their favourite teacher and their friends to their parents.

This evening was a huge success as all the parents who attended were happy to see their son settling into the school and is eager to come back to learn and be part of the James Cook Boys Community.

## Harmony Day – Ms Julie Blatchford

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March a group of students from Years 9, 10 and 12 attended the Georges River Council Harmony Day Celebrations. This excursion was an opportunity to showcase the cultural diversity within our school and extend this into the wider community. The students observed a variety of performances from dancing to singing, along with culinary delights from various cultures. Prominent members from the Georges River Council reflected on Harmony Day and how important it is to build a peaceful and harmonious community in which everyone belongs.



## Rock and Water – Mr John Dangas

During Term 1 our Year 7's participated in the **“Rock and Water”** program. This is a psycho-physical program aiming to teach our students mental and social skills via interactive physical activities and supported by group discussions (self-reflection). The building blocks of the program are around self-control, self-reflection and self-confidence. The program pays attention to personal safety (strategies around not being bullied and how to deal with potential bullying), assertiveness, effective communicating skills (self-expression), how to connect positively with fellow students, teachers and to realise their potential. The program aims to assist young people who struggle to find their purpose in life, expressing their frustrations in anger, withdrawal or inappropriate behaviour (acting out).

### **The goals of the Rock and Water program:**

To assist our students in their development to adulthood (self-realisation) and to become conscious of their responsibility within society. Self-realisation implies a growing respect for people with different lives and of other opinions. It is the necessary condition for insight and tolerance and that is why it is the starting point of this course. The Principles implied in Rock and Water forms the important frame of reference in the course. Rock – the symbol of the unrelenting and uncompromising – and Water – the symbol of cooperation and communication. In every kind of communication a choice can be made between the hard rock attitude and the flexible water attitude. It is precisely this broad range of applications of the Rock and Water principles that makes the unique psycho-physical approach of the Rock and Water program so successful.

A specific goal of the course is teaching boys to deal with energy, strength and powerlessness. Boys can be perpetrators of violence, but they can also be victims. That is why on the one hand they are taught to defend themselves from various forms of violence, and on the other hand, they are taught to grow more aware of boundaries and crossing them.

The program takes a Martial Arts approach - exercises include grounding and centering, standing strong and rock and water attitude in physical and verbal communication. We examine these aspects from the perspective of relationships, body language, breath exercises, boundary awareness exercises (mindfulness), and effective anti-bullying techniques. Students learn to block, strike pads, stand strong, and negotiate using “rock” or “water” verbal approaches.

Some boys find more difficulty verbalising their thoughts, feelings and emotions. They are taught how to control and focus their energy and various types of physical forms of communication to assist them to learn other communication skills. The program is delivered over a number of lessons to students. Series of exercises and games are practised to develop self-confidence, self-control and self-reflection.

**Main Aim**-Learn to walk away from conflict, consider alternatives to aggression, and develop understandings about who they are (their feelings and inner compass).

All the students have become self-aware (via regular discussions and feedback) about their personal responsibilities towards themselves and of cause each other.

John Dangas (Youth Outreach Worker)





## Stem Club – Mr Riley Jordan

Throughout Term 1 students have been giving of their time to stay after school, exploring the many wonderful and mysterious ways of Science. At least 50 students from Years 7 to 9 have participated in activities around the school, such as:

- Play with acid rain
- Make their own electricity
- See chemical reactions up close and personal
- Make objects disappear in front of your very eyes
- Create hover boards using magnetic fields
- Design and build robots

Students are split into 4 groups and work with a lead Science teacher and a supporting staff member to run activities. Students are working collaboratively to think critically and solve problems.

In one group students delve into the hidden world of scientific Witchcraft and Wizardry. This programme allows students time to investigate how you can use Science to make things change colour, state, or even disappear. Students were mesmerised when Ms Kang and Ms Zivadinovic 'magically' made a glass funnel disappear in front of their very eyes using nothing but vegetable oil and a strong understanding of the human eye.

In the real world though what looks like magic is actually Science! In another activity, led by Ms Cvetkovska, pupils looked at magic and movie tricks for inspiration and to find out how it's done. They explore how things are done to make movies look more realistic, and investigate whether themes or technology from the movies could actually work in real life. The building of working LEGO hover boards was the height of student achievement this Term.

Dr Bowles led his group to safety as students began developing STEM based strategies for their survival after an asteroid impact on Earth. Students investigated everything from how to survive the long winter that followed the impact through to designing protection from acid rain. Special mention to Mr Woo who worked with students to build computer simulations of impact events.

Well done to all the boys - looking forward to next term.  
Thank you,

## What's happening in Music? – Mr Matthew Colucci

Music is a subject that allows students to develop new skills and strengthens a growth mindset that can be applied in all other areas of study in their lives.

Year 7 students have been learning the keyboard and enjoying a range of music, including *Sunflower* by Post Malone and Swae Lee from *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*.

Year 8 students have been learning about rock music and developing performance skills on the guitar or ukulele. They have been learning how to play music such as *Smoke On The Water* and *Seven Nation Army*.

Our stage 5 students have been using a variety of instruments including as the guitar, ukulele, drums, or music technology, and working collaboratively to perform a piece of music. Some students are even creating their music using Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs) and other music technology.

## Music Club – Mr Matthew Colucci

Music club is a fortnightly session that will run after school on Fridays for students to rehearse for co-curricular events, practice for performance assessments, and to learn new musical skills. Within music club, the participating students focus on a goal for the term and work towards a presentation of their work. The supportive environment will encourage the musical growth of the students and will be worthwhile in their music education.

The students will have access to the school's musical resources and will be able to experiment with new instruments. Beyond the learning of music, students can also acquire new skills such as learning how to restring a guitar, repair instruments, and how to tune a drum kit.

Due to supervision, only up to 20 students will be able to participate and positions will be dependent on involvement in co-curricular activities and academic achievement.



## Learning Support – Ms Vickie Meyer

The Learning Support Team is well established and increasingly active in 2019, with structures already in place for students requiring additional support in their classes. Internal testing has successfully identified students across Stage 4 who would benefit from both on-to-one and withdrawal support with a specialist teacher and work in general classes is being modified to support students in achieving their best in the classroom. The Learning Support Team is now looking to implement additional support structures with a particular focus on writing, to target particular areas of need across all learning areas.

V. Meyer (Learning Support Coordinator/Head Teacher English)

## International Women's Day – Ms Maria Atzemis

On the 8<sup>th</sup> March we celebrated International Women's Day. It is a day that is celebrated around the world. Australia's theme for 2019 was 'More Powerful Together' recognising the role we all play in breaking down stereotypes and creating equal rights and opportunities and a call to 'think equal, build smart and innovate for change'

As part of the celebration our student leaders attended a morning tea and assembly held by Moorefield Girls High School, where students of the school spoke about their role models and issues impacting women in the world.





## SRC Members for 2019

### Year 7

Thomas ARSOV  
 Muhammad Zaeem DINDAR  
 Subnoor KALSI  
 Hamoudi OULDALBASHER  
 Malik OULDALBASHER  
 Christos PATERAS

### Year 8

Nazih ALAOUIE  
 Oliver CAVALCANTE WILSON  
 Ryan DALE  
 Daniel GULIC  
 Mahbirul HAQ  
 Ahmad KAMAL  
 Aaryan POKHREL  
 Gian QUE  
 Deepak SURTI  
 Jack TASKER  
 Robin WALKER  
 Tony WINSPEAR

### Year 9

Kassem ALAOUIE  
 Nael Rida Dipto HUQ  
 Deon MAWIRE  
 Jayden MOUHANNA  
 Aleksandar PETROV  
 Swamynathan SABARINATHAN  
 Saksham SAPKOTA  
 Jian WANG

### Year 10

Ali ASGOR  
 George BATCHULUUN  
 James BATCHULUUN  
 Rami FAOUR  
 Achmad Syheeba HERYADI  
 Calvin JACOB

### Year 11

Hadi EL-CHIKRAWA  
 Imran KHAN  
 Jamie MCFERRAN  
 Justin MUKADANA  
 Dominic PROUZOS  
 Mohammad Tiyo Syah PUTRA  
 Osman SESAY  
 William WAQANIBARAVI  
 Andrew ZONG

### Year 12

Ali KANDIL  
 Oscar Santiago NOVOA CHALA  
 Matthew PANDEVSKI  
 Dylan PARASKEVOPOULOS  
 Muhammad Hadi SAADI  
 Sigrid SINLAO  
 Thirumalesh ULLAL

Congratulations to all our recently elected SRC. These young men will become part of a long history of representing JCBTHS and we look forward to watching these young men develop their leadership skills during the year.



## Homework Club – Mr Ben Yelavich

This term Homework Club has been operating every Monday afternoon in the school library, between 3pm and 4pm. Over the Term, we have had an average of 60 students per week attend Homework Club, receiving support and guidance from both paid tutors and also staff who volunteer their time to ensure the success of this co-curricular activity. Homework Club is a free school run program which is available to all students.

Each week students attend Homework Club for a variety of reasons, which include; assistance with school work, homework, assessment tasks, exam preparation, revision and special interest projects. Through participation in this school program students learn to:

- Manage their time and plan out study schedules, which are very useful skills to have when they enter senior high school,
- Develop skills which support them to work independently as well as collaboratively with their peers,
- Review what they have learnt in class and apply these new concepts as they practise, and
- Take responsibility of their learning, build self-discipline and develop confidence through their education.

Homework Club is a school based initiative that operates every term, every student is welcome, and every student is encouraged to make use of this service to help support them in reaching their academic potential.

See you next term!

Ben Yelavich  
Head Teacher PDHPE/CAPA

## Carpark



Dear Parents/Carers

Please note that JCBTHS has recently placed speed humps and signage in our carpark. If you are picking up your son after school please try to enter the carpark before 2:50pm Monday, Tuesday and Friday. If you are picking up your son on Wednesday (sport day) please try and arrive before 2:15pm and Thursday before 2pm to ensure that vehicles are not entering the carpark when students are leaving. Once you are in the school carpark please park your vehicle past the planter bed which is in line with the second speed hump. When you have collected your son please be patient when leaving the school and wait for a signal from the staff member present in the carpark that is directing the traffic. Under all circumstances when entering or leaving the school carpark please obey the 10km speed limit and be extremely careful of pedestrians entering or leaving the carpark. Your cooperation in this matter is important to looking after the welfare of our students, staff and community.