



JOHN EDMONDSON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Education &
Communities

April 2014 • Volume 10, Issue 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At the beginning of each year I always find it interesting to speak with our newly arrived Year 7 students. They are always highly energetic and enthusiastic and very positive about their new school.

There are some who feel a bit overwhelmed but they soon fit in as everything becomes a bit more familiar and they make new friends. Ms Matthews, the Year Adviser, has done a terrific job making sure the transition into high school has been as smooth as possible and I thank her for her great work. Some Year 7 students have already led our school assemblies. It certainly is a daunting task for a young person to stand on stage and look out at over 1100 students and introduce speakers and read messages. I think there would be many an adult who would run a mile to avoid such an experience! But our kids take up the challenge and are wonderfully supported by the older students who remember what it was like to run an assembly when they were in Year 7.

The Year 12 graduating class of 2013 achieved excellent results. The dux of the school was Jackson Rysko who scored an ATAR of 96.4; an outstanding achievement. The University Admissions Centre has advised us that 59 of our students were offered a placement in a variety of university courses. A number of our students were successful in gaining very competitive and prestigious apprenticeships and our congratulations go to them.

I think it also important to mention that we are also very pleased that those students who were struggling with the demands of the HSC did get across the line and now have a credential that will enable them to have more choices in life.

In years to come students from Year 12, 2013 will go on to be doctors, lawyers, journalists, teachers, psychologists, vets, accountants, engineers, builders, occupational therapists, electricians, plumbers, police, hairdressers, physiotherapists, business managers, nurses, personal trainers, scientists, mechanics, carpenters, office assistants, IT consultants, and the list goes on! Congratulations to all of them!



I am pleased to announce the 2014 P&C Executive elected at the AGM on March 3rd, 2014.

President: Darryl Crawford

Vice Presidents: Nina Mammoliti and Rita Herzeg

Treasurer: Lina Webster

Secretary: Gretchen Maksimovic

On behalf of our school community I welcome the following new staff to JEHS in 2014 – Ms Fretwell (Maths), Mr Nair (Science), Mr Claydon (HSIE), Mr Rana (HSIE) Ms Gill (Home Economics) and Mr Punzet (Industrial Arts). I know they are very pleased to be part of our school and are working hard to ensure success for their students.

Gary Joannides

PRINCIPAL

This is the last message Mr Joannides penned for the JEHS newsletter of 2014. Just before printing this issue, the news of his medical retirement was received and subsequently delayed the release of this issue. A copy of his letter announcing his retirement was forwarded to all JEHS families and has also been reproduced on Page 3 of this newsletter. We wish him all the best for a healthy and happy retirement.

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John Edmondson High School

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DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT Mrs Dorrell

THANK YOU TO...



Our school would like to acknowledge the support of Club Marconi. For many years they have sponsored our school with Driving School lessons for our senior students. Each Friday a car and a driver are provided to the school and senior students are given free driving lessons.

Students must nominate for these lessons. Year 11 are currently receiving the lessons. Those students who are successful in receiving lessons have a record of positive behaviour and contribution to the school programs and school life. They hand in recognition awards, complete all set work and assignments on time and have a record of exemplary behaviour here at school.



CLUB MARCONI
of Bossley Park Social Recreation & Sporting Centre Limited

Thank You Club Marconi for this very valuable program which enhances responsible and skilled driver behaviour.



We also wish to express our gratitude and thanks for the ongoing and continued support for our students and our educational programs from the John Edmondson VC Memorial Club (Club Liverpool). In 2013 our school applied for two Clubs NSW Grants. We are pleased to say we were successful in receiving both of these grants.

Our first grant contributed to the funding of our after-school Homework Centre. This operates in the school library on Monday and Thursday afternoons. The grant was used to assist with staffing the Centre. This grant allowed us to employ two teachers each afternoon for a total of twenty five weeks. The students attending struggle with their learning and greatly benefitted from the opportunity to bring along homework, assignments and class work for additional teacher support. Teachers also assisted with explicit teaching when required or needed. Over 50 students used our Homework Centre during 2013. All students have shown improvement in their learning skills, motivation and in their ability to get organised completing essential assessment work which would otherwise not be attempted at home.

Our second grant was used to send 150 Year 11 students by bus to the RYDA Road Safety Program at Penrith. The grant also paid for the student program cost. This has enabled those students to be better prepared for the challenges of managing a motor vehicle and to be better citizens on the roads. As our young people often travel in cars with friends, the need for responsible passenger behaviour was also a focus. They are more aware of both driving skills and the need for passenger responsible behaviour.

These programs would not run without the financial support of John Edmondson VC Memorial Club. ❖



JOHN EDMONDSON HIGH SCHOOL

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Thursday, 20th March, 2014

A Message to JEHS Families

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that I will be retiring from my position as Principal of John Edmondson High School. My last day of service will be Tuesday, 25th March 2014.

It will be a very sad day for me to leave JEHS as I have often stated I suffer from an acute case of proud principal syndrome. It has been a great pleasure and an honour to see the school grow from its establishment in 2005 with 172 Year 7 students to where it is now with 1,135 students in 2014. The reasons for my retirement are based on health professionals' advice and so I have accepted their recommendations (and my wife's advice!).

Yesterday I had the pleasure of watching our students participate in the annual Pop Idol concert and it gave me a chance to reflect upon what a great bunch of kids we have at JEHS. The performers and the back stage crew were magnificent; the talent and the hard work were a treat to see. Equally for me, it was wonderful to observe how supportive and positive the students in the audience were when their peers were on stage. The great work done by the music staff, Mr Potts, Mr Chavez, Ms Turco and our GA Mr Campbell is emblematic of the terrific contributions made by all the teaching and non-teaching staff at JEHS. I think it really is important to recognise the work done above and beyond the call of duty by our teachers and administrative staff. Each day they contribute so much to enrich the lives of our students and I want to thank them for doing so on your behalf.

I leave our school much comforted by the knowledge that we have two outstanding Deputy Principals, Mr Khanna and Ms Dorrell, to lead and manage JEHS until the Principal's position is advertised and filled in Term 2. Ms Dorrell will relieve as Principal for the remainder of Term 1 and Mr Khanna will relieve as Principal in Term 2. I hope and expect the position will be filled by the middle of Term 2.

My best wishes go to all our families. I look forward to reading and hearing of the wonderful achievements of our students both at school and beyond into their adult lives.

Regards,

Mr Gary Joannides
(Proud) PRINCIPAL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



To be able to provide the best care for our students it is important that we have the most current contact information for all of our families on record. Our School Administrative Manager, Mrs Smith tells us more.

It's not just about who to contact if a child is ill or injured, but also about the duty of care that our staff must provide to each and every student. We understand that sometimes there are often delicate matters that you may not want the

world to know about, but in order to provide a safe and secure environment for your child/ren we need be aware of anything that may be relevant.

Please take a moment to update your details by completing the form below and returning it to the JEHS administration office as soon as possible. Alternatively, if the form below is not a suitable avenue for you to advise of a change of circumstances within your family, please do not hesitate to contact the administrative staff on 9825 9815 to discuss it further. All information is held in the strictest of confidence. ❖

✂

PLEASE UPDATE MY DETAILS

STUDENT DETAILS

1. Surname:.....	First Name:.....	Roll Class:.....
2. Surname:.....	First Name:.....	Roll Class:.....
3. Surname:.....	First Name:.....	Roll Class:.....

PARENT DETAILS

Address:.....

Suburb:..... Post Code:.....

Parent/Carer #1 Surname.....	First Name.....
Relationship to Student.....	Mobile #.....
Home #.....	Work #.....

Parent/Carer #2 Surname.....	First Name.....
Relationship to Student.....	Mobile #.....
Home #.....	Work #.....
Family Email Address.....	

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS (this MUST be someone other than either parent/carers already listed above)

Emergency Contact #1 Surname.....	First Name.....
Relationship to Student.....	Mobile #.....
Home #.....	Work #.....

Emergency Contact #2 Surname.....	First Name.....
Relationship to Student.....	Mobile #.....
Home #.....	Work #.....

AUTHORISATION

Parent/Carer Name:..... Signature:..... Date:.....

WELCOME YEAR 7



Congratulations Year 7 you are now in High School. You are now in Year 7 and are beginning your journey at John Edmondson High School. Miss Matthews reports.

Beginning high school is a big step and sometimes doing something new can be a bit scary. The important thing to remember is that there is nothing in this journey that you cannot manage. Keep in mind that Mr Dwyer and I are here to help as are all your Year 7 teachers.

We are almost through the first term and primary school seems like a distant memory for most. Check out the photos in the gallery on the school website of Year 7's first day at JEHS.

New friendships have been made and overall, I would have to say that I'm very proud of the way the students have handled the transition. Most of the feedback I get off the Year 7 teachers is pleasing and we have already got some students receiving faculty awards.

Recently, we had our school swimming carnival which was a great success. Congratulations to the following Year

7 students who successfully swam their way to become our 2014 Age Champions:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| > Tahlia Block | 12 years girls |
| > Corey Hadley | 12 years boys |
| > Luke Baker | 13 years boys |
| > Nelufer Raji | 13 years girls |

Good Luck to all of our Year 7 students going to Zone Swimming.

The most pleasing aspect was the huge participation rates of Year 7 students racing in an event. It's not all about winning its about having a go.

Our Peer Support Program has started. This will assist students to build vital social skills and also help form new friendships.

The Year 7 Meet The Teacher BBQ was held on Tuesday, March 11th at 3:30pm in the Quad. It was an enjoyable afternoon and a great opportunity to meet the teachers that are teaching your children and ask them any questions you may have had. The feedback I have recieved about this event has been extremely positive and I would like to thank those that were able to attend.I look forward to a great year ahead. ❖

WORK PLACEMENT PRIDE



What an amazing honour it was to visit Year 10 students, Carissa Khoury and Monique Iannello at "Just for Kids" Childcare Centre Horningsea Park.

These two mature and energetic students must be acknowledged for being true ambassadors of John Edmondson High School during their work placement in Week 5 of Term 1.

Upon my arrival I was delighted to see so many toddlers swarming around our two working students. In just four days Monique and Carissa have managed to build such a strong rapport with staff and children. The supervising staff at *Just for Kids* commented on how well our girls have

settled into a new routine and how mature and helpful they have been with the toddlers.

Monique and Carissa both discovered that working in a childcare centre will enable them to be positive Peer Support leaders in the coming weeks at JEHS. "I have learnt how to interact with kids and adults and this has made me more confident," stated Carissa.

Monique enjoyed playing with the children and was surprised by how intelligent some of the two year olds are. The girls both felt very welcomed by the staff and once again we thank *Just for Kids* and appreciate their guidance and support.

Carissa and Monique both agree that it has been great to have been treated like a working adult! ❖

2014 FUNDRAISING BEGINS



Every year the JEHS student body undertake a number of fundraising efforts to benefit the school and community. A member of our Student Leadership Team, **Chantelle Attard**, reports on the 2014 initiatives.



Gift from Year 12 to the Parents and Community

Currently, our senior leadership team for 2014 is also working on a fundraiser to raise enough money to buy a new school bus that will significantly benefit all students. It will mean both more affordable and better excursions can be accessed in the near future.

Students are encouraged to collect booklets from the front office and sell as many as they can as the first place prize (which will be drawn on the 30th of April) is absolutely amazing! It consists of a seven day vacation to the 4-star Reef View Hotel on the Hamilton Island, for a family of four (two adults and two children - kids stay and eat free). The winner of the draw will also reap the benefits of: a \$2000 Virgin Australia Airfare voucher, a full daily buffet breakfast, return airport and marina transport, use of paddle skis, wind surfers, snorkeling/ boat gear, island shuttles, the gym, spa, sauna and also tennis/squash courts.

For the student that sells the most tickets, they will receive two gold class cinema passes to United Cinemas at Narellan which also includes popcorn and drinks.

Students that returned their tickets within the first two weeks received 20 tokens into the draw for an Apple iPod Shuffle, and after the initial two weeks all participants will be given 10 tokens in the draw. For students who are in Year 7 and Year 12 who were mailed a booklet, but do not wish to participate simply return the booklets to the administration office as soon as possible and get one free token into the iPod Shuffle draw.

The draw closes on the April 7th, 2014 so get selling now and remember all the money raised goes towards our great school and making your school experience even more enjoyable! ❖

Valentine's Day

John Edmondson High School Annual Valentine's Day fundraiser was a hit yet again this year, made even more special by the addition of teddy bears.



This year we sold over 800 roses and 80 bears in just 6 days. A few members of our leadership team, along with many enthusiastic volunteers made the event a great success enabling our school to raise over \$900, which will be happily donated to Multiple Sclerosis.

We are glad to say our efforts paid off greatly and we'd also like to wish next year's leadership team all the best in raising a valuable donation for charities in need. A special mention goes out to Ms Lear and Ms Davidson for their role in making the fundraising event so enjoyable and successful!

NEW YEAR ADVISERS



Year 9 has started 2014 with a new team of Year Advisers. **Ms Young** has taken over from **Mrs McDonnell** and **Mr Chavez** has taken over from **Mrs Zulic** as the Assistant Year Adviser.

We have 203 students in Year 9 and it is a new experience for all of them as this is the first time they have elective subjects and leave school every second week for sport. Selecting electives proved to be a testing time as students tried subjects and decided that another subject might suit them better and led to many subject and class changes.

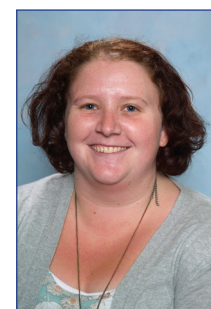
A few recent incursions for our Year 9 cohort include Bell Shakespeare production of *Romeo and Juliet* and Six Decades of Bullying.

The Motivational Media incursion will happen in the final week of Term 1.

Additionally, ten students will be participating in a series of workshops created and produced by Junctionworks. These workshops aim to improve and increase self-esteem, assertiveness and alert students about the folly of bullying, teasing and poor decision making.

Each year group at John Edmondson High School is responsible for a particular community and/or school activity. Year 9 students assist Year 7 students in reading roll call. They work as peer tutors with students as they assist them with reading and comprehension skills. By doing this, they learn about the difficulties some have with reading and by encouraging, supporting and building relationships the student tutors develop leadership and empathy skills. We currently have 38 Year 9 students that have completed the two training sessions and have started working with Year 7 each morning. ❖

ROSA & PEER SUPPORT



At the start of Term 1, all students were informed about their expectations and requirements in order to successfully complete the requirements for Year 10. Year Adviser, **Miss Bantoft** reports.

Information about the ROSA, a certificate given to all students who have met the course requirements for Year 10 level, was explained by Mrs Violi.

In addition, all students received a learning guide booklet which includes an assessment schedule for the year and study tips. This manual has both useful information for students, as well as for parents/carers. Also, a reminder that information regarding all assessment tasks can also be found on the school website.

If students are absent during an assessment task, all students in Year 10 are required to complete an *Illness/Misadventure Form* which can be downloaded from the school website. This form needs to be completed by both your doctor and a parent/carer on the day of the task and submitted to Mrs Violi on the student's return to school.

Many students in Year 10 have been trained and selected to participate in the school's Peer Support Program. This program commenced with our first training and groups sessions in Week 7. I would like to thank both the students on their participation and dedication as well as Ms Cavey for her expertise, organisation and time.

Looking forward to a great year. ❖



PHOTO GALLERY - YEAR 8 VISION VALLEY CAMP



PHOTO GALLERY - POP IDOL



TIME HAS FLOWN THIS TERM



It's been a busy start to 2014 for Year 8 including the camp at Vision Valley, new classes, new students, learning a different language, the swimming carnival and much more. Mr Moreland, Year Adviser, reports.

We also have ten new students that have joined our Year 8 cohort in 2014 so far. A big welcome to Emily Digiovanni, Saja Osman, Gazwa Shahrouk, Ahmed Al-Uqabi, Adam John, Jehad Salem, Ashley Maya, Jake Muscat, Theodore Ishac and Abby-Rose Willett.

The Year 8 camp at Vision Valley was a huge success with many of the students having a great time. The most pleasing thing about the camp was the behaviour of the students. The staff at Vision Valley told me that it was one of the best groups they have ever had and that our students were so well-mannered. The teachers that went also believed it was the best group that they had taken from John Edmondson High School. A huge thanks must go to Ms Tran, Mrs Violi, Miss Coluccio, Miss Bajada, Mr Bond, Mr Campbell and Mr Spinks who gave up their time to go on camp.

While overall the students have made a good start, however it's essential that I re-iterate some of the key rules at JEHS. These include NO mobile phones to be used at school and NO chewing gum. We also have a strong stance on attendance with the minimum rate being 85% throughout the year. Punctuality is also important, make sure your child arrives on time. If your child is away, please reply to the text message you get to explain your child's absence.

By now, students should be feeling a lot more at ease in their new classes. Changes have been made for a variety of reasons but most importantly to create a new dynamic that we feel is in the best interest for your child. It has the added benefit of your son or daughter getting to know other students in their grade.

Students have been learning a new language in the form of Japanese. This is quite popular among students as they also learn about Japanese culture and have some exciting

activities to do including an interesting performance to see at school.

As always, students have been able to get involved in many activities run by our school. Recently, Pop Idol saw many Year 8 students show off their singing talents. We also had 13 students involved in the Clean Up Australia Day campaign with Mr Punch. This is a worldwide initiative that helps keep our environment beautiful. Thanks to those involved.

The 2014 JEHS swimming carnival has been and gone with many Year 8 students competing. Although the weather wasn't too kind to us, it was great to see so many Year 8 students in attendance. Congratulations to Jorin Unal and Nancy Nguyen for being age champions. A mighty effort!

Last but not least, well done to Emily Djurovic, Tatiana Tilman, Nancy Nguyen and Maritha Raitala who have been selected by their peers to be on the Student Representative Council for 2014.

It's great to be able to relay some positive information. ❖

YEAR 8 VISION VALLEY CAMP REPORT

It is very pleasing to say that the 2014 Year 8 camp was a huge success with 133 students having an awesome time while gaining valuable life skills that will help them not only in class but life outside of school. Many of the skills that were focused on were based on strong communication, trust, teamwork and leadership. Mr Moreland reports.

Some of the activities that students were able to participate in were Archery, Canoeing and Bush Cooking where they got to make and eat their own Damper... Yum! The activity that seemed to test most of the students was the Vertical Challenge in which they had to climb up to the top of a telegraph pole and jump off. It was amazing to see the kids push themselves past the fear of heights

BUT WE HAD TIME FOR CAMP

and complete this. The 120 metre Flying Fox and the Waterslide were the favourite activities with most students never wanting it to end.

The most pleasing aspect on this camp was the level of behaviour that was shown by our students. They were a credit to themselves and the school.

Staff at Vision Valley gave us the compliment that we were one of the best groups they have ever had. This is high praise considering the thousands of schools that they have had there in the past.

Something else I was very pleased with was the amount of teamwork that was shown in each activity. Students that had never socialised with each other in school were helping each other out in any way possible.

It made me very proud to be your Year Adviser. Check out the photos on the school website and also in the gallery section of this newsletter.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Ms Tran, Mrs Violi, Miss Coluccio, Miss Bajada, Mr Bond, Mr Campbell

and Mr Spinks that volunteered to come on this camp to supervise the students. Despite media reports, teachers do work hard. These teachers were on duty for 56 hours straight without any financial benefit. No overtime payment is given despite the 32 hours that clocked up 'after hours'.



It is a HUGE effort to go away from their OWN families for three days and I know the students and I really appreciated it.

Finally, a message for all parents of the current Year 7 students. Next year your child will have the opportunity to attend this camp. I strongly encourage you to let your child go on this adventure. We understand it is not cheap, hence why the school gives you notice of this camp in September.

However, as I mentioned at the top of this article, the skills that your child gains on a camp like this are invaluable.

Most students had an experience of a lifetime with many wanting the camp to go for a whole week and not wanting to leave! ❖

A POSITIVE APPROACH



A special welcome to our new Year 11 students and their families. Make the most of it! Year 11, the preliminary year for the completion of the HSC. Mrs Campbell tells us more.

A positive approach, application, motivation and dedication is necessary to achieve success. I encourage all students to make the most of each lesson, complete all tasks, revise regularly and try your best at all times.

The first few weeks encountered many subject changes as students reassessed their individual subject selection from the previous year. This has now been finalised as students begin to prepare themselves for upcoming assessments.

Assessment notifications have been issued for most of the subject areas and I encourage all students to time manage these tasks, in order to produce quality assessment tasks and to avoid cramming all work in just before the due date.

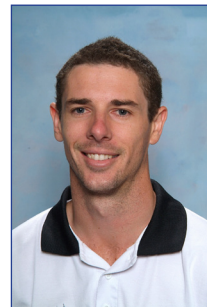
A reminder to parents/carers and students, if absent during assessment tasks, an *Illness/Misadventure Form* can be downloaded from the school website and needs to be completed by both your doctor and a parent/carer on the day of the task and submitted to Mrs Violi on the students return to school.

If absent due to “holiday trip”, students will receive a mark of zero for a missed task. It is advised that students and parents refer to *Student Learning Guides* and calendars for assessment dates. All students received these at start of the year and they are also available on school website.

A privilege for senior students once they have completed *All My Own Work* is the early leaving time on Thursdays (12.20pm). As instructed by the Deputy Principal, this privilege will be removed if any student is misbehaving or disobedient.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Year 11 students on their approach to the Preliminary course. Keep up the good work. ❖

ZONE SWIMMING



On March 5th & 6th the JEHS School Swim Team attended the Zone Carnival at Prairiewood Leisure Centre. Mr Dwyer reports.

After struggling early with the 100m events on day one, we trailed Cecil Hills and Bonnyrigg High in 3rd place.

Day two brought more glory for us as we started to claw our way back. We still trailed in 3rd place leading into the relays, however after some sensational swims (especially by the swimmers in the 3rd leg) we finished the carnival in 2nd place behind Cecil Hills. It was a good result.

A special congratulations must go to Kristen Thompson who was named the age champion for the 17 years girls. Some of the other excellent results achieved by JEHS students over the two day carnival include:

17 Years

Kristen Thompson: 1st 50m & 100m Freestyle, 1st 50m & 100m Breaststroke, 1st 50m Butterfly and 1st 50m Backstroke

Nicole Baker: 2nd 50m & 100m Breaststroke

Omar Dib: 3rd 100m Freestyle and 3rd 50m Freestyle

16 Years

Ethan Bevis: 2nd 50m Breaststroke

Shannon Rossiter: 3rd 100m Freestyle

15 Years

Jarrold Moren: 3rd 100m Freestyle

Zachary Fullager: 2nd 50m Backstroke and 2nd 50m Freestyle

14 Years

Chantelle Gawthorne: 3rd 50m & 100m Freestyle and 2nd 50m & 100m Breaststroke

Nancy Nguyen: 3rd 100m Breaststroke and 3rd 50m Backstroke

13 Years

Justine Zammit: 3rd 50m & 100m Freestyle

Angela Truong: 3rd 50m & 100m Breaststroke

Luke Baker: 1st 50m & 100m Breaststroke, 1st 100m Freestyle, 2nd 50m Butterfly, 2nd 50m Backstroke and 2nd 50m Freestyle

Nelufer Raji: 3rd 50m Butterfly, 2nd 100m Breaststroke and 3rd 50m Breaststroke

12 Years

Madison Tieu: 2nd 50m & 100m Breaststroke

Corey Hadley: 3rd 100m Freestyle, 3rd 50m Backstroke and 3rd 50m Freestyle

Tahlia Block: 3rd 50m Butterfly . ❖

YEAR 12 NEED A PLAN



As you read these words, we will be at the end of March and our Year 12's would have almost reached the half way mark in

their final year of High School. Mr Canobra & Ms Davidson report.

I am pleased to inform you that most have finally realised that although the teachers are here to support them, success is truly in their hands so it is up to them that have to do the hard work. As a consequence it is good to see many embracing the idea of a “Study Period” when they have no scheduled classes and not wasting time during a “Free Period” playing handball as it was the case last year.

Please encourage your child to continue studying, maintain focus and more importantly not to leave things to the last minute. Encourage them to use the Board of Studies website to access past exam papers. As mentioned to them before, there is a direct correlation between top marks and those who practise past papers.

Another way to help reduce the stress levels and improve performance is to ensure they are organised in their study pattern at home. I know that I harp on this every newsletter but it is critical for those wanting to achieve a good ATAR. I have emailed them a template on several occasions and quite a few have spent lunch times with me personalising their program. I'm happy to report that most students that have created a home study plan with me, report feeling more relaxed and are accomplishing more work than previous.

**As Benjamin Franklin once said,
“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”**

Please remind them to access Schools Online and activate their PIN. This will allow them easy access to their HSC results at 6am the day it is released. Please keep the PIN in a safe spot as once lost, they will need to contact the Board of Studies directly for new access.

To our Year 12's, I want you to visualise this idea as the more you think about it, the clearer your road to future careers and success will become;

**“A goal without a plan is just a wish”
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry**

Bye for now. ❖

2014 SRC SELECTED



During Week 5 John Edmondson High School ran nominations and voting for this year's SRC. SRC Co-ordinator, Ms Lear, tells us more.

Students from Years 8 to 11 were able to nominate themselves to be members of the Student Representative Council. Once the nominations were in, their peers voted for who they would like to represent their year group. The four students from each year group who have been voted into the 2014 SRC are:

Year 8

Tatiana Tilman
Nancy Nguyen
Maritha Raitala
Emily Djurovic

Year 9

Jack Bennett
Vibhuti Khanna
Tracy Jung
Rainbo Tsui

Year 10

Regiena Buenaflor
Carlos Cook
Rabiya Fathima
Adham Ghazzaoui

Year 11

Rayyaan Ali
Rayan Jaber
Shilpa Singh
Zoeya Amin

Congratulations to these students. ❖

QUICKSMART 2014



John Edmondson High School has now been successfully running the QuickSmart Numeracy program for the last three years. Mrs Kaye-Smith, QuickSmart Educator, tells us more.

This program has helped a number of our students to gain the confidence to overcome their learning issues in Mathematics.



QuickSmart Numeracy aims to improve the numeracy development of students who

are experiencing learning problems or delays in Maths. The program focuses on improving students' understanding and recall of basic number facts, performance of elementary calculations and problem solving skills. Both structured and incidental strategy instruction are important features of numeracy lessons, with the aim of moving students on from relying on slow and error-prone strategies (especially count-by-one strategies) to the use of more sophisticated and efficient strategies, including automatic recall.

I am currently in my second year as a QuickSmart Educator and I must say it has been very rewarding experience to see the majority of students achieve levels beyond even their own expectations.



The students love coming to their QuickSmart sessions where they work with more confidence in a smaller group and individual sessions and this is reflected in their regular class work as well.

This year JEHS has also introduced a QuickSmart Literacy program. This program is currently identifying students that will be selected to participate in the program. Keep a look out in future newsletters to see the progress of this program. QuickSmart is a great way to learn for the child that just simply struggles. ❖

YEAR 10 GO TO COURT



On February 26 and March 7th, Year 10 Commerce went to the Parramatta Court House. Mouhammad Elkassir reports.

Firstly waking up early was the worst part. Still half drowsy and tired our class hit the road at 8:25am and we were off. The court house consisted of

two separate buildings, the left side was the Local Court and the right side was the District Court.

Here we discovered real life cases and sentences. The cases mainly consisted of drugs and fraud. At first, the atmosphere was intense and distressing but as the cases preceded the atmosphere became relaxing. The cases we

saw were interesting as it explained to our group to what paths a person should make in life and the consequences of making bad decisions.

Most groups had the chance to speak with either the prosecutor or the solicitor as they thoroughly explained what the cases were about and answered any questions that we asked.

We would like to thank Ms Tran and Mrs Prasad for a pleasant and an educational day with loads of fun as we were able to learn about how and why we need laws in our society, the consequences of bad decisions and how laws effects every one of us. We would also like to thank Mr Campbell and Mr Hatton who were our "taxi" on the day. ❖

LOTS OF CAPA IN TERM 1



It's a busy term for Creative and Performing Arts at John Edmondson High School. Head Teacher, Mrs Hayward, tells us more.

Pop Idol was held on Wednesday, March 19th. All students had the opportunity to attend the concert by making a gold coin donation to the administration office prior to the date. There were two categories this year; Solo/Duet and Ensemble. We have had a fantastic response from all years and both students and staff worked hard to building a show that was the best Pop Idol ever! Check out the photos in the photo gallery section of this newsletter and also on the school website.



Drama students will be experiencing 'Commedia dell'Arte' at the Riverside Theatre, Parramatta on Friday 11th April. Students will get to watch Commedia della Scorreggia, a classic story about one woman pursued by three men. This show introduces audiences to the classic



stock characters of Commedia dell'Arte in a whirlwind of Italian Renaissance hilarity. Stick-fighting, song and dance, slapstick and mask work are just some of the things used to bring this ancient story to life. This short performance will be followed by a Q&A session, where students will

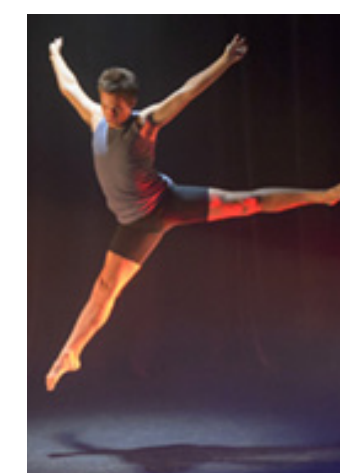
be given a brief overview of the history and significance of the art form.

Artemix is a dynamic and popular exhibition featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the artmaking component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts, 2013. It includes a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, painting, photomedia, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fibre, and time-based forms. Elective Visual Arts students will be attending the exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW throughout the term. Year 12 are also participating in a HSC workshop 'Making the cut' which includes presentations by exhibiting students, with a behind-the-scenes look at the selection and exhibition process.

Year 9 Visual Arts students visited the Sydney Aquarium and Imax '3D Under the Sea' on Monday, March 31st. Students will be collecting resources, sketching and planning their design for their 'Marine' inspired ceramic sculptures which they will be building Term 2.







Stage 6 Dance students attended Callback in early February at the Seymour Centre. Callback is the showcase of exemplary performances and compositions by HSC students of Dance. Performances



of Callback have provided valuable demonstrations of HSC standards to students and teachers of Dance since 1993. This was a great opportunity for students who are currently studying HSC Dance, at the conclusion of the performance there was a Q&A with the performers and HSC markers. ❖

JEHS 2014 EVENTS CALENDER

Dates are subject to change without notice.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
T1 W11	Apr 7 Year 11 Testing Week Year 12 Testing Week CHS Swimming @ Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre	Apr 8 Year 11 Testing Week Year 12 Testing Week CHS Swimming @ Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre	Apr 9 Year 11 Testing Week Year 12 Testing Week JEHS Cross Country Carnival @ Lizard Log Reserve, Western Sydney Parklands	Apr 10 Year 11 Testing Week Year 12 Testing Week Motivational Media  ❖ Uniform Shop Closed ❖	Apr 11 Year 11 Testing Week Year 12 Testing Week Art of Commedia Excursion @ Parramatta Riverside Theatre <i>Last Day of Term 1</i>
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18 <i>Good Friday</i>
	Apr 21 <i>Easter Monday</i>	Apr 22	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25 <i>ANZAC Day</i>
T2 W1	Apr 28 Staff Development Day ❖ Uniform Shop Open ❖ 8:00am to 12 noon	Apr 29 <i>First Day of Term 2 for students</i> Full Winter Uniform including Blazer & Tie ❖ Uniform Shop Open ❖ 1:00pm to 4:00pm	Apr 30	May 1	May 2 JEHS ANZAC Day Ceremony @ JEHS Auditorium 
T2 W2	May 5 Year 10 Testing Week  JEHS P&C Meeting in School Library @ 6:30pm	May 6 Year 10 Testing Week Year 12 Modern History @ Holocaust Museum Excursion	May 7 Year 10 Testing Week	May 8 Year 10 Testing Week UNSW Australian Economics Competition @ JEHS Year 9 Japanese Excursion @ Powerhouse Museum Public Speaking Competition @ JEHS	May 9 Year 10 Testing Week
T2 W3	May 12 Year 8 Testing Week	May 13 Year 8 Testing Week Year 7 & Year 9 NAPLAN	May 14 Year 8 Testing Week Year 7 & Year 9 NAPLAN	May 15 Year 8 Testing Week Year 7 & Year 9 NAPLAN UNSW Australian Business Studies Competition @ JEHS	May 16 Year 8 Testing Week Year 12 English Shoe Horn Sonata Excursion @ Fig Tree Theatre
T2 W4	May 19 Year 7 Testing Week	May 20 Year 7 Testing Week	May 21 Year 7 Testing Week World Vision Youth Leadership Day @ Luna Park	May 22 Year 7 Testing Week	May 23 Year 7 Testing Week Zone Cross Country @ To be advised
T2 W5	May 26 Year 9 Testing Week School Photo Day @ JEHS	May 27 Year 9 Testing Week	May 28 Year 9 Testing Week JEHS Athletics Carnival @ Luna Park	May 29 Year 9 Testing Week	May 30 Year 9 Testing Week
T2 W6	Jun 2 School Photo Catch-up Day @ JEHS Year 7 & Year 9 Vaccinations #2 @ JEHS  JEHS P&C Meeting in School Library @ 6:30pm	Jun 3	Jun 4 ICAS Science Competition @ JEHS	Jun 5	Jun 6 HSC Society & Culture Study Day @ Wesley Centre