



JOHN EDMONDSON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



May 2015 • Volume 11, Issue 2

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PLANS & REPORTS

Term one is well and truly behind us now and we are now half way through Term 2, it is so easy for the year to get away from us, but I'm pleased to say that we have all been extremely busy on focusing on improving what we do.

School Plan for success

Our 2015-2017 School Plan was finalised at the end of Term 1 and after extensive consultation and collaboration with teachers, students, parents and the community, we have set the directions that will further improve teaching and learning throughout our school. The full school plan is posted on our website in the "About Us" section. I would like to highlight a few important elements within our plan.

1. Educational Excellence

- We are putting a lot of resources into improving the extended response writing skills of our students to better prepare them for success in formal testing such as NAPLAN and the HSC but most importantly to better prepare them to be active and informed citizens as they move outside of school. In these days of SMS messaging, Twitter and Facebook where we are 'encouraged' to be brief it is still important to know how to organise and express our thoughts in a lengthier manner.
- We are also looking to revise our assessment and reporting practices to better encourage improvement in student learning and to this end we have had a series of discussions to determine our directions in this area. I will be asking parents who attend our next P&C meeting on Monday 1st June for their thoughts on how assessment and reporting can provide them with quality information about their child's progress. Please come along, if you cannot, feel free to email me through the school's email address with your thoughts.

2. Leadership and Building Capacity

- Student and staff leadership will also be a focus within this plan, most particularly to give students the opportunity to be involved in a range of activities that show how they can take on responsibility and gain results. Our school already does a lot in this area through our Senior Student Leaders and Stewards but we will be enhancing the role of the Student Representative Council, continuing to offer programs such as Peak Performance and looking for further opportunities for external agencies to offer programs that will be of benefit to our students.

3. Enhancing Engagement

- School should indeed be important and relevant to students' worlds and as such we will be looking at expanding the choice available to students through vocational education as well as developing skills such as creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking in each and every classroom. We will be broadening the technological opportunities available to students through a range of measures that we are working hard to deliver through this year and for the beginning of 2016.

It is an exciting time for learning at our school and I look forward to presenting those developments in coming months.

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Educational
Excellence



Leadership
and Building
Capacity



Enhancing
Engagement



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Mr Weathersone

from page 1

Reporting on our achievements

We have finalised our Annual School Report for 2014 and posted it on our school website (in the *About Us* section). You will see from this report that we continue to have an excellent school with an excellent reputation but be assured we will never 'rest on our laurels'. Student growth in learning is very positive when we look at formal test results. The wide range of learning experiences offered in sports, academics and the arts would be hard to surpass. I would like to thank all those who assisted in putting together our Annual Report to ensure it reflects the quality of teaching and learning at our school.



Attendance is the key

Our school has an excellent standard of school attendance but even so we can still improve, because every day students miss of school, is a missed opportunity of learning.

It is increasingly concerning the number of family holidays that are being scheduled during school time. I can no longer grant exemptions for holidays. I understand that some 'holiday deals' are quite a bit cheaper during school times however I would like families to consider the disruption to learning that this causes for your child's education. The potential impact of each absence from school is likely to be far greater in regards to your child's future income than any immediate saving on the price of the holiday. Please, where possible, schedule family holidays during normal school holiday breaks. Year 10, 11 and 12 are most particularly important and absences for any reason may hinder the successful completion of Year 10, the Year 11 Preliminary Course or indeed the HSC in Year 12.

If your child is sick, we certainly do not expect them to come to school but students should aim for 100% attendance and those that have 90% attendance or less need to improve their attendance rates dramatically (90% attendance is 5 days per term or 20 days per year!).

We also had a 'blitz' on student lateness last term and I'm pleased that this situation has improved. My advice is that students should arrive to school at least ten minutes earlier than the bell time (arrive by 8.15am all days except Tuesday 8.30am) and that will ensure they are on time.

Student success

Many of our students achieve success in a range of different fields. Congratulations to Tamara Cerne of Year 7 who recently came third in the National Schools Karate competition. Tamara is also going to be representing NSW in the Australian Karate Federation National Championship in August, we wish her all the best.

Year 12 HSC Trial Examinations

I trust Year 12 are well established in their study routines for their Trial HSC Examinations scheduled for late this term. All students should be studying every night to ensure that they do their very best for both the trial examinations and the HSC itself in Term 4. It is rather pointless to progress to this stage of school and to have not put in the preparation to allow you to excel.

For all students, in all Year groups, a regular study schedule is required that includes homework, assessments, reviewing work completed in class, completing work, further research as well as reading for pleasure to make sure you can achieve your very best. ★

Leon Weathertone
PRINCIPAL

P&C REPORT Mrs Herceg, P&C President

NOTHING TRIVIAL



A huge thank you to our P&C, most particularly Rita Herceg (President) and Nina Mammoliti (Secretary) for the highly successful Trivia Night held on Saturday 16th May at Austral Bowling Club.

Over 100 people attended and through Mrs Herceg and Mrs Mammoliti's hard work, \$4,770.00

was raised. It was fantastic to see many parents and former students support the school as well as current and former staff members.

The P&C is currently raising funds to pay for a large fan for our hall to help it stay cool during the summer months and to distribute the heat more effectively during winter. This will be very welcome relief, particularly for large school events in the warmer months of the year. ★



The JEHS P&C meet in the library on the first Monday of each month.

The next meeting for Term 2 will be held on Monday, June 1st, at 6:30pm in the school library.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.



INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



Deputy Principal, Mr Khanna, gives us an overview of student matters, technology and new communication methods being introduced at JEHS.

Student Matters

At the beginning of this term, I addressed the Year 7 students at their year meeting. During the first term, while most students were in the settling phase, there were a 'minority few', who displayed undesired behaviours like name calling and teasing. These behaviours sometimes led to aggressive behaviour including heated arguments and pushing each other. I explained to them how and why we made allowances for their actions, considering they were still adjusting to their new school.

However, it was made clear to the students that from the beginning of this term, if students get involved in these adverse behaviours, they will face serious discipline measures and could possibly be suspended. It is pleasing to see that they have received the message well and the concept of joking or mucking around is soon vanishing. I hope that they will continue to understand and follow the school and classroom rules and have wonderful learning experiences at school.

Since the last time I reported, JEHS students had an opportunity to participate in the Cross Country and the Athletics carnival. Both carnivals were great success with many students participating in various events and getting into the spirit of the carnivals. Judging by the participation rates and the results for various events in the Athletics carnival, I have absolutely no doubt that we will have a strong representation at the Zone Athletics Carnival on June 17th and 18th. Good luck to all the qualifiers for Zone Athletics. I am sure they will do the school proud again as they did in the Zone Swimming and Zone Cross Country.

Technology Update

In an attempt to enrich our student's learning experiences, we have extended our technology resources in school by ordering 18 new 'Short Throw Interactive Data Projectors'. These projectors will be permanently installed in rooms in various blocks around the school and will be connected to high speed networked computers. These interactive projectors have various inputs allowing different platforms/devices to connect and therefore enhancing the learning experiences of our students. The installation of these projectors will commence on June 1st and will take about a week. Although there will be inconvenience to staff and students due to re-scheduling

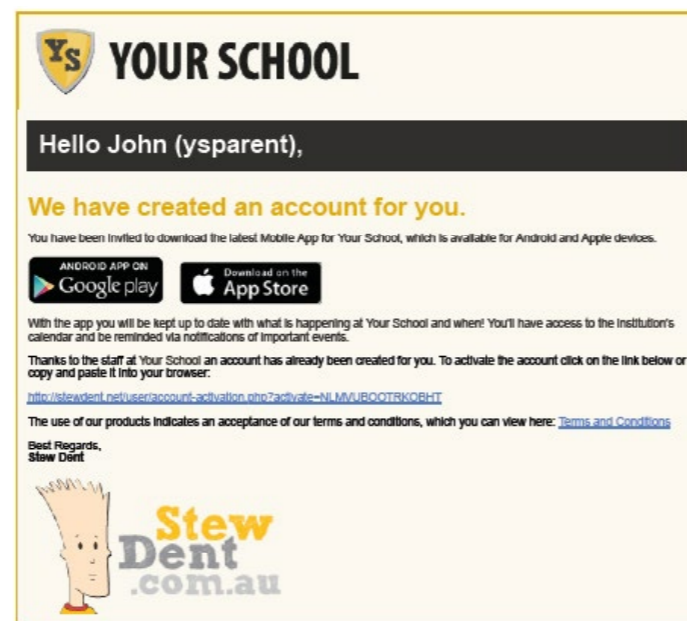
of rooms, there is no doubt it will be a very welcomed inconvenience.

Communications

Since the school opened in 2005, one of the key objectives has been to keep the community well informed. And to achieve this, many communication platforms were set in place between staff, students and parents. We have been using various modes like flyers, postal mail, emails, phone calls, SMS messaging and most popular to date, our school's website to impart information to the community. However, the way we access information these days - it has to be instant. To allow for this to happen, we have our own school app that will allow us to convey important messages and reminders for events instantly.

You can download the app - 'John Edmondson High School' from 'Google Play' or 'App Store'. Just register yourself as a parent or a student. You can also select which year group you want the messages to receive for - a particular year, multiple years or even the whole school.

By the time you will receive this newsletter, you would have received an email from the admin asking you to register for this app as a user or you can simply download the app and register.



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our App developers - Stew Dent. Staff at Stew Dent, in particular Andrew Hazelton and Rod Try, have been working hard behind the scenes and I would like to acknowledge their great work and commitment in developing this app for us. ★

JEHS APP IS HERE

Our mobile app is now here!



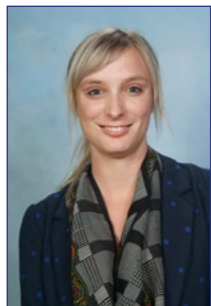
The app will keep you up-to-date with what is happening at school and when!

Most school events will be listed within the app and you will receive notifications as well as reminders.

User accounts will be created in the next few days, so keep an eye out for an email from admin@stewdent.net



GETTING INVOLVED



I am pleased to report that Year 7 are impressive in their participation in various activities offered within the school community. Ms Davidson, Year 7 Year Adviser reports.

Many students have been enthusiastically getting involved and it is a credit to them, balancing their class work, homework, assignments as well as these other aspects.

A reminder to all of Year 7 to listen attentively at assembly, and during Roll Call, when notices are given about upcoming opportunities.

The following students are commended for the following in Semester One of Year 7:

- Chantelle Arbazua – blew the house away with her participation in a group performance of the Hozier song, 'Take Me To Church' at 'Pop Idol'. I don't think anyone was quite expecting such a loud and impressive voice from a Year 7 student.

- Damen Parker, Brayden Wilson and Luke Windon ran, bounced and kicked in an AFL competition.

- Brayden Wilson and Charlie Cini braved the field as part of the 2015 Rugby League Team.

- Avinav Khanna, Neha Naiker, Raghad Salem and Stephanie Walford have formed the Year 7 Debating Team and have been preparing arguments on the topic of education. Friedrich Beaman and Justin Opena have

volunteered as reserve members of the team.

- Monica Evans, Natasha Milenkovic and Isabella Sollecito have kicked the soccer ball on the football field in the Under 15s Football Team.

- Joshua Bellingham, Daniel Van Dyken, Daniel Gaundar, Avinav Khanna, Mithil Kumar, Ryan Mossman, Justin Opena, Samad Rashidi, Brayden Wilson and Harrison Youem batted and bowled in the Year 7 Cricket Gala Day.

- Annabelle Sisouvath has danced to the rhythm in a Year 12 HSC performance group.

- Avinav Khanna and Taina Taurerewa-Yucel have joined the Blues Group.

The length of this list just proves how settled in and ready to have a go Year 7 are. Well done! There will also be some clubs, such as Art and Dance Club, which will be commencing shortly, as well as the occasional opening in Homework Club.

A special mention to Myah El Kotob – she demonstrated integrity when she found a booklet of Merit Certificates and handed them immediately in to a teacher.

A reminder to Year 7: on Thursdays at lunch time I am holding 'friendship club' where Year 7 are invited to come and spend lunch time under my supervision in A Block. It's an opportunity for Year 7 to mix with other students in the Year Group or simply do something different from other lunch times. We have bean bags, games, music – it's been a lot of fun already. All of Year 7 are welcome to come along. ★



YEAR 9 ARE WORKING HARD



While Term 1 was extremely busy it doesn't slow down at all in Term 2 with many assessment tasks due for completion and half yearly reports to be written by teachers. Add to this a variety of events such as the NAPLAN tests, school photos and the Athletics Carnival and our students will be very active at JEHS. Mr Moreland, Year Adviser, reports.

Term 2 means Winter uniform time. Students must wear their blazer and tie to school. Please assist us in maintaining our excellent uniform standards. If, for some reason, your child cannot wear their uniform please write a note explaining this so they can organise a green card which will exempt them from being in trouble.

Something that is also important is your child's attendance rate at school. The Department of Education set a MINIMUM standard of 85% attendance. Any student that sits below that is at a disadvantage and it can prevent them from successfully completing their different subjects. This also includes being

punctual each day. Far too many Year 9 students are turning up late of a morning to school with no valid reason.

On a brighter note, Year 9 students have been involved in many sporting teams which is great to see. I've seen a number of our boys and girls in soccer teams, rugby league and cricket. We also had our cross country carnival at the end of Term One. Congratulations to Mike Soro and Tatiana Tilman who were the 14 years age champions and Stefan Polic who was the 15 years age champion.

JEHS continued its strong tradition of commemorating our past and present servicemen and women with a great ANZAC day ceremony at the start of this term. It was very pleasing to see all of the Year 9 students treat the ceremony with the utmost respect and maturity in which it so deserves. Lest we forget.

It was also great to see many of our students participate in the World's Greatest Shave day at our school which helped raise hundreds of dollars for the Leukaemia Foundation. Some of our Year 9 students either got their head shaved or coloured which helped contribute money to this great cause.

Keep working hard Year 9. ★

JEHS AT ANZAC DAY SERVICE



Year 8 student, Bronte Baanza, beat numerous 7-12 students from across the Sydney South West region to win The Gallipoli speech competition run

by Ingleburn RSL.

Bronte was invited to read her emotive piece entitled 'What Gallipoli means to me' in front of a captive audience of over 4,000 people. She did a fantastic job and was invited to attend an ANZAC day breakfast with veterans and VIPs. ★



Bronte Baanza at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Ingleburn RSL. Photo Courtesy of Campbelltown Macarthur Advertiser (Simon Bennett)



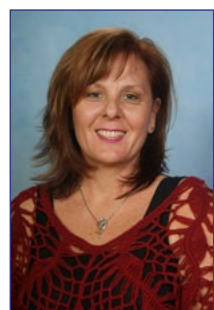
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FROM THE CAREERS DESK



Term 2 has proven to be a very busy term in Careers. Currently I am in the process of interviewing all Year 12 students regarding their further study pathway and career choice. Careers Adviser, Ms Violi, reports.

Generally students have indicated an overwhelming preference for a university pathway in a variety of courses. Year 12 Students have been linked to University Early Offer Programs offered by the University of Wollongong, Charles Sturt University, Notre Dame University, Australian Catholic University and the University of New England. Students have been given information regarding the application process and the deadlines for early applications.

In the near future, Year 12 students can also access the Educational Access Scheme (bonus points scheme) and Equity Scholarships for students with financial difficulties. All students are encouraged to investigate scholarship opportunities if they are pursuing a university degree.

By August, Year 12 students should have received their passwords and pin numbers from the University Admissions Centre (UAC). These will be emailed through to the students' portal accounts. Year 12 students, who are enrolled in the ATAR pathway, will have the opportunity to select nine preferences after finalising the UAC fee (\$30). UAC applications open on the 5 August and on time applications close on September 30th. Any applications after this date will incur a higher charge.

The HSC results will be released by BOSTES on Wednesday 16 December. Students can access their results through their Students Online email account. All students were given information on how to access their Students Online account in Year 10. Their password and pin number remains unchanged. If students have forgotten their pin number, they must contact the BOSTES on 9367 8001. I would be more than happy to help students through this process if they have forgotten their pins. ATARS will be released by the Universities Admission Centre on December 17th, 2015.

Year 12 was been fortunate enough to have been invited to attend the HSC and Careers Expo held at Fox Studios on May 28th. Year 12 students had the ability to gather information from the various Universities, Colleges and TAFE representatives regarding relevant career pathways. The HSC and Careers Day is open to the public on May 30th & 31st. UWS day will be held on June 3rd at Kingswood Campus. Students have registered

for information sessions in a variety of courses ranging from Medicine, Science, Policing, Education, Engineering, IT and many more. The students are able to hear information about a particular course from a lecturer and a panel of students and then can ask questions. The day is an exciting, informative glimpse into university and campus life.

In Term 3, I will be facilitating the John Edmondson High School Annual Year 12 Careers Expo where students will gain invaluable information regarding study skills, job opportunities and the labour market. Past students have also been invited to act as guest speakers in promoting various courses and professions.

Students from Year 10 and 11 have also been fortunate in learning about Careers. Year 10 students have had the opportunity to participate in Work Experience gaining a vital understanding of how the workforce operates. Career lessons on resume and cover letter writing and *The Job Guide*, have been held in preparation for student transition into the workforce. I welcome any student or parent to make an appointment, should they have any Career queries.

Year 10 to 12 students have also had the opportunity to enrol into TVET (TAFE). This year 29 students from years 10-12 have enrolled into courses which include Construction, Carpentry, Metal and Engineering, Light Vehicle Mechanics, Plumbing, Beauty, Aviation, Vehicle Painting, Sport and Fitness, Health, Hair, Floristry and Aged Care. These students attend TAFE for half a day a week and are gaining exceptional skills and competencies. Two students are engaged in a School Based Apprenticeship in Business and Plumbing where they attend TAFE one day per week, work with an employer once a week and then attend school three days a week. This is a rigorous and demanding pathway but students enjoy the flexibility of combining their study with an apprenticeship or traineeship program.

The Careers Program at JEHS is highly regarded by the students who meet with me regularly to discuss all career information. I look forward to continue my work with all students.

From the Teaching and Learning chair...

I am pleased to announce that year 12 students are involved in a Literacy Program developed by the University of New England. They volunteer their time once a week in assisting Year 7 students with their literacy. The program is similar to the QuickSmart Program developed by the University of New England.

I would like to acknowledge the following students for their commitment to the learning of others- Raymond Su, Zaynab

El-Kassir, Anna Maria Leotta, Rayan Jaber, Katrina Trinh, Betty Garrido, Nesreen Moussa, Angela Attard, Zoeya Amin, Jordan Bellissimo Laus, Andrew Lin, Zaariya Khan, Raayyan Ali, Ned Tamburic, Monique Rayhanna, Shilpa Singh, Shimali Gupta, Patricia Chand, Nawa Jaf, Thomas Huang, Victor Huang, Sharon Singh and Milica Veljovic. These students have been given extensive training on how to facilitate this literacy program. The year 7 students who are being tutored have shown great improvement and confidence in their reading and comprehension and are so appreciative of the time and effort shown by their Year 12 mentors.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Year 12 volunteers who always encourage our Year 7 Literacy students to persevere and succeed. As a result, the Year 7 students have developed not only their Literacy skills

but have gained more confidence in their reading abilities.

I must also take this time to acknowledge Karmen Kaye-Smith, our QuickSmart Educator. This year sees 24 students from Year 7 and 8 participate in the Literacy and Numeracy Program. These students are showing incredible improvement, automaticity and confidence in their Literacy and Numeracy skills.

I would finally like to encourage all students in Years 10 to 12, to work hard and succeed. I wish Year 12 students the very best in their upcoming Trial Examinations this term and look forward to another great term at John Edmondson High School. ★

QUICKSMART ROCKS



What a fantastic year we are having so far in QuickSmart Numeracy and Literacy. Ms Kaye-Smith, QuickSmart Educator, reports.

This is my third year as the Educator and Facilitator for the QuickSmart program. For the last two years, I have had the pleasure of being the Educator for the QuickSmart Numeracy and this year I have taken on board the QuickSmart Literacy program as well.

It's been a rewarding experience this year with all the students progressing very well; the majority of the students achieve levels beyond even their own expectations.

All the students enjoy attending their QuickSmart lessons as the program is easy to learn and fun at the same time. I'm finding that the students are starting to work with confidence, and this has been reflected back in their classroom positive attitude.

QUICKSMART NUMERACY

Students focus on understanding and recall of basic number facts, calculation, acquisition of appropriate mathematics language and problem solving skills.

QUICKSMART LITERACY

Students focus an automaticity of word recognition, fluency in reading connected texts, development of vocabulary and comprehension.



Aspects of the program including the invaluable and challenging resources that have been utilised and implemented in classrooms where students need the extra support in numeracy or literacy.

The program not only helps the targeted student from Years 7 and 8 but now also assists students development across Stage 4 in every subject area. ★



SPORTING SUCCESS

Year 10 have been incredibly busy at the beginning of Term 2. They continued their amazing involvement in sport both for the school and outside the school. Year Adviser, Ms Young, reports.

In the first few weeks of this term we have had Jarred Moren, Aymen Said and Brady Moore represent the school in the Open Boys Softball. Zac Fullagher, Ric Simonidis, Anthony Beuk, Josh Manios, Shane Crichlow, Michael Taylor, Sean O'Brien, Jarred Moren, Nathan Bainy, Trent Brown, Jayden Hoffman, Brady Moore, Logean Byrnes, Josh Geering, Cooper Cuerden, Cooper Preston, Mustapha Daher represented the school in the Under 16's Rugby League.

Baseball also occupied many Year 10 students: Josh Geering, Daniel Cunningham, Brady Moore, Aymen Said, and AFL was well represented by Year 10 boys: Jake Windon, Shane Crichlow, Cooper Cuerden, Zac Fullagar. Indoor Soccer saw Kelvin Owusu, Anthony Beuk, Shahil Singh, Mustapha Daher, Hymza Moussa, playing for the school.

The girls were not left out as Penny Protogeros, Kayla Spurway, Allysha Gratten and Emma Johnson played in the Under 16's Girls Futsal Team. Sport is one side of school and it is encouraging that so many Year 10 students take advantage of the opportunity to participate and represent the school.

However, the academic side of school is equally important and unfortunately the news is not so encouraging.

To be able to progress to Year 11 all students must satisfy the requirements of Year 10 and gain a Record of School Achievement (RoSA). N Determination Awards will mean that students are in jeopardy of meeting the requirements of the RoSA. It is very important that parents and students realise the importance of making a genuine effort with all aspects of classwork and formal assessment tasks so that students work to their full potential and receive the results that reflect their effort.

Leadership is another important aspect of school and four Year 10 students, Angela Dupuy, Sofia Ballingit, Chang-Song Wang and Hira Gilani attended the 4th annual SWS Leadership Convention at Prairiewood High School. They engaged in activities relating to developing communication skills, team building and lateral thinking. A keynote address was given by Jason Taylor, coach of the West Tigers football team, which highlighted how he has dealt with success and disappointment.

Abbie Baker and Lucy Sisouvath represented the school as flag bearers in the Liverpool Dawn Service for ANZAC Day organised by the John Edmondson Memorial Club. Despite the very early start, they contributed to the service and were excited to be part of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. ★



TRIAL HSC LOOMING

Term 2 is the term for Trial HSC examinations. These fall in the last two weeks of term from Monday, June 15th - Friday, June 26th. Year Adviser, Ms Hayward, reports.

Being less than a month away, it would be a good idea if students were implementing a regular revision program. Aside from writing summary notes, it is also recommended that students start completing some practice questions from past HSC papers. These can be handed in to their teachers for marking or feedback. They can also self-assess using the Board of Studies website and by looking at the marking guidelines, notes from the marking centre and sample answers for all recent past papers: www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/.

The HSC timetable is now also available online: studentonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/go/exams/hsc_2015_exam_timetable/.

A personalised timetable can also be accessed through students online: studentonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/go/news/article/B9EEBC35-56E4-42D0-9249870B44C1FA82/.

A reminder that if students miss an assessment task, it is vital that an *Illness/Misadventure Form* be submitted, along with any supporting documentation, on the student's first day back at school. The approval of these forms are not guaranteed, so when possible it is advisable to submit tasks early.

A number of Year 12 students have excelled in extracurricular activities. During the Pop Idol performances a number of Year 12 students all worked brilliantly both in the spotlight and behind the scenes. Without them the whole event would not have been as outstanding as it was. There are also a number of students volunteering their time to assist younger students with their reading and literacy. This displays a great degree of maturity and shows their desire to assist in the greater school community. Congratulations to all those involved!

A big term is ahead of us as the students continue to mature before they head out into the next phase of their education next year. Encourage them to pace their studies and set manageable goals each week so they don't burn out before their final exams. If they need assistance preparing a study plan, please encourage them to see me and we can work out a personalised schedule that suits their needs and allows them some down time. ★



BUSY TERM FOR YR 11

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. Year Adviser, Ms Bantoft, reports.

The first few weeks of Term 1 involved many subject changes as students reassessed their individual subject selection from the previous year. This has now been finalised as has the first round of Year 11 Reports

I am very happy with the majority of students and their application to their class work, motivation and behaviour. The reports have shown that students have settled in to their subjects well and have been producing work of a high quality. However, there are still a few that are neglecting to complete assessment tasks and this can impact significantly on their Preliminary Year.

Some points to remember/consider in regards to expectations for senior students:

- Under the Board of Studies (BOS) regulations, any assessment that is missed constitutes a zero mark being awarded, if enough assessment material is missed out on then the student may not qualify to move into the HSC course or if already doing the HSC course, they may not qualify for an HSC until the material is completed.
- If an assessment is missed due to illness, an *Illness/Misadventure Form* needs to be completed by your doctor on the day of the assessment task missed. This form can be downloaded from the school website.

- The BOS also stipulates that a certain attendance level must be maintained to ensure classwork is completed, excessive absences may also stop progress in the course.
- If they are in the HSC year and any of the above occurs, then they may risk not attaining the desired ATAR to attend the University of choice.
- Absences should be at an absolute minimum. Every day missed means that they not only miss out on the work for the day but most importantly, the in-class discussions where the teacher has clarified a point or provided a deeper understanding.

It has been great to see students involved in many activities around the school. A few of these include; Pop Idol (photos of Rachael Thebridge playing guitar, Jessica Sta-Maria singing

and Vanessa Mammoliti playing keyboard), speaking at the Anzac Day Ceremony (Carina Turner and Emma Hatton pictured) and The Gallipoli 100th Anniversary Tour where four of our Year 11 students were lucky to be selected (Nilasha Ram, James Foster, Emily Egan and Nawal Sari pictured at Lone Pine). Students have also been participating in events like debating, public speaking competitions, as Red Cross Blood Ambassadors and School Sporting

events like swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals and open sport tryouts.

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 all Year 11 students on their approach to the Preliminary course. Keep up the good work. ★



PRIMARY ENRICHMENT



Science learning is important in understanding how and why things happen in the world. Head Teacher, Mrs Campbell, reports.

This Semester has been a very busy time for the Science Faculty. Term 2 brings assessment time for all year groups in science with Year 7 researching and planning laboratory safety and applications of separation techniques that are required for treating raw sewage in Australia.

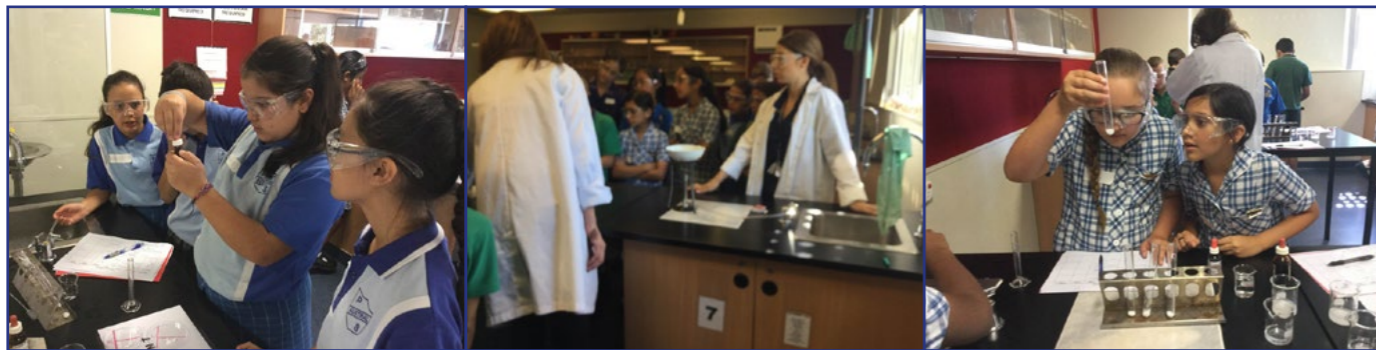
Year 8 students have been exploring an Australian animal, its adaptations, habitat and interactions within an environment. While Year 9 students are exploring natural disasters, discussing why, how and where these geological activities occur.

Year 10 students are currently completing their Independent Research Project, which involves planning, performing and collating results on a chosen investigation. Some of the year

Bringing out the scientists!

On the March 26, 28 Year 6 students from our local primary schools (Austral Public School, Leppington Public School, Rossmore Public School, Bringelly Public School and Greenway Park Public School) were invited to participate in a Science Enrichment Day at John Edmondson High School.

Students had an opportunity to develop their knowledge and practical skills using scientific equipment and procedures that occur at a high school level. It was wonderful to see students working collaboratively with other students from other schools in both group activities and in laboratory work, as well as problem solving and making decisions. Students explored various separating techniques, the chemistry behind “elephants toothpaste”, solubility, how to identify starch in food and the exothermic reactions (heat releasing) in the “Genie in a Bottle” experiment. At the end of the day, students were presented with a certificate by our principal Mr Weatherstone. I would like to thank Miss Bajada and Mrs Stephen for assisting and organising the day.



10 students have planned a fair test to investigate “which brand of bread moulds the quickest”, others have chosen “which detergent produces the most foam/soap suds”, these are just a couple of many examples students are investigating.

Year 10 students are required to complete a log book of their findings and produce a final report and presentation to their peers.

Senior students are investigating various areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics concepts and investigations. Year 12 Chemistry students have made esters, which are used both in flavourings and perfumes and have performed titrations to identify concentrations of various acids or bases. Biology students are investigating the topic “Search for Better Health”, how disease can spread, students are identifying the known bacteria by performing experiments, growing cultures under strict safety procedures and understanding the effect of antibiotics and disinfectants.

Along with engaging young minds with Science, earlier this term, Mrs Stephen our laboratory technician visited Year 2 students, setting up a mini science laboratory with various stations and experiments including bio-viewers, monocular and binocular microscopes, live animal samples. Thank you to Mrs Stephen for providing students an opportunity to explore living things and how they grow.

Leukaemia is a cancer of blood forming cells and affects many people in Australia. On May 8th, Year 10 students (Brooke Belli, Hira Gilani, Carina Li, Maggie Zhong, Nandita Kumar, Marija Radmanovic, Josh Blain and Azhar Ali) helped organise “The World’s Greatest Shave” and raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. During the day many students donated money to get their hair coloured or shaved. It was wonderful to see students participate and brave to shave for such a worthy course. A total of \$638.65 was raised. Thank you to all your support. ★

HOME ECONOMICS SKILLS



Another exciting term in the Home Economics faculty. Students are encouraged to develop a range of skills that may help them in their direction for future careers and work around the home. Head Teacher, Mrs Khanna, reports.

Learning how to create webpage using weebly, how to use different materials with tools and machinery and equipment. We become more inquisitive and better critical thinkers in the consumer world, as we shape and use materials to make something useful. My faculty is in a unique position to provide students with an understanding of how to organise and build products.

The Hospitality students had an exciting and busy term. We have two Hospitality classes in the faculty; one is in Year 11 while the other is in Year 12. Throughout the term the students actively learnt about the Hospitality industry workplace environment. To get the real industry experience the students participated in the Class Chef program in which John Edmondson Hospitality students took over the kitchen of Cucina 105 on May 25th for the night as part of the Class Chef’s program.

Year 11 students were also required to undertake a week of work placement at a hospitality establishment. Before going all students participated in the Work Ready Program. Students were very apprehensive about this before going as this was, for some of them, the very first time that were going to gain some actual industry experience. Some of the students enjoyed and excelled in their work placements so much that they were

offered some part time work and/or apprenticeships. During the week they worked in a variety of different establishments in Liverpool area including Gemelle, Grano, Club Marconi, Rashays and Liverpool Catholic Club.

It is very important that all students taking part in the practical lessons participate and that their attendance in vocational education is maintained at an excellent standard – 90% or above. Otherwise, they may be asked to do more work to catch up, so that they can be signed off as successfully completing all work expected of them.



At this stage it is important to remind students that, to work safely in our classrooms, all students must wear enclosed leather shoes that comply with NSW DEC and school uniform rules. In closing, our faculty wishes to remind students and parents that in Years 9 to 12 all fees need to be paid. The amount raised is spent on materials for students to produce good quality projects. Without these payments, the choice of work may limit the enjoyment each student can have in class. Please make arrangements to pay as soon as possible and if there are any difficulties, don’t hesitate to get in touch with the administration office on 9825 9815. We wish every student a safe and scrumptious year. ★

WHY WE NEED



Why our future depends on libraries, reading and daydreaming. Relieving Teacher Librarian, Ms Silk, reports.

Fiction has two uses: Firstly, it's a gateway drug to reading. The drive to know what happens next, to want to turn the page, the need to keep going, even if it's hard, because someone's in trouble and you have to know how it's all going to end ...

that's a very real drive. And it forces you to learn new words, to think new thoughts, to keep going. To discover that reading per se is pleasurable. Once you learn that, you're on the road to reading everything. And reading is key.

The simplest way to make sure that we raise literate children is to teach them to read, and to show them that reading is a pleasurable activity. And that means, at its simplest, finding books that they enjoy, giving them access to those books, and letting them read them.

Do not discourage children from reading because you feel they are reading the wrong thing. Fiction you do not like is a route to other books you may prefer. And not everyone has the same taste as you.

We need our children to get onto the reading ladder: anything that they enjoy reading will move them up, rung by rung, into literacy.

The second thing fiction does is to build empathy. When you watch TV or see a film, you are looking at things happening to other people. Prose fiction is something you build up from 26 letters and a handful of punctuation marks, and you, and you alone, using your imagination, create a world & people in it and look out through other eyes. You get to feel things, visit places and worlds you would never otherwise know. You learn that everyone else out there is a me, as well. You're being someone else, and when you return to your own world, you're going to be slightly changed.

Empathy is a tool for building people into groups, for allowing us to function as more than self-obsessed individuals.



You're also finding out something as you read vitally important for making your way in the world. And it's this: The world doesn't have to be like this. Things can be different.

Fiction can show you a different world. It can take you somewhere you've never been. Once you've visited other worlds, like those who ate fairy fruit, you can never be entirely content with the world that you grew up in. Discontent is a good thing: discontented people can modify and improve their worlds, leave them better, leave them different.

If you were trapped in an impossible situation, in an unpleasant place, with people who meant you ill, and someone offered you a temporary escape, why wouldn't you take it? And escapist fiction is just that: fiction that opens a door, shows the sunlight outside, gives you a place to go where you are in control, are with people you want to be with (and books are real places, make no mistake about that); and more importantly, during your escape, books can also give you knowledge about the world and your predicament, give you weapons, give you armour: real things you can take back into your prison. Skills and knowledge and tools you can use to escape for real.

Another way to destroy a child's love of reading, of course, is to make sure there are no books of any kind around. And to give them nowhere to read those books.

Libraries are about freedom. Freedom to read, freedom of ideas, freedom of communication. They are about education (which is not a process that finishes the day we leave school or university), about entertainment, about making safe spaces, and about access to information.

I worry that here in the 21st century people misunderstand what libraries are and the purpose of them. If you perceive a library as a shelf of books, it may seem antiquated or out-dated in a world in which most, but not all, books in print exist digitally. But that is to miss the point fundamentally.

I think it has to do with nature of information. Information has value, and the right information has enormous value.

TO DAYDREAM

In the last few years, we've moved from an information-scarce economy to one driven by an information glut.

We are going to need help navigating that information to find the thing we actually need.

Libraries are places that people go to for information. Books are only the tip of the information iceberg: they are there, and libraries can provide you freely and legally with books. More children are borrowing books from libraries than ever before – books of all kinds: paper and digital and audio.

But libraries are also, for example, places that people, who may not have computers, who may not have internet connections, can go online without paying anything: hugely important when the way you find out about jobs, apply for jobs or apply for benefits is increasingly migrating exclusively online. Librarians can help these people navigate that world.

A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it. That includes health information. And mental health information. It's a community space. It's a place of safety, a haven from the world. It's a place with librarians in it. What the libraries of the future will be like is something we should be imagining now.

Literacy is more important than ever it was, in this world of text and email, a world of written information. We need to read and write, we need global citizens who can read comfortably, comprehend what they are reading, understand nuance, and make themselves understood.

Our children and our grandchildren are less literate and less numerate than we are. They are less able to navigate the world, to understand it to solve problems. They can be more easily lied to and misled, will be less able to change the world in which they find themselves, be less employable. All of these things.

Books are the way that we communicate with the dead. The way that we learn lessons from those who are no longer with us, that humanity has built on itself, progressed....

I believe we have an obligation to read for pleasure, in private and in public places. If we read for pleasure, if others see us

reading, then we learn, we exercise our imaginations. We show others that reading is a good thing.

We have an obligation to support libraries. To use libraries, to encourage others to use libraries, to protest the closure of libraries. If you do not value libraries then you do not value information or culture or wisdom. You are silencing the voices of the past and you are damaging the future.

We have an obligation to read aloud to our children. To read them things they enjoy. To read to them stories we are already tired of. To do the voices, to make it interesting, and not to stop reading to them just because they learn to read to themselves.

Use reading-aloud time as bonding time, as time when no phones are being checked, when the distractions of the world are put aside.

We have an obligation to use the language. To push ourselves: to find out what words mean and how to deploy them, to communicate clearly, to say what we mean.

One of the best cures for a reluctant reader, after all, is a tale they cannot stop themselves from reading.

We all – adults and children, writers and readers – have an obligation to daydream. We have an obligation to imagine.

We have an obligation to make things beautiful. Not to leave the world

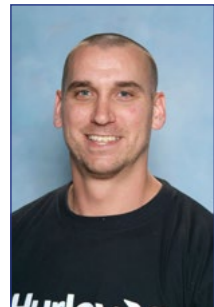
uglier than we found it, not to empty the oceans, not to leave our problems for the next generation. We have an obligation to clean up after ourselves, and not leave our children with a world we've shortsightedly messed up, shortchanged, and crippled.

We have an obligation to tell our politicians what we want, This is not a matter of party politics. This is a matter of common humanity.

The full article can be found at: <http://www.theguardian.com/books/2013/oct/15/neil-gaiman-future-libraries-reading-daydreaming> I hope parents will find some food for thought in these excerpts from an inspirational address by author, Neil Gaiman. ★



CULTIVATING CRAFTSMAN



After what was a very hectic start to the year, students in the Industrial Arts Faculty are now making great progress in their practical projects. Head Teacher, Mr Lockard, reports.

The standard of workmanship continues to improve here at JEHS as students are producing projects that are making their teachers proud.

After a lengthy WHS induction process, students in Year 7 are now using workshop tools and machinery with confidence to construct their Storage Solutions. At the same time Year 8 students are being exposed to a number of different materials, techniques and technologies as they design and construct the ever-popular Speed Racers.

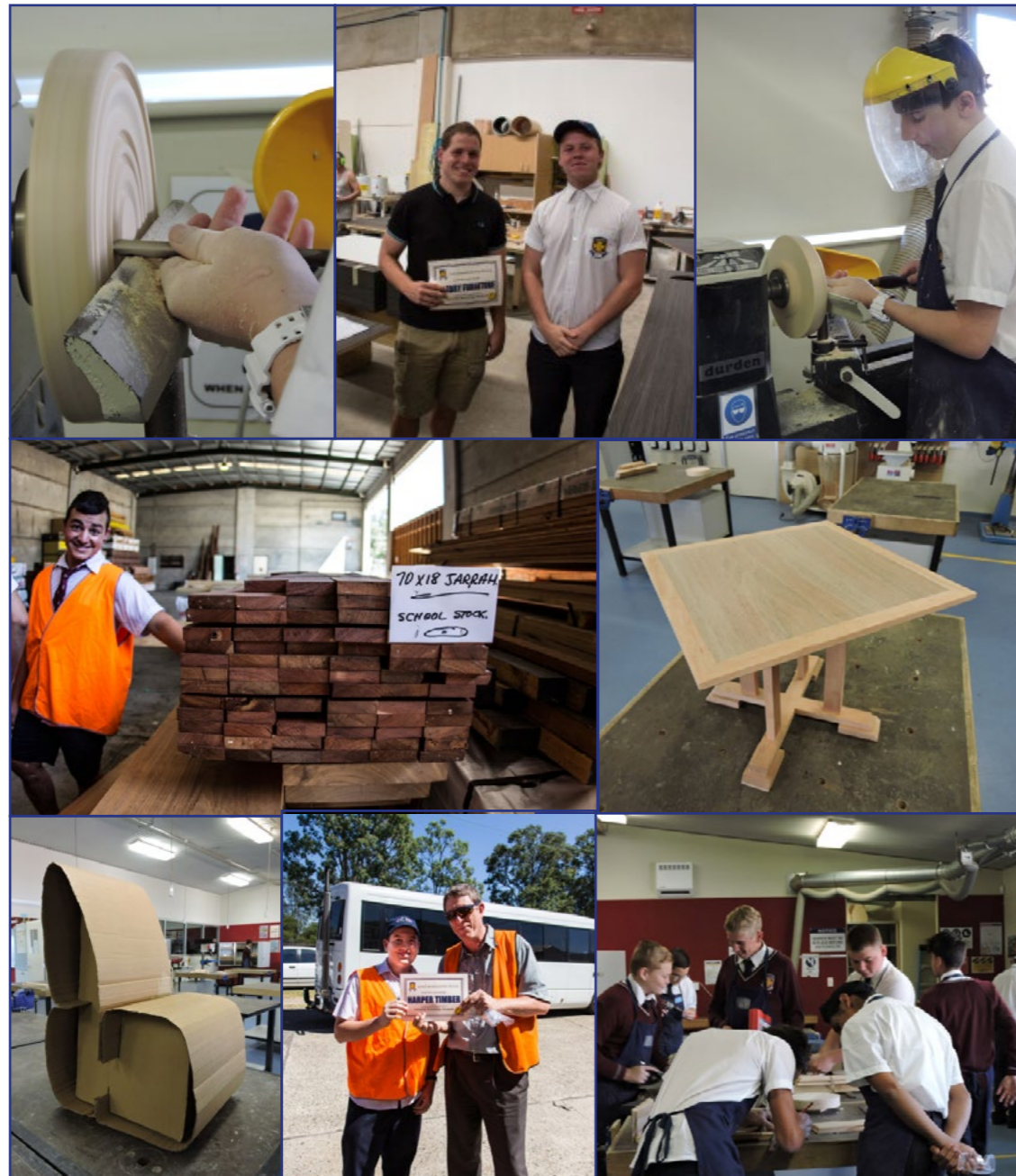
Late last term Industrial Technology Timber students in Year 11 conducted two industry visits. Students were provided the opportunity to see firsthand how two very different companies in the timber industry operate and explore possible career opportunities. The students found the experience enlightening and invaluable in completing their Industry Study Reports.

Engineering students continue to impress with their ability to apply high level engineering concepts to solve complex problems. Year 9 Engineering students have been exploring the limitations of various

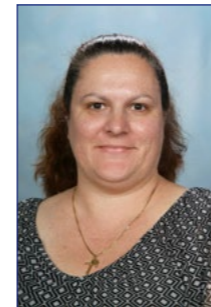
materials in the Sustainable Structures project by producing innovative, recycled, furniture. Year 12 Engineering Studies students are eagerly awaiting their excursion to the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society Museum as part of their Aeronautical Engineering Module.

In Metal, the focus is firmly upon our Year 12 students who are working hard on their Major Projects. Students are busily spending every available moment cutting, grinding and welding themselves towards fantastic projects.

I look forward to sharing with you photos of their work in future newsletters. ★



JAPANESE ROLE PLAY



Japanese is having a busy year this year. Year 8 have one lesson of Japanese Art and have all produced great Koi Sock kites for Children's Day this term. I wonder what they will be making next? Japanese Teacher, Msr Vidakovic, reports.

They have also written to students in Japan and received replies. They were so excited to make new friends in Japan and had so many questions for them. We are eagerly awaiting their next replies.

Year 10 Japanese worked on planning a trip to Japan in Term One and realise there is a lot to do when you plan a holiday overseas. We all wished we were travelling to Japan on one of their planned trips! This Term they worked on presenting a Role Play in a restaurant and also made bilingual menus. Everyone did well and produced great menus! We look forward to going to a Japanese restaurant soon to try out our newly learned vocabulary.

Year 11 Beginners Japanese have been busy learning many new things. They all did well in their first speaking task last term and are preparing for the next reading and writing task. The

class was invited to join Elderslie High School on a trip to Japan in the September/October school holidays. Ms Bantoft and seven students from our class will be joining the Elderslie High School trip. Stay tuned for exciting updates from them.

Year 11 have also been invited to open up their homes to a Japanese student from Nagoya in Japan from the July 28th to August 2nd as part of the Nagoya Sydney Sister City arrangement. The Japanese students will spend their time with families here at JEHS and Chester Hill High School. Any Families interested in participating in hosting of the students please contact me as soon as possible.

On July 24th JEHS will be visited by students from Toda City in Japan as part of the Liverpool Toda Sister City association. The Toda students will only spend one day at JEHS and we will be preparing some exciting activities for them to experience. Liverpool Council unfortunately has not supported the full Toda Liverpool Sister City Student Exchange Program again this year. We were hoping to restart the exchange which last went ahead in 2010.

It is a great experience for year 8 students to make new friends and see family and school life in Japan. We hope that Liverpool Council will restart the exchange program again next year. ★

Home stay host families needed

for Japanese students visiting from Nagoya High Schools Tuesday, July 28th to Sunday, August 2nd 2015

John Edmondson High School will be hosting a visit of eight students from Nagoya High Schools in Japan during their summer holidays as part of the Nagoya Sydney Sister City Exchange Program. This program has been operating very successfully for over several years with participating schools in Sydney. It is a chance for students to gain some insight into a different culture and to provide students with the opportunity for greater understanding and tolerance of others. Students in Year 11 are invited to participate in the program by hosting a student from Japan.

In brief, the students from Japan will arrive in Sydney on Tuesday, July 28th and will depart on the morning of Thursday, August 6th. They require an individual home stay with a host family for five nights of the visit from Tuesday, July 28th to Sunday, August 2nd. The Japanese students will attend school with their host brother/sister. After school and weekend's activities are arranged by the host families depending on family schedules. Following the home stay there is a small payment to families to assist with expenses.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Karol Vidakovic on **9825 9815** during school hours or by email to karol.vidakovic@det.nsw.edu.au.

JEHS AT ANZAC COVE FOR THE



In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli battle and remembrance of the ANZAC soldiers, the NSW Government organised a Gallipoli 2015 School Tour where four students and one supervising teacher were selected from 25 schools around New South Wales and given the rare opportunity to witness a momentous event - the ANZAC Day service in Gallipoli, Turkey.

From John Edmondson High School the students Nawal Sari, James Foster, Emily Egan and Nilasha Ram were selected along with supervising teacher Mr Ruben Canobra. To be selected for this once-in-a-lifetime experience the students each had to submit a work piece on a theme that related to the Centenary of Anzac followed by an interview with a panel of five judges to discuss their piece as well as the personal importance of ANZAC Day to them.

Emily created an art piece and poem explaining its significance in relation to the soldiers themselves. "My work sample for the tour was a large artwork on canvas which I named *The Soldier's War*. I named it this because of the poem I had written around it. The gist of the poem is that the soldiers were the ones who experienced it, so it is their war. But because they could not forget, we must not forget and this complimented my artwork of an ex-soldier's aged eye, with the memory of a fellow soldier's funeral forever preserved in his eye to emphasise the message that they were incapable of forgetting what they went through."

James also created a poem regarding the ANZAC Legend. "To apply for the tour, I wrote a poem about the ANZACs called *Unforgotten Legend* which is about how I believe the legend stands; always twisted and tainted but never truly forgotten. I applied in hopes of visiting the lands the Australian and New Zealander troops fought upon."

Nilasha, who wrote an essay about the true meaning of

ANZAC, expressed the value of the battle at Gallipoli as a pinnacle point in Australian history. "For my work sample I wrote an essay explaining the importance of ANZAC Day to Australians nationwide, especially the ANZAC Legend as it shaped the foundations of Australian culture. By commemorating ANZAC Day we pay tribute to the selfless individuals who sacrificed their lives for betterment of thousands and through acts of bravery, loyalty and endurance forged the identity of an ANZAC soldier. By attending the dawn service I hoped to gain a deeper understanding of the soldier's war and their experiences."

A week after the individual interviews were held the four students were selected to represent JEHS and each student expressed the emotional rush that followed the announcement. "I was incredibly excited to be chosen. This experience meant a lot to me then, and even more after it happened," Emily stated.



Nawal Sari, James Foster, Emily Egan and Nilasha Ram are off to Gallipoli for Anzac Day. Picture: JMA TRADING

Gallipoli trip a 'profound' experience

Stacy Thomas
STUDENTS from John Edmondson High School will visit Gallipoli for the 100th anniversary of Anzac. Representing the Hornsby Shire School of Years 11 students Nawal Sari, Emily Egan, Nilasha Ram and James Foster, joined by teacher Ruben Canobra.

Principal Leon Weatherstone said he was proud of the students. "The journey includes attending the dawn service and seeing many other significant Anzac-related sites," Mr Weatherstone said. "The tour includes visiting the historic Sultan Ahmet Camii, Byzantine church, Hippodrome, Basilica Cistern beneath Constantinople and touring the ancient city of Troy. Nawal Sari is excited about the trip and said she was interested in learning the Turkish side of Anzac. Emily Egan said she was nervous but excited because she'll never get the chance to experience something so profound and again. James Foster said leaving Australia for the first time would be amazing. A total of 100 students across Australia were chosen to go to Gallipoli after submitting a work which celebrated the Anzac spirit. The school has strong links service, being named after Australia's first Victoria Cross WWII recipient.

"I was both frightened and ecstatic when I found out that I had been selected. I had been given the opportunity to visit Turkey and walk the battlefields, stand in the commemorative sites, see Turkish icons and take part in the 100 year commemorations," James told.

"I was so happy when I was told I would be one of the students going to Gallipoli. To be able to be part of such a huge commemorative service - I knew it would be an incredible experience," Nawal said.

The days that followed the announcement, preparation for the tour involved interviews, research, group discussions and many photo shoots. As the beginning date of the tour approached our nervousness and excitement intensified and an almost surreal atmosphere passed as we packed the final items for the journey ahead.

At last the first day of our tour began at 11am on the April 19th at the Rydges Hotel. Fuelled by the adrenaline and excitement we headed to the briefing meeting where we were formally introduced to our Tour Directors and the other 96 students and 25 teachers who we would come to know in the days that followed. After listening to the admirable speeches by the Tour Historians and Project Manager which left each of us feeling a

GALLIPOLI 100th CEREMONY

sense of immense pride and honour in our Australian history and being explained how the tour would take place we were escorted to our flights where we left Sydney for Dubai, then after a short stop, to Istanbul.

After an interesting yet tiring couple of flights we arrived in the luxurious hotel eager to settle down and unwind but also very excited to start our journey the following day.

The third day of the Gallipoli Tour our exploring began with a six hour journey from Istanbul to Gallipoli via coach. Driving

The Nek, Chunuk Bair and others. It was incredibly emotional to visit the areas where Turkish and Australian soldiers fought and were killed, each fighting for the future of their country and their people.

"I don't think I can adequately describe how it felt, to be standing on grounds that so many people had died, because I don't think I was ever feeling just one thing at any given time. While we were at The Nek, seeing such a small stretch of land where so many people died, a boy from our bus (one of our tour members) played the last post on his bugle. It was



along the Sea of Marmara and the Straits of the Dardanelles admiring the amazing scenery - it felt extraordinary to be able to soak in the Turkish culture, from their greetings and kind gestures to their adoration for their country and love for national heroes such as Atatürk (Mustafa Kemal), and especially experiencing our first tastes of authentic Turkish food.

The fourth day of our tour was tightly packed with sites to visit and as battlefields and war cemeteries were the main focus, we visited ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine, Shrapnel Gulley,

incredibly moving to say the least, but also indescribable at the same time", said Emily, recalling the experience.

The fifth day touring was incredibly eye-opening as we were able to understand some of the struggles and experiences of the Turkish soldiers and form a greater insight into their perspective which was very important to us. To add to this we also visited the Kabatepe War Museum and watched a 4D documentary of the Gallipoli Battle but from the Turkish point of view which was amazing as it explored the struggles

continued on page 2

JEHS AT ANZAC COVE FOR THE

from page 1

felt by the Turkish soldiers and the impact the war had on their people.

As the sixth day on tour was the 24th of April and we were preparing for the arrangements on ANZAC Day, we spent our time at a relaxed pace sight-seeing and exploring the ruins of Troy as well as visiting one of the famous replicas of the Trojan Horse and seeing the remains of Turkish forts used in the First World War.

way to the Dawn Service in ANZAC cove. Staying awake was difficult for us all because of how little sleep we had gotten that night, but although we were tired it was an incredibly moving morning. The service was very solemn, and one particularly moving part of the ceremony was when the screens began to show the inscriptions of grave stones: names, ages, the messages inscribed on their grave stones, the messages that were obviously from loved ones were the saddest because I was just imagining how much pain those families went through after losing those boys and men who meant so much to them” Emily said.



We enjoy a delicious Turkish meal before packing out travel backpacks and driving to the marshalling site where we camped for the night.

Our seventh and most important day of the Gallipoli Tour had arrived: ANZAC Day. We awoke at 3:00am, boarded the mini buses and went through a series of security check points before arriving at the main event of our entire tour - the Dawn Service.

“We had an incredibly early morning so that we could make our

“I loved seeing the Turkish anthem being sung and seeing their very dedicated and kind hearted soldiers there.” Nawal said after the service.

“The Dawn Service was an incredible and moving commemoration. There was an emotionally charged atmosphere, filled with pride for the bravery of the fallen soldiers - both Turkish and ANZAC, grief for their passing and gratitude for their selflessness. The sheer mass of people coming together from all across the globe, not as single individuals, not as separate nations, but as a whole, coming

GALLIPOLI 100th CEREMONY

together to pay their respects and mourn for a worldwide tragedy: the death of heroes, was truly breathtaking,” Nilasha said.

After an emotional exhausting service we gradually made our way to the second event of the day which was to be held at the Lone Pine cemetery - an equally awe-inspiring service before getting back onto the bus to Istanbul.

After the Dawn Service we had one day left to spend in Turkey and we intended to take full advantage of our time by visiting the beautiful Blue Mosque, the Basilica Cistern and the Aya Sofia.

Finally, after a short but so memorable trip to Turkey we bid our goodbyes and reluctantly boarded our plane back to Sydney.

“It was amazing to see the Ottoman influence and the Islamic history behind it. The best part was going there on behalf of not only my school, but also on behalf of my family and by carrying my Turkish heritage, it felt like I was reconnecting with my family roots. I also got the chance to understand more about my ancestors because of the trip and make great lifelong friends from Granville.” Nawal said.



“It felt amazing to go to the blue mosque because it meant so much to me to pray there and absorb the atmosphere. A female teacher from another school performed spiritual cleansing with me (wudu) and also allowed me to pray peacefully because she knew how important it was to me,” Nawal said.

“It was unbelievable how well preserved the Aya Sofia is even after centuries. It’s a very unique monument both for Byzantine and for Ottoman Empires because it holds the characteristics of these two very different cultures,” James said.

“There’s an amazing sense of clarity and understanding that I gained from this experience not only towards the soldiers and their battles but towards aspects of my own life - I think that’s how I’ll remember this tour, by how it changed my perception.” Nilasha said.

We would like to pay our deepest respect and gratitude to the Premier of NSW and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for enabling us to participate in such an outstanding tour as well as supporting us throughout the journey. Thank you. ★

JEHS 2015 EVENTS CALENDER

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| T2 W7 | June 1 U15 Girls Football Bill Turner Trophy: Rd 3 <i>JEHS vs Freeman Catholic College @ Freeman CC</i> P&C Meeting <i>@ JEHS Library</i> | June 2 Biggest Morning Tea <i>@ JEHS</i> | June 3 World Vision Youth Leadership Day <i>@ Luna Park</i> Yr 9/10 Food Tech Excursion <i>@ Botanic Gardens</i> Yr 12 UWS Day <i>@ UWS</i> ICAS Science Competition <i>@ JEHS</i> 14 Yr Boys Futsal <i>@ Minto</i> | June 4 Open Boys & Girls Futsal <i>@ Minto</i> Yr 11 Debate: JEHS vs LBHS <i>@ Liverpool Boys HS</i> | June 5 |
| T2 W8 | June 8 Queen's Birthday Public Holiday | June 9 Open Boys Softball <i>@ TBC</i> | June 10 | June 11 HSC History Study Day <i>@ University of Sydney</i> SSW Cross Country Carnival <i>@ Hurlstone Agricultural HS</i> | June 12 Year 12 Trial HSC Boys Hockey Knockout <i>@ TBC</i> |
| T2 W9 | June 15 Year 12 Trial HSC | June 16 Year 12 Trial HSC Girls Netball Knockout <i>@ TBC</i> Yr 7 Vaccinations <i>@ JEHS</i> Yr 9 Music Performance Evening <i>@ JEHS</i> | June 17 Year 12 Trial HSC Zone Athletics Carnival <i>@ Campbelltown Ath Centre</i> Girls Rugby Trials/Gala Day <i>@ TBC</i> | June 18 Year 12 Trial HSC Western Sydney Careers Expo <i>@ Homebush Bay</i> | June 19 Year 12 Trial HSC |
| T2 W10 | June 22 Year 12 Trial HSC | June 23 Year 12 Trial HSC Yr 10 Music Performance Evening <i>@ JEHS</i> | June 24 Year 12 Trial HSC | June 25 Year 12 Trial HSC | June 26 Year 12 Trial HSC Final Day of Term 2 |
| Monday June 29 to Monday July 13 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS | | | | | |
| T3 W1 | July 13 Staff Development Day | July 14 First Day of Term 3 Year 11 Ski Trip <i>@ Snowy Mountains</i> | July 15 Year 11 Ski Trip <i>@ Snowy Mountains</i> | July 16 Year 11 Ski Trip <i>@ Snowy Mountains</i> | July 17 Year 11 Ski Trip <i>@ Snowy Mountains</i> CHS Cross Country <i>@ Eastern Creek</i> |
| T3 W2 | July 20 | July 21 Parent/Teacher Interviews Night 1 <i>@ JEHS Auditorium</i> | July 22 3D Modelling Boot Camp <i>@ Macquarie University</i> | July 23 Year 11 First Aid Course <i>@ JEHS</i> Parent/Teacher Interviews Night 2 <i>@ JEHS Auditorium</i> | July 24 Year 11 First Aid Course <i>@ JEHS</i> Futsal State Championships <i>@ TBC</i> |

Dates are subject to change without notice