FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Careers,

It is with great pleasure I report a smooth transition to the new school year. It was wonderful to see the new students commence the year at JSA and to see last years students happily returning to the routines of structured school life and some students somewhat taller since leaving for the holiday break in December.

The staff at JSA are looking forward to building a strong partnership with you throughout the year and we invite you to attend the Meet the Teacher afternoon on Wednesday 20th February.

DEECD Restructure

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has been through a significant restructure. JSA is now included in the North Western Victoria Region. The newly appointed Regional Director is Jeanette Nagorcka and will be based at the Coburg and Bendigo offices. The DEECD website address has remain unchanged however layout is quite different from last year. The website can be a very useful resource for families:

www.education.vic.gov.au

2013 Annual Implementation Plan

In keeping with the agreed Strategic Plan goals (2010 – 13) set by the Northern School for Autism, the NSA school council has endorsed the following achievement milestones at the 2012 December meeting.

Student Learning

- Increase in the number of students using Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) devices from 2012 – 2013.
- Improvement of 20% in Speaking & Listening (ABLES DATA)
- Improvement of 20% in Reading & Writing (ABLES DATA)

Student Engagement & Wellbeing

- Improvement of 20% in Interpersonal & Personal Learning (ABLES DATA)
- Reduction in the Human Agency incidents on the DEECD Edusafe reporting system.

Student Pathways & Transitions

MIP plans established for all current 15 year olds.

I have every confidence that the community will be focused on achieving these milestones and establish a new 3 year strategic plan with continued focus on school improvement in partnership with the new school council in the future.

Text Message Notification

JSA is using a global messaging service. Notification text messages were sent out to families this week in relation to the Industrial Action. If you did not receive a text message and would like to be included for future notifications and reminders, please contact Carlee at reception on 9309 6258.

Bpay

We are currently in the process of setting up Bpay for direct debit payments for JSA. Could I ask families to hold off making internet banking deposits until we set up the new system. We will advise families when this becomes available.

School Structure and Staffing

We currently have an enrolment of 176 students making up four sub schools, including:

- Early Years A
- Early Years B
- Early/Middle Years
- Middle/Later Years.

Staffing is made up of:

- 8.9 leadership
- 28.8 teachers
- 44.8 teacher aides
- 6.4 therapy staff
- 5.2 admin/ICT support
- 1.0 maintenance support.

This makes a total of 93.1 Effective Full Time Equivalent staff members.

2013 TERM DATES:

- Term 1: 31 January – 28 March
- Term 2: 15 April – 28 June
- Term 3: 15 July – 20 September
- Term 4: 7 October – 20 December
I would like to introduce the leadership and administration team to you. We are here to support the teaching teams and families. Please call if you have any concerns or questions that your classroom teacher is unable to help you with.

Leadership Team
Acting Principal – Corinne Pupillo
Assistant Principal, Teaching & Learning – Sue Johnston
Student Transition & Wellbeing – Deb Munt
Occupational Health & Safety/eLearning – Dr Denise Clarke
Therapy Team Leader – Jenny Bishop (Speech Pathologist)

Sub School Leaders
Early Years A – Annette McKee
Early Years B – Lauren Tippett
Early/Middle Years – Elizabeth Smith
Middle/Later Years – Kym Tonkin

Admin Team
Business Manager - Felicia Mete
Assistant Business Manager - Sonja Ressegan
Finance Administration - Glynis Lawson
CASES Administration - Carlee Tonioli
Receptionist - Julie Dojcusak
Technical Support - Toan Truong

Fundraising Committee
Our first JSA Fundraising committee met on Thursday 8th February. It was great to see some new faces and we welcomed back some of the 2012 members. We have a busy fundraising program for 2013, with the inclusion of our very first JSA run/walk to celebrate Autism Awareness. This will be held in term 2 and the committee are already planning to sell T-shirts and wrist bands to help raise funds for the school.

SPECIAL EVENTS / FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Term /Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meet the teacher afternoon</td>
<td>1 (Week 4 Wed 20th Feb)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Raffle – donations welcome</td>
<td>1 (week 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
<td>2 (week 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special lunch order day</td>
<td>2 (Thursday 2nd last week of term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacanarama Fun walk/run</td>
<td>2 – T-shirts/Wrist Bands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
<td>3 (week 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Concert/s</td>
<td>3 (week 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Footy Day/Special lunch order day</td>
<td>3 (Thursday 2nd last week of term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Fair</td>
<td>3 To be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special lunch order day</td>
<td>4 (Thursday 2nd last week of term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping Tour</td>
<td>3 (week 3/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Raffle</td>
<td>4</td>
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The fundraising team will also distribute the Scholastic Book Club once per term to all families and staff. The school will directly benefit from the sales.

The school community sincerely thank the work of the fundraising committee where our focus is to include the students in the events we organise, where possible.

If you would like to contribute to the fundraising committee please contact Lisa Sette via the school.
Playground 3 resurfacing

The resurfacing was completed last week and students have been enjoying the area. The synthetic turf had become quite slippery from excessive rain and poor drainage. This has now been rectified and it will be much safer for staff and students. SmartGrass was the successful contractor for this project.

Corinne Pupillo
Acting Principal
19 - 39 Landy Road, Jacana VIC 3047
Phone 9309 6258
Fax 9309 6426
jacana.school@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

Meet the Teacher Afternoon is scheduled for Wednesday 20\textsuperscript{th} February 3.30 – 4.30. Parents/Carers will get the opportunity to meet their child’s teachers and will be provided with an overview of the classroom.

Parents should have received an invitation for this meeting. If you have not received an invitation please contact your child’s teacher or the sub school leader.

School Council Elections – Reminder

We currently have an interim school council and this year we are looking to fill all 12 vacancies for our new JSA School Council. The vacancies for 2013 are:

- Parent Member/s 7 (4 \times 2 year and 3 \times 1 year)
- DEECD Members/s 4 (2 \times 2 year and 1 \times 1 year)
- Community Member 1

Nominations close on Thursday 28\textsuperscript{th} February 2013 at 4pm.

Please contact Corinne Pupillo for further information if you are interested in joining the school council.
Early Years A

Play in Room 12

Our prep students have settled into their new school lives very well. They participate in a range of activities during the day. Room 12 have been doing a variety of play activities to promote communication and social interactions between the students.
Welcome! We hope you had a great holiday. We are so pleased to be back at school and to welcome the new staff and students into this sub school. We are planning for a busy year ahead with lots of fun and challenging learning adventures. The students were thrilled to come back and worked busily on the first day of school, keen to get back into routines and explore their new classes.

Elizabeth Smith

Early / Middle Years Sub School Leader
Room 13 has had a great start to the year! We have spent lots of time getting to know each other :) 

We are enjoying our morning exercise sessions! We love running, building sand castles, climbing, swinging and stretching.

We are happy in Room 13!
Easter Raffle Donations

The next big fundraising event will be the Easter Raffle!

Please support the fundraising committee by sending along any donations for our Easter Hampers. Please send in all donations by Monday 4th of March 2013.

We appreciate your support.
MERRILANDS COMMUNITY CENTER

TIME OUT FOR SPORTS
It's Spring, the sun is out and it's time to get active. What better time to experience the skills, fun and excitement Time Out for Sports! Kelly Sports programs are all about high participation, energy and fun in safe and controlled sporting environments. Get your friends to join for added fun!

Our program is now running all year round in 2013!

WHEN: Tuesday
COMMENCING: 19.2.2013
CONCLUDING: 19.3.2013 (5 weeks)
TIME: 5.15pm – 6.15pm
YEAR LEVELS: P – 6
COST: $20
VENUE: Merrilands Community Centre

HOW TO ENROL
Did you know that you can now enrol for Kelly Sports online? You can enrol online at http://kellysports.com.au/zone/strathmore or scan and email to shane@kellysports.com.au, or post form with payment to PO Box 8129, Tarneit 3029

ENROLMENT FORM

School: ___________________________ Year Level: ___________________________
Name: ___________________________ Room No: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Post Code: ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Mobile/Work: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________ Medical Conditions: ___________________________

What point of the Autism Spectrum is your child at?

☐ Autistic Disorder ☐ Aspergers Syndrome ☐ PDD - NOS

☐ Atypical Autism ☐ High Functioning Autism

Does your child require 1 on 1 coaching? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you feel your child can participate in group activities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Parents' consent: I hereby authorise Kelly Sports to act on my behalf should my child require medical attention, and release Kelly Sports from any liability for injury incurred by my child at Kelly Sports programmes.

Parent/Caregiver name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

Amount Paid: $ ___________________________ Credit card payment: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card Number: ___________________________ Expiry Date: ___________________________