Dear parents, carers and friends of the school community,

Welcome back to the 2017 school year. The long break allows you and your family to enjoy some quality time together. We have another busy year ahead and hope that you are well rested and revived for the upcoming school year.

In particular a very warm welcome to our new families. I hope your time at JSA is positive and rewarding as we build a strong partnership with you during this time.

This year we are anticipating an enrolment of 211 students (207 Effective Full Time). To accommodate the enrolment we have structured the school in the following way:

Primary – 12 classes, including 1 x 2 teacher classroom.

Secondary – 13 classes, including 1 x 2 teacher classroom.

I would like to acknowledge the staff who have been in attendance for various tasks and activities, ensuring the school is well prepared for the start of the school year for our students.

Communication

For our new families, our newsletter is published each fortnight and will provide you with important information about the school and events that may be of interest to you. I encourage you to read the newsletter that will be sent home with your child, emailed to you if you provide an email address or alternatively it is on the school website. Please advise the office if you would like a hard copy of the newsletter or to have it emailed to you. The website is: http://www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au/ JSA also has a Facebook Page administered by the leadership team. Please like us on Facebook to keep up to date with school events and items of interest. https://www.facebook.com/JacanaSchoolforAutism

All students will be provided with a JSA diary again this year. The diary can be used for day to day notes and correspondence, and it also has key dates and important information for families.

Our core business is educating students on the Autism Spectrum and our school motto is “Learning for Life”. The strategies to support students with autism are embedded strongly at JSA and students will be supported to reach their full potential.

Our School Strategic Plan has a significant focus on developing curriculum across the school. JSA implements the Victorian Curriculum, incorporating Levels A to 10. If you would like a copy of the School Strategic Plan (2014-17) please contact reception and we will send you a copy. Alternatively you can access the plan from the school website.

SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEARNING

In continuing our commitment to building a culture of learning for all the community and following on from the 2016 theme Building a Learning Community, this year our theme is Sharing Responsibility for Learning. This concept is based on the blending of roles so that staff, students and parents/carers assume responsibility for learning. We highly value the opportunities to work closely together to support students learning and we anticipate our new theme will extend the idea and really enhance teaching and learning for all students.

2017 TERM DATES:
*Term 1: 31 January—31 March *Term 2: 18 April—30 June *Term 3: 17 July—22 September *Term 4: 9 October—22 December
CURRICULUM DAYS: Monday 30th January, Friday 10th March, Monday 24th April, Monday, 6th November.

Developing staff is a critical component of the school’s success. A culture of continuous school improvement is embedded at the school. In preparation for the 2017 school year staff will have the privilege of engaging in some very valuable and important professional learning opportunities. We value the opportunities to engage in teams and whole school activities to broaden our knowledge and expertise in education.

Wednesday 25th and Friday 27th January - Education Support Staff have attended various professional learning workshops on the. These included:

- CPR Training
- Anaphylaxis Training
- Core Language Boards - Refresher
- Online Learning (DET Values, Restrictive Intervention & Edusafe)
- Self Regulation – Refresher

Monday 30th January - All staff were involved in presentations facilitated by the Principal Class Team regarding important updates on the Powerful Learning and Teaching Project initially introduced in 2015 as well as compliance updates and reminders.

Staff were able to recognise and articulate how they individually and collectively can contribute to JSA achieving the Key Improvement Strategies outlined within our 2017 School Annual Improvement Plan. In particular, the vision and processes designed to ensure the new Victorian Curriculum is implemented effectively across our school to meet the individual needs of every student was explored. To support the successful application of the Victorian Curriculum into our classrooms, staff examined the school 2017 plan to continue to develop teacher pedagogy and capacity through the introduction of Professional Learning Communities.

Some time was also set aside for staff to prepare and set up their classrooms in readiness for the students arriving on the Tuesday.

The Principal Class Team also value the importance of balancing the heavy workload that working in a complex school brings.

Achieving a life balance is really critical for staff working in a complex organisation. The demands on us are always increasing, tipping the balance at times.

The afternoon session was very inspiring and motivating for all staff which included keynote speaker and executive coach, Deb Ferguson (Red Deb Consulting) provided us with strategies to take a positive mind set, by assisting staff to choose things that nourish their bodies rather than deplete them.

Friday 10th March – teachers and therapists will be involved in a whole day curriculum development day which will be focused on ABLES (Abilities Based Learning and Education Support)

ABLES is a highly-effective and unique curriculum assessment and reporting program that helps teachers personalise learning programs for students who have a disability.

The Victorian Government committed to phase in the use of ABLES across the State as part of its Special Needs Plan to make schools more inclusive. ABLES is a highly-effective and unique curriculum assessment and reporting tool:

Teachers will learn how to really engage in the tool on this day and will then be able to:

- assess students’ with disabilities readiness to learn
- understand reports that help to plan for personalised learning
- use guidance material and strategies to help teach students based on their individual learning needs, with links to the appropriate curriculum level and resources
- tracks student progress and achievements.

Members of the leadership team will support teaching staff through this process through collaboration and workshops activities.
Monday 24th April - All teaching staff will be attending an off site workshop with other neighbourhood schools. The key focus of the day will be to provide staff with the opportunity to participate in a facilitated workshop on the Theories of Action. This will align with the Professional Learning Communities that all teachers are involved in this year as well as explore what other schools are doing to improve teacher practice and student outcomes.

Theories of Action include:

- Harness Learning Intentions, Narrative and Pace
- Commit to Assessment for Learning
- Prioritise High Expectations & Authentic Relationships
- Emphasise Inquiry Focussed Teaching
- Set Challenging Learning Tasks
- Implement Co-operative Groups

These are critical implementation stages of the Powerful learning Project and

Monday 6th November – Report Writing day for Teachers and Professional Learning for Education Support Staff.

Volunteer Program
Volunteers are a vital part of the JSA community and we welcome parents and carers to join the volunteer program.

If you are interested in being part of the volunteer program, please complete the attached form and return it to the office. The team leader will be in contact with you to support you through the process and induction.

2017 - Year 7 vaccinations
The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – one dose
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – three doses
- Varicella (chicken pox) – one dose

Parents/guardians of year 7 students should look out for the vaccine consent card booklet coming home from school with your child. You need to read the booklet and complete and return Part A regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

The Hume immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2017 if you do not want your contact details given to the Hume Council immunisation service.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au or immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

Immunisations have been tentatively booked for 2017 - Dose 1 March 23rd; dose 2 May 16th; dose 3 September 6th. Please keep these dates free if you need to support your child to be immunised. The immunisation nurses are excellent and supportive of Jacana students but occasionally some students do need parental support.

School Attendance Guidelines – EVERY DAY COUNTS!

The importance of full time attendance at school: Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6–17 years unless an exemption from attendance has been granted. Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don’t fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values, which set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

If you would like a copy of the Jacana School for Autism’s Attendance Policy, please contact Carlee or Julie at reception and they will organise a copy to be sent to you. Alternatively, please speak to Deb Munt, Student Transition and Wellbeing Co-ordinator if you have any questions in relation to the guidelines and responsibilities or check out the DET web link.

School attendance is a shared responsibility where we work together to ensure every child maximises their success at school. Parents and carers will be informed of their child/ren's absences and this data is routinely listed in the mid year and end of year reports.

**January Holiday works**

**Maintenance update**
The long January break is a good opportunity for some additional works to be completed so that the school is in excellent condition for the commencement of the school year. This work included:

- Repairing and repainting walls, ceilings and woodwork in the main administration building. Including classrooms 1-8, Occupational Therapy room, meeting room and corridor.
- All carpets throughout the school have been professionally steam cleaned.
- All windows throughout the school have been professionally cleaned.
- New carpet has been installed in the foyer in the Roberts Wing (rooms 10-12)
- Spaces are all clean and fresh, providing staff and students with a lovely space to learn and teach.

Thunderstorms on Boxing Day caused significant flooding to Bloomfield Hall and as a result the carpet has been removed and the area has been assessed for repair. New carpet will be installed in the coming week. DET Contractors are coordinating this work with repairs funded through the DET contingency budget.

- The staffroom, Rooms 15 and 21 (laundry) also experienced some water damage and industrial dryers were able to effectively dry these areas.
- Assessors are also looking into water damage in the roofs / ceilings. This can cause insulation to become sodden, resulting in mould growing. Roofing has been repaired and replaced if necessary. This work has now been completed.

**Staffing update**

A very warm welcome to the following staff to JSA we wish them well in their respective teams.

- Aleisha Burke – Teacher Aide
- Isabella Calin – Teacher Aide
- Alana Cromwell – Teacher Aide
- Anastasia Cullen – Specialist Physical Education
- Irena Dumesic – Teacher Aide
- Grace Dwyer – Teacher
- Irene Gacovski – Teacher Aide
- Caitlin Hale – Teacher Aide
- Cynthia Kearney – Leading Teacher/PBS Coach
- Karleena King – Teacher Aide
- Lana Payne – Teacher
- Jacinta Patten – Teacher Aide
- Alishia Minns – Teacher Aide
- David Neilson - Teacher
- Anita Skiros – Teacher
- Michelle Spurrell – Teacher Aide
- Suzanne Stafford – Teacher
- Catherine Stevens – Teacher
- Cindy Strickland – Specialist Food Technology
- Gail Watts – Teacher

Special welcome to the following staff who are in new roles in 2017.

- Stephanie Di Salvo – Acting Leading Teacher / Autism Coach
- Leanne Sinnadurai – Assistant Principal
- Mark Taylor – Acting Sub School Leader

I would like to thank a number of staff who assisted on staff selection panels during the January holidays. During December and January we had some staff movement which required us to conduct selection panels during the holiday period. Special thanks to Martina Beggs, Matthew Wilson, Deb Munt, Mark Taylor and Cynthia Kearney for giving up their time to assist us in the recruitment of staff in time for the start of the school year.

JSA also welcomes back Annette McKee and Lydia Wilson from leave. Annette spent the last 12 months broadening her experience at another specialist school and Lydia had some time off with her family.

It's great to see Annette back in a teaching role and Lydia in the Psychology role.

We also welcome back Autism Connect Coach Marisa Rizio. The Autism Connect Hub Consultant is funded by the North Western Victoria Regional Office and is based at JSA 2 days per week. Marisa will be managing the school referrals and supporting the broader autism community. This position has been funded by the NWVR for another 12 months.

www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au
Congratulations to Elizabeth & Brian Smith on the safe arrival of Spencer Aiden Smith, born on the 23rd of January, weighing in at 4.13kg (a bit over 9lbs in the old money). We are looking forward to a visit and cuddle.

Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) has produced a flyer for schools to educate their students about its system of emergency alerts to mobile phones. Students will receive these alerts on their personal mobile phones. A copy is attached to this newsletter.

Reminder: Cars and young children in the summer months
Melbourne and greater Victoria will experience extremely high temperatures for the back to school period. Parents and/or guardians are reminded that on hot days it is important never to leave children alone in a car. Temperatures inside a parked car during summer can be around 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the outside temperature. Leaving children in hot cars, even for a moment, can result in serious injury or death. Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks. If a parent or guardian is travelling with a child, never leave them alone in a parked car, not even for one moment.

Student Support Group Meeting / Meet the Teacher
Student Support Group meetings will be conducted after school again this year to ensure students are maximising opportunities to educational programs. Parents/carers will be given the opportunity to meet from 3.30- 4.30 in weeks 2, 3 and 4 (Monday 6th Feb – Thursday 23rd Feb)

It will be great to see families during SSG’s, as it allows time to not only meet the teacher but to discuss learning goals and priorities for the year. Staff are looking forward to developing relationships with families in order to best meet the needs of your child/ren.

Bush Fire & Grass Fire Emergencies
DET works closely with CFA to manage emergencies related to fire incidents that impact on schools, early childhood centers and school bus routes. With the beginning of the school year schools are asked to remind families to review their fire plans to ensure the plans take into account that students are now attending school or early childhood facilities.

During January the following staff resigned from JSA:
- Bianca Staruchowicz (Speech Therapist)
- Tracey Harper (Teacher Aide)
We wish Bianca and Tracey well as they move into new roles in 2017.

Community Learning Hub (CLH) Meetings
CLH meetings are held twice termly (Thursday’s at 9.15am) and the invitation is extended to all family members. Our first CLH meeting for 2017 will be held in the Community Learning Hub on Thursday 9th February. An Information session will be facilitated by Julie LaBouchardiere – The Primary Sub School Leader.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16th March
Please contact Deb Munt for more information about the Community Learning Hub Meetings

School Council
Fundraising Sub Committee
Our first Fundraising committee will meet on Thursday 9th February at 10.30 am in the CLH. We welcome any new members to the committee.

Our first Fundraising events for term 1, 2017 include:
- Easter Raffle – Requests for donations will be in the newsletter soon
- Fun Run / Walk – Requests/ orders for T Shirts, water bottles and sponsorship will be sent home with all students soon - Date: Wednesday 29th March
- Hot Cross Buns
- Bunnings BBQ (Broadmeadows) – Date: Saturday 19th March

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Staff & Student uniform - A small profit is made for the school for each item purchased

Lisa Sette is our Fundraising Co-ordinator and can be contacted via the school office or sette.lisa.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

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<tr>
<th>2016/17 School Councillors</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MEMBER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Corinne Pupillo</td>
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<td>Lisa Sette</td>
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<td>David Edgar</td>
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<td>Nikki Davis</td>
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<td>Dianna Lauria</td>
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<td>Edward Stolinski</td>
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<td>Denise Clarke</td>
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<td>Sue Johnston</td>
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<td>Mark Taylor</td>
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School Council Elections
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students. The Jacana School for Autism meets twice per term on Thursday evenings at 5.30pm.

There are 3 possible membership categories:

- A mandated elected parent category – Because parents have such an important part to play in schools, there is an elected parent member category. Parent members must comprise more than one-third of council's total membership. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees are eligible to be parent members at their child's school, as long as they do not work at the particular school.

- A mandated elected DET employee category – Members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. As the Executive Officer, the principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional community member category – Its members are coopted by the decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience, for example parent club representative, student representatives, an accountant. DET employees are not eligible to be community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the appropriate category:

- if you are a parent, the parent category
- if you are a DET employee working at the school, the DET category.

Why is parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can I become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider, standing for election as a member of school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do I need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled. Please contact the general office for a nomination form.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call of nominations has closed.

Remember:
- Ask the school for help if you would like to stand for election and not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections

The vacancies for 2017 include:
- 4 Parent Members 4 x 2 years
- 1 DET Member 2 x 2 years
- 1 Community Member 1

I encourage parent/carers to consider standing for election.

**Nominations close on Thursday 23rd February 2017 at 4pm.**

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

**Reminder:** Our newsletter is published each fortnight and will provide you with important information about the school and events that may be of interest to you. I encourage you to read the newsletter that will be sent home with your child, emailed to you or on the school website: [http://www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au/](http://www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au/)

JSA also has a Facebook Page administered by the leadership team: [https://www.facebook.com/JacanaSchoolforAutism](https://www.facebook.com/JacanaSchoolforAutism)

**Corinne Pupillo**

**Principal**

19 - 39 Landy Road, Jacana VIC 3047

Phone: 9309 6258

Fax: 9309 6426

jacana.school@edumail.vic.gov.au

Celebrating student achievements

Thank you to all parents for your dedication over the school holidays, as the students have come back to school settled and ready for learning.

We welcome our 18 new foundation students and families into the JSA community and we are looking forward in being part of your child’s learning and future success.

The initial learning intention across the primary sub school will be to; establish a classroom routine, develop friendships with peers and staff and explicitly teach the school rules.

School Rules

Primary sub school team
In 2017 the Secondary Sub School are very excited about commencing our new Senior Secondary curriculum. We have introduced 2 VET courses which will be taught at JSA by Rosie Lugg and Tonia Truda.

Staff and students are busy getting to know each other as we begin a new year at JSA. SSG meetings are commencing for some rooms at the beginning of Week 2. We look forward to meeting you all and discussing the direction forward for our wonderful students.

*Mark Taylor—Secondary Sub School Leader*
Autism Information

Autism: Disorder vs Condition

There is a growing body of articles and research reflecting a change in terminology from ‘disorder’ to ‘condition’. Definitions are as follow:

**Disorder:**
- "lack of order of intelligible pattern"
- "randomness"
- implies something is broken

**Condition:**
- "A state of being"
- "Social condition" or "the conditions of your health"
- Acknowledges both deficits, assets and a different 'cognitive style'

Due to the concept that the Autism Spectrum is wide, we must begin to question whether the term ‘disorder’ is the appropriate word to use.

The term ‘condition’ reflects the assumption that autism specific traits exist on a continuum and that they are normally distributed throughout the general population (e.g., we all have some autistic traits).

Using the term Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) also communicates a “value-free” or neutral perception as opposed to the negative connotation associated with disorder or disability. Lastly, the term condition acknowledges that individuals with ASC may also possess positive traits, thus encouraging a strength-based perspective (Baron-Cohen, 2008).

Autism Information is presented by Stephanie Di Salvo (Autism Coach).
STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE, AMBULANCE COVER ARRANGEMENTS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs.

In some circumstances, medical or other expenses will be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely, that the Department is liable for negligent (careless) acts or omissions of its staff or volunteers. More information about the claims process is available below.

Schools can access a whole-of-school policy through the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA) should their School Councils decide to purchase such coverage on behalf of all students.

Whilst not compulsory, the Department does recommend schools take steps to ascertain the views of school communities on whether or not to purchase a whole-of-school student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Where there is no whole-of-school policy in place, it is the responsibility of parents or guardians to look into their preferred options in this regard. The Department cannot provide advice to parents or guardians on the purchase of individual student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students and staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Actions required:
If there is whole-of-school student accident insurance or ambulance cover in place, principals should remind parents or guardians about existence of such a policy.

If there is no whole-of-school policy, principals should remind parents or guardians that:

*parents or guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs; and

*parents or guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.
Principals should remind parents or guardians and staff that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

**Consulting and purchasing a whole-of-school policy:**
It is not compulsory for schools to purchase whole-of-school policies. It is recommended that the views of school communities be sought on whether to purchase a whole-of-school student accident policy/ambulance cover from VMIA, taking into account the lower cost per head of student for whole-of-school policies compared to individual policies, and whether premium for such a policy should be paid from general funds or obtained through special levies from parents/guardians.

**Further information:**

For more information about the claims process, please see: Negligence Claims Process

For further information, please contact:

• Michael Roleff – roleff.michael.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or Ph. 9637 3533 – regarding purchasing a whole-of-school policy from VMIA, or

• Jane Wilhelm – wilhelm.jane.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or Ph. 9637 2509 – regarding negligence claims process.

Cynthia Lahiff  
Chief Finance Officer  
Financial Services
# VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

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*Please return this form to the assistant principal at your earliest convenience.*
Jacana School for Autism has a traffic management plan to improve student safety around cars. It also alleviates congestion around the school. We need the co-operation of all families to maximise safety for students.

**Picking up and dropping off students**

Designated pick up and drop off areas for students (8:50 - 9:10 A.M. and 2:50 - 3:10 P.M.): A staff member will manage the gates 1, 2 and 3. Please note all car parks have specified entry and exit gates.

- **Gate 1:** Administration & Visitors’ Carpark for:
  - Students in **Rooms 1 - 8**
  - Late arrivals report to office (after 9.10 a.m. & early pick-up before 3 p.m.)
- **Gate 2:** Parents’ Carpark
  - Rooms 9-14
- **Gate 3:** Bamburgh St – designated pedestrian gates
  - Rooms 15 and upwards
- **Gate 5:** Staff car park: negotiated pick up/drop off zone for Room 22 -25

**Bamburgh Street traffic:** where the buses enter and leave the school is very narrow when cars are parked and is a traffic management problem for the parents, bus drivers and other drivers during drop-off and pick-up times.

The newer Mee’s buses are much bigger and have significant difficulty moving in Bamburgh Street when there are cars parked on both sides of the roads. There is permit parking only, on the West side of Bamburgh St. We are requesting parents NOT TO PARK OPPOSITE an already parked car. If there is a space on one side of the road the larger buses have an easier passage in the street.

In addition to help traffic flow we are asking parents to observe a **Voluntary One-Way Traffic**

We request that parents treat Bamburgh Street as ONE WAY travelling south only.

Parents can enter from Lichfield Ave end and leave travelling towards Emu Parade.

Parents who park in Bamburgh Street are requested to leave by travelling south to Emu Parade. Parents using car park please turn LEFT when exiting. Cars doing U turns in the street add to the traffic hazard.

We request that our parents take the long way around – it is only 300 metres longer and takes about 40 seconds extra.
Family Support Meeting

Thursday 9th February 2017
9.15am-10.30am
PLC

Parents/Carers,

Just a friendly reminder that there will be a presentation and coffee morning for all parents interested in hearing, seeing and talking about what happens at school with your children in the Primary area **THURSDAY 9th February at 9.15** in the **Community Learning Hub**. There will be a presentation from the Primary Sub School Leader, together with a number of staff.

Question time and time to meet with other parents with children at Jacana School for Autism will follow.

We look forward to seeing you there,

Many Thanks,

*Julie La Bouchardiere*
Good news!

After last year’s magnificent effort, students from Jacana School for Autism can again sing in the massed choir at the 2017 Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

We are accepting applications from students aged nine and above.

Victorian State Schools Spectacular is one of the largest live performing arts events in Australia. Thousands of students from Victorian government schools perform two concerts at Hisense Arena and the production is broadcast by Channel 7.

Participation in VSSS17 means:

- Weekly choir rehearsals at school throughout Term 1, 2 and 3
- Two Mass Choir Rehearsals @ Melbourne Town Hall
- Two Production Rehearsals @ Hisense Arena
- Two performances @ Hisense Arena, Melbourne Park on September 16, 2017.

Costs:

- Massed choir members need to buy a T-shirt for $15.
- Students also need charged MYKI cards to attend massed rehearsals.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBNhU3aRCyI&list=PLx6Q34d0W4lZC4t9cak8diaHnZpA3RVE
Watch from 2 mins in to see the massed choir behind the on-stage performers.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wwmmjngh_XO&list=PLx6Q34d0W4lZC4t9cak8diaHnZpA3RVE&index=11
"Here comes the sun", a massed choir item.
Search for more videos on YouTube!

Please write a note in your child’s communication book by **Friday 10 February** if your child is interested in participating in VSSS17. Catherine Schmidt can then contact you directly with more information.
MAKE A DAY IN HUME

You are invited to come along to any session of the Make a Day in Hume program in Term 1 2017.

We are an inclusive group of young people with disabilities plus supporters, who have lots of fun getting together and being creative. Based at Banksia Gardens Community Services in Broadmeadows, with lots of outings to see art (in the broadest sense of the word).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 5 February</td>
<td>10am-3pm</td>
<td>Banksia Gardens Our neighbourhood</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 February</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Life/plein air drawing Picnic dinner</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22 February</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Banksia Gardens Art-making</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26 February</td>
<td>10am-3pm</td>
<td>Sister Corita's Summer of Love Ian Potter Museum of Modern Art</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 5 March</td>
<td>10am-3pm</td>
<td>Banksia Gardens Aprons and art-making, with guest artist</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 March</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Sunset dinner session North Fitzroy</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 19 March</td>
<td>10am-3pm</td>
<td>Outing - TBA</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29 March</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Banksia Gardens Introduction to art therapy</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5 April</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Banksia Gardens Art-making – Activity TBA</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 9 April</td>
<td>10am-3pm</td>
<td>Outing City/Arts Centre</td>
<td>$20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

To find out more, contact Sheena on 0418 506 942
Visit https://www.facebook.com/MakeADayArt
Or http://www.woman-made.biz/
PALS

Social skills program for children 3-6 years old

Break Thru Family Mental Health Support Service team in Hume can run a 6 week PALS social skills program at your child care centre, preschool or kindergarten. The group runs for 1 hour, once a week over 6 weeks. Maximum number of children per group is 15.

This program will teach children important social skills such as:
- Greeting others
- Taking turns; talking and listening
- Taking turns at play
- Sharing
- Asking for help
- Identifying feelings
- Empathy
- Overcoming fear and anxiety
- Managing frustration
- Calming down and speaking up

If you would like to discuss this FREE program further or to make a booking, please contact our Craigieburn Office on (03) 9483 2401 or CraigeburnHub@breakthru.org.au
Taming the Hulk is a 4 week program for 8 - 12 year old boys focusing on anger.

This group is aimed towards young boys who may be needing support with identifying anger and their triggers, as well as exploring strategies to help manage them.

Term 1 2017
Connections@Craigieburn Hub
59 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn

A light snack of fruit and water will be provided

This group is for children with a parent/guardian within the Hume region.
For more information and to refer please contact Suna on 9483 2401

breakthru.org.au
HUME CITY COUNCIL
GET ACTIVE DANCE & MORE
PRESENTS
DANCE FOR ALL

HIP HOP / JAZZ / TAP / CONTEMPORARY
Come along and join the fun with our free trial class on offer until 30 February 2017

Monday Evenings - 6pm to 7pm
Gladstone Park Senior Citizens Centre,
Corner Carrick Drive and Elmhurst Road, Gladstone Park 3043

www.hume.vic.gov.au