FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL VALUES

EMPATHY ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of the school community,

FOCUS written by Daniel Goleman

The most recent chapter *The Well-Focused Leader* provided a valuable insight on systems leadership. Goleman explains that effective leaders possess the ability to shift attention to the right place at the right time, sensing trends and seizing opportunities. Setting strategic goals, focusing on communicating them with passion whilst drawing on cognitive and emotional empathy. There is a need for strategic wisdom and to be attuned to the larger world in order to be a systems leader.

The challenges of our day to day work requires us to know and understand what global influences are at work and the impact on our day to day job of learning and teaching.

We look forward to sharing the final section of Daniel's book - *The Big Picture*

2015 Run Melbourne

On Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th July, three students and their support teams participated in the run. Josephine Spatharis and Memphis Sette participated in the 3km event and Jacob Cartelli participated in the 5km event. Large crowds and loud noises can be a significant issue for people on the spectrum, so this is a great achievement for our students. Students are well supported to achieve their individual best as well as enjoy the Melbourne sights and the atmosphere.

A special thank you to families and staff for their support to make this happen.

Art Display – Derebin Arts and Convention Centre

Congratulations to Emma Davis, Thomas Holland and Ruben Nunez on their gorgeous art work which was displayed at the Darebin Arts and Convention Centre last week. We have some very talented students and celebrating their achievements is very important. This is just a sample of the artistic talents we have here at JSA.

2015 TERM DATES:

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<tr>
<th>Term 1: 30 January—27 March</th>
<th>Term 2: 13 April—26 June</th>
<th>Term 3: 13 July—18 September</th>
<th>Term 4: 5 October—18 December</th>
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School Improvement – 2015 Parent Opinion Survey

If you received a confidential Parent Opinion Survey, please take the time to respond, as your feedback is very important in the future planning needs of the school. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact me.

Mid-Year Reports & SSG’s

Your child’s Mid-Year Report was sent home on 24th July and term 3 SSG’s are scheduled for weeks 3 & 4. (Monday 27th July – Thursday 6th August). We look forward to seeing you again to discuss your child’s progress.

Research Project with Melbourne University

JSA have accepted an invitation to work with Melbourne University which aims to design and validate assessment and planning materials to support the professional practice for teachers of students with special needs. This work builds on the current Ability Based Learning and Education Support (ABLES) Program, which is currently used for all Victorian Government schools.

School Performance

Reminder: School performances will be held on Wednesday 2nd September and Thursday 3rd September.

Wednesday 2nd September

Rooms 1 – 6 (9.30am – 10.30am)
Rooms 7—12 (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Thursday 3rd September

Rooms 14 – 19 (9.30am – 10.30am)
Rooms 13 & 20-25 (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Please log on to the website and follow the Trybookings link. Alternatively, please contact the general office for assistance with bookings and tickets. There is no cost to attend the school performance.

Staffing

Education Support Staff - ES Month

On behalf of the whole school community I would like to sincerely thank all of our wonderful education support personnel. Their contributions across all areas of the school are highly valued. In appreciation of all their work, a special lunch will be organised on Wednesday 12th August for staff to celebrate the event. Other special celebrations have been organised within teams. Please take the time to acknowledge the contributions of our education support staff.

DET - Review of Program for Students with a Disability

The review focuses on the transition from primary to secondary school and the specific needs of students with autism and dyslexia.

The review is being informed by research, expert input, stakeholder engagement and a comprehensive analysis of the effectiveness of the program. It will ensure support and resourcing is sustainable and delivers improved learning and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people with disabilities.

The department of Education and Training have now commenced the consultation process for the review and welcome your input, please use the link below for more information about the process.

Family Support Meetings

There was a great turnout for the launch of the Positive Behaviour Support yesterday. Families had the opportunity to hear all about Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) at JSA. A special thank you to Kristie Giannakis (PBS Coach), Steph Bergin, Masa Cowey, Hannah Diebolt, Sally McKerchar, Vicki Dingle, Victoria Rajaratnam and Kym Tonkin for their contributions to making this a really successful event. We highly value the importance of the framework here at JSA as this underpins all the work we do when supporting our students to engage positively in the learning and teaching programs.

If you missed this event and would like to know more about Positive Behaviour Support, please contact Kristie Giannakis, our PBS Coach.

Reminder: Our next Family Support Meeting will be held on Thursday 27th August. Mark this date in your diary. Please contact Deb Munt for more information about the Family Support Meetings.

AMAZE – Launch of the new Strategic Plan

Denise Clarke and I attended the launch of the new strategic plan at the Melbourne Museum on Tuesday 28th July. It was an opportunity to hear first hand the new direction and achievement milestones of the organisation. There is already fabulous work occurring across all sectors and Amaze values the importance of working with others to achieve their goals and has made a commitment to achieving the following by 2040.

- Increased community awareness and understanding of autism
- Improved attitudes and behaviours towards people on the autism spectrum
- More opportunities for people on the spectrum to participate and contribute to society in meaningful ways.

JSA will continue the partnership with Amaze to build on our capacity as a service provider so that we can increase opportunities for students across the educational system to participate and contribute to society in a meaningful way.

Fundraising Committee

Our next Fundraising meeting will be held on 27th August at 10.30 am.

Fundraising events for Term 3, 2015 include:

Entertainment Books – Great way to access discounted food and entertainment (Place your orders at the general office – cost $65.00/ $13.00 profit from each book sold goes to JSA)

Book Fair – Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th August

Bunnings BBQ – Broadmeadows 29th August

Father’s Day stall – Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August

School Performance & Community BBQ – Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd September

Footy Day/Special lunch order day - Thursday 17th September

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

School Council

Parent Representative - Casual Vacancy:

A casual vacancy on the council now exists. Please speak to me if you are a parent and interested in joining the school council and learning more about how the school operates and contribute to the great community we have built together.
2014/15 School Councillors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corinne Pupillo</td>
<td>Executive Officer (Principal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Sette</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Edgar</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dianna Lauria</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikki Davis</td>
<td>Parent Representative / DET Employee</td>
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<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Parent Representative</td>
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<td>Edward Stolinski</td>
<td>Parent Representative</td>
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<td>Steve Shennan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Smedley</td>
<td>Community Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denise Clarke</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristie Giannakis</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Johnston</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
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2016 Students Home Communication Diary

We are in the planning stages of arranging the 2016 Students Communication Home Diary and would like to get some feedback from this years Diary. Please contact Deb Munt with any constructive feedback via the school 9309 6258, or email Deb at:

munt.debra.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

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.


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

Like Us On

www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au
Dinosaurs in Room 6!

We are enjoying learning about dinosaurs through different activities including reading and science.
Room 19 have been keeping the school environment clean by picking up rubbish. We have been learning and practising new language such as “open bag” and “I pick up rubbish”
VCAL

Literacy & Numeracy Week

Before the Car Wash we visited the 888 Car Wash in Essendon. At the car wash, we learned how to clean cars by vacuuming the mats inside, cleaning the wheels with acid, scrubbing the windows and paint carefully with detergent. This is what we were shown to do. Thanks to Romeo for showing us what to do.

We figured out how long it would take to wash a car by splitting it into different parts. All in all, we worked out it would take us an hour and 15 minutes to wash a teacher’s car. When we did our practice car wash it took us 45 minutes to wash Karen’s car and it took us 30 minutes to wash Jim’s car. We used numeracy to figure out how long it took to wash a car.

Room 22 sent an email to get the car wash equipment from Masters.

Masters had offered to donate the equipment to us. We added up the total to see what the cost would have been if we had to buy all of the products. It would have been over $200. We knew this because we looked up the prices on Masters.com.
Primary Fire truck Incursion

On Tuesday the students from the primary section had a visit from the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Fire Brigade.—people within our community who help us.

They bought out 2 trucks and they spoke to the students about how to get down low and crawl away from the smoke. They also learnt that if their clothes catch fire, to stop, get down on the ground, cover their eyes and roll.

The firemen bought visuals to helped the students understand what they needed to do.

Great job guys.

But the best part was getting to use the hose. Each student got to hold on to the hose and pull back on the trigger.
Fireman visit Jacana
A big *Thank you* to *Song* for supporting each of the students over the past few months in preparation for the run.

Thank you to *Tonia, Miranda, Pina* and *Simone* for supporting the students and parents on the day.
Mathletics mid-year update.

Research tells us that providing feedback to students on their learning is one of the most powerful practices in education. Through the digital learning resource Mathletics we are able to track school improvement and individual student improvement. Mathletics is a great digital learning tool that can assist students in consolidating their learning in specific areas that pertain to their individual maths goals and assist in working towards achieving them.

I am very pleased to announce that since the beginning of this academic year, student results as a whole school at Jacana School for Autism have been recorded and on average students are now scoring 89% in curriculum activities. At the beginning of the year students were averaging 70%, so that is a 28% increase in 6 months.

To master an activity on Mathletics students must achieve a score equal to or greater than 85%. We have three students who have reached this target thus far. I would also like to congratulate Omar Muhammad (Room 16) who has mastered 100% of activities attempted; Lucas Powell (Room 7) who has mastered 86.36% of activities attempted and Dylan Drummond (Room 16) who has mastered 90% of activities attempted. All three students have been presented with certificates to celebrate their fantastic achievements.

The school improvement in this area can be accounted for by implementation of an array of teaching styles and methods in and out of the classrooms such as - teacher planned formal lessons, informal lessons, incidental teaching, embedding teaching mathematics within a range of curriculum areas and activities and of course hard work by both students and staff!!!

Maths Curriculum Co-Ordinator

Kristie Giannakis
“It’s never too late to expand the mind of a person on the autism spectrum.”

Dr Temple Grandin
An exciting event for parents/caregivers, educators and allied health professionals supporting children with complex communication needs. You will be able to:

- see a range of AAC available
- learn more about AAC and how to support your child to use it
- have a go with fun activities
- talk to speech pathologists from Jacana School for Autism, Yooralla ComTEC and Liberator PTY Ltd

Augmentative and Alternative Communication EXPO

Date: 26th August
Time: 2:30 - 5:00
Location: 19-39 Landy Rd Jacana
RSVP Wednesday 19th August 2015
martina.beggs.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
INVITATION
You're invited to the launch of

Diamond Valley Autism Support Group

The Diamond Valley Autism Support Group (DVASG) has been set up to provide support information for carers and parents, and those working with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), as well as activities and social skills development for teens and adults with ASD, and guest speakers. We are a new group for the north east of Melbourne.

We're launching this exciting new project in Greensborough, so come along, have some fun and find out more:

- Hear from our guest speaker Murray Dawson-Smith (Consultant and former CEO of Amaze) about the best ways he has found to support people with Autism
- Hear from others who are on the spectrum, as well as parents, carers, and others who work in the area
- Find out where regular meetings will be held and pick up a calendar
- Enjoy a friendly welcome, a cup of tea, coffee or chocolate and some nibbles
- Find out more about what you can gain from participating in the meetings and how to join in

WHERE: Diamond Valley Learning Centre (DVLC) Greensborough  
Cnr Diamond Creen & St Helena Road)

WHEN: Friday 23rd October, 6:30 pm for a 7 pm start (thru to 8:30 pm finish)

RSVP: email info@dvsg.net.au for further details & to register with your name, suburb, email & phone number. Or register via our website www.dvsg.net.au

There is no charge to attend. A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

Can't make it on the night but want to know more?  
Send us an email or call us – Katherine - 0439 652 680, Kerryn - 0409 077 777 or Sheryl - 0400 237 688
Book Fair 19 & 20th August!

Open from 9 - 12:00pm

Please feel free to drop in during the above opening times or contact Sue J to make an alternate time.

Students will also be visiting the fair on these dates. They may bring home a wish list. If you wish to purchase books from their wish list, payment can be made by:

- Returning wish list and cash
- Following the instructions on the back of the list.
Join HOYTS for a morning of fun! We’re delighted to invite families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders to a very special movie screening. Kids are free to make noise in the cinema, lights remain on and sound is lowered, so you and the whole family can enjoy the experience in a comfortable, sensory friendly environment.

WHAT’S ON?
MINIONS
Sunday
August 2 2015
10.30 am

ALL TICKETS
$8

BOOK NOW
AT THE HOYTS GREENSBOROUGH BOX OFFICE OR CALL (03) 9026 9954 FOR MORE INFORMATION
Discover real value...

"With hundreds of offers to choose from, we've enjoyed more than $1,000 of value in just one year!"

"I love my Digital Membership! Now I always have my Entertainment™ offers with me, wherever I go."

We’re fundraising with the Entertainment™ Book! With thousands of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, here’s a taste of what’s in it for you:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contemporary Dining</th>
<th>Casual Dining</th>
<th>Jacaranda Attractions</th>
<th>Soul and Travel</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>185+ Offers!</strong></td>
<td><strong>340+ Offers!</strong></td>
<td><strong>220+ Offers!</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,600+ Offers!</strong></td>
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<td>FRIDAYS</td>
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<td>Emirates</td>
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<td>Groove Train</td>
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Up to 50% off Retail, Travel, Leisure and Accommodation

We receive $13 from every Membership sold, so order yours today!

**JH 250**

Jacana School For Autism

Contact: Carlee Toniolo Phone: 0393096258 Email: toniolo.carlee.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Order your Book or your Digital Membership securely online:


Alternatively, please clearly complete your details:

Name: ___________________________  Phone: ___________________________  Email: ___________________________  State: _______  Postcode: _______

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<tr>
<th>Melbourne Edition</th>
<th>Geelong Edition</th>
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TOTAL ENCLOSED $________

Payment type: _______Cash _______Mastercard _______Visa

Credit Card number: ___________ / ___________ / ___________ / ___________ / Expiry date: ___________ / ___________  CVV*: _______

Cardholder's name: ___________________________  Signature: ___________________________

*CVV is the 3 digits on the back of your credit card

Thanks for your support! 20% from each Book sold contributes to Resources

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Jacana School for Autism
Shopping Spree Bus Tour 2015!

Are you needing some ‘you time’ that you never seem to have? Some retail therapy? The Shopping Spree Bus Tour is just for you!

Please join the fundraising team on a fun-filled FRENZY spending day! We will be visiting great outlets where you can SAVE UP TO 70% OFF RETAIL PRICES! Our profit will be 11% of the commission on our total sales for the entire day which will go towards our fundraising goal of 2015 - more new bikes for the bike education program and additional sections for the stage.

TOUR INCLUDES: 10 outlets and a 2 course lunch at The Croxton Park Hotel with soft drink and tea/coffee. Alcohol will be at bar prices. Also throughout the day on the bus there will be raffles, prizes, giveaways, refreshments and nibbles too!!!

The outlets will be;
Siricco, Toy Worx, Bambis, Beaches, Raglan Fashion House, FILA, Candy Stripes, Natio, Home Direct, Ross’s Nuts.

DATE: Sunday 11th October 2015   PICK UP TIME: 7.30am for 7.45am departure
PICK-UP ADDRESS: Kmart Campbellfield, Hume hwy (across from Hungry Jacks)
DROP-OFF: approx. 6.00pm              PRICE: $55 per person (Due 18/9/15)

***PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST BY CONTACTING CARLEE OR JULIE ON 9309 6258 OR COME INTO SEE US AT RECEPTION

The tour also includes the following: *Luxury coach transport
*A friendly and informative hostess
SO DON'T MISS OUT!