

John Pirie Secondary School

striving for excellence



newsletter 1 February 2018

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STRONG FOUNDATIONS AND STRONG FUTURE

Welcome to the start of the new school year. I am always upbeat about this school and the improvement journey I have witnessed. In recent years the growth in student achievement, school culture as well as classroom and grounds facilities has been impressive. After 5 years as Principal I'm surprised that I see 2018 as a new beginning. We have established strong foundations but I believe the next few years will see even stronger performance.

Our school exists to **BUILD BETTER FUTURES** for young people. We understand the importance of education to life outcomes including employment, financial stability, health and well-being. Our staff are quality people; they care deeply and are highly motivated. I know young people have a stronger sense of the importance of learning and the impact of achievement on the rest of their lives.

In 2017 **Year 12 achievement reached new highs** for our school. Three students had an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) above 90; 10 students achieved above 80. When bonus points are allocated many achieved 99.95 (the maximum). Congratulations to Jake Tilley the DUX of 2017 who achieved an ATAR of 95.65 and commences electrical engineering at Adelaide University. We saw A grades more than double and a higher rate of SACE completion. Something I am very proud of is the growing representation of students with learning difficulties, Aboriginal students and flexibly enrolled young people in our Year 12 data. Our school genuinely is focused on all; we are inclusive.

During the vacation work continued to progress on the **\$2.85M STEM** and air-conditioning upgrade. It is a very exciting development that we expect to occupy on or before the start of Tm 2. You are probably aware of a further **\$10M in major capital works** and the scoping of a new middle school precinct and performing arts centre are well underway.

By the end of next week, I hope to post a video update on Facebook. I'll include some footage of the STEM Works project as well as some from Year 8 and other classes. I can assure you I am very much looking forward to the year ahead; to working with and for you throughout 2018.

Roger

↓ It was great to meet and chat with new Year 8 students on Monday morning.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Coming Events

February

- 5: Year 8 Camp
- 12: Governing Council
- 21: School Photos
- 21: Year 8 Barbecue
- 21: SACE Information Evening
- 23: Pupil Free Day

March

- 5: Year 12 HPE Camp
- 12: Public Holiday
- 30: Good Friday

April

- 2: Easter Monday
- 13: End Term 1 – Dismissal 2.15pm

Leadership Team

Principal:	Roger Nottage
Deputy Principal:	Maciej Jankowski
Assistant Principals:	Rachel Gray Graham Hoile Cara Fiebig Lisa Key

School Links



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Welcome



Emma Grossman: I'm excited to be joining the JPSS team and working in Student Services. I have worked as an SSO in numerous schools in the Mid North region. I reside in Crystal Brook with my husband and two daughters and am looking forward to getting to know the staff and students at JPSS.

Courtney Smith: Courtney Smith here. I'm excited to be joining the Food and Hospitality faculty at John Pirie this year, teaching year 10 and 11 classes. I previously worked at Gladstone High School for 3 years and Saint Mark's College for 1 year.

I was born in Port Pirie and love to still call this my home town, living with my husband, Josh and my 8 month old daughter, Quinn. I sing in a local band which is great fun! I also love to cook and spend quality time with my family and friends.

Andrew Congdon: Hello, let me introduce myself, my name is Andrew Congdon. I am a born and bred Port Pirie person and I look forward to working in an exciting school full of opportunities for all.

I have been teaching HPE, Science, and History at Kimba Area School for the last 12 years. I was the VET Coordinator for 9 years and also taught PLP. I have a passion and knowledge for how all students can be successful when at school.

My main interests outside of school include cricket, football, and Star Wars. I am married to Tiffany and we have 3 young boys Dane, Hamish and Rory.

Caryn Duell: My name is Caryn Duell and I am the classroom teacher of M48 in 2018.

During the last two years, I have worked closely with John Pirie Secondary School and the Port Pirie Primary Schools as a relief teacher. Outside of school I enjoy sports, music and quiz nights. Thank you for welcoming me into the John Pirie Secondary School community.

Amana Chhokar: My name is Amana Chhokar. This year I am teaching digital technologies to year 9, maths and science to year 9 and 10. Previously, at Port Lincoln High School, I taught maths, science, digital/design technology, IPP and STEM.

I love spending time with my family and friends. I like playing table-tennis, tennis and cricket. I am also interested in learning technology.

I was born in a small village in India to farmer parents. Twelve years ago, I moved to Australia. I have a Masters in Engineering (Computer Systems), Bachelor in Technology (Information Technology) and Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning.

A message from Ms Cara Fiebig

Hi everyone! I hope that you all had a safe and relaxing holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready to tackle the 2018 school year. For those who don't know me my name is Cara Fiebig and I am the Middle School Assistant Principal at John Pirie Secondary School. I have been at the school for 6 years in a variety of roles which include teaching and leadership. This year I am looking forward to many events however high on the top of my list are the Year 8 Camp and Sports Day. I also look forward to getting to know all of our middle school students and working closely with them to achieve their goals. Should you have any problems or would just like to introduce yourself, please feel free to pop in and meet me in the administration building or give me a call at the school. I wish everyone a successful and enjoyable 2018.



Images from Day 1



Material Services & Charges

Material Services & Charges for 2018 are due now. If you are eligible for School Card please apply. School Card applications forms are available from the school office.