From the Principal

The excitement is building for our impending Year 12 Graduation ceremony on the 25th November. We look forward to recognising our Year 12s in successfully completing their secondary education as they move into the next phase of their lives.

Preparations are in full swing for 2015 with senior school students fine-tuning their courses; Year 9s preparing to transition to the MET Campus for their senior school years; Year 6s and 7s preparing to transition to JTC Tindale Campus for the beginning of their secondary education.

2015 heralds a new era for JTC with a new Business Plan in development and new priorities emerging. One of the exciting new programs to be implemented is AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) in Year 7 and 8. This program is proven to provide students with the skills and mindset to succeed in their secondary education and move into higher level training and/or university studies. An AVID parent information evening will be led early in 2015 for Year 7 and 8 parents. IN December, eight JTC staff will be going to Melbourne to attend the AVID Australia Summer Institute where they will receive expert training in the AVID approach.

Being organised for school will be a focus for all students from Year 7 to Year 12. Booklists and stationery requirements will be sent out shortly. All students should arrive at school each day with the equipment needed so that they can fully participate in the learning process. Students should also have a suitable school bag to carry their equipment. There will be a strong emphasis on students taking responsibility for being prepared and organised.

I would like to thank those parents who have attended P&C Meetings throughout this year and encourage others to take the opportunity to come along and get a deeper understanding of how the school works and hear about the exciting programs which are running. Please see the newsletter item submitted by the P&C for more information.

Kim Savins
Principal
John Tonkin College results in the 2014 Australian Mathematics Competition

Results are now available for the 37th annual Australian Mathematics competition (AMC) sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank. Hundreds of thousands of students in primary and secondary schools from around 40 countries sat the AMC on 7 August.

John Tonkin College entered 141 students.

Congratulations to Elliott Brown in Year 11 who has been awarded a High Distinction and the best result for the entire college. Other excellent results were obtained by Rafe Newsome, Michelle Gardiner, Caitlin Delaney and Valija Hani who were all awarded Distinctions.

Credits were awarded to Jin Zhanf, Hafi Khan, Kassandra Roderick, Rowan Reynolds, Hannah Loxton, Mikalah campiion, Megan Shankland, Mel Saunders, Riley Pell, Connor Morgan, Jayden Beaman, Jack Moar, Paige Ward, Dylan Stephens, Seth Kaz, Vincent King and Isaiah Vrselja.

All other students who competed will receive a certificate of Participation and every entrant is provided with an individual performance report.

Students from Year 3 to Year 12 compete on the same day, making it possibly one of the largest single events on the Australian education calendar. An Australian initiative, the AMC was introduced in 1978 as the first competition of its kind in schools here. It is now a truly international competition, having become the major school mathematics enrichment event and benchmark for mathematical ability throughout the Pacific and South East Asia. It tests everything from basic numeracy skills through to advanced problem solving.

Congratulations to all of the students who participated and particularly to the award winners.

Gisela Crook
HOLA Mathematics and Science
The Maths Man visits John Tonkin College

Simon Pampena, Australian Numeracy Ambassador recently visited John Tonkin College to bring some comedy into the Maths classroom with his show The Maths Olympics.

Simon presented an extremely funny and very entertaining version of how he sees maths by engaging the students with music and lots of energy. He succeeded in captivating the students for well over an hour by making topics such as Venn diagrams, percentages and exponential growth, fun and easy to understand. A highlight of the show was The Maths Anthem, the Pi costume and Sudoku for ‘Bogans’.

The performance held in the school gym had the students and the staff in stitches. Simon involved many of the students in his comedy show and certainly changed the perception of what maths is really all about.
John Tonkin College P & C

John Tonkin College P & C would like to invite you to our meetings.

Attending P&C meetings is a fantastic way to keep informed of key issues regarding John Tonkin College.

About our meetings:

- No fundraising involved
- Meet the Principal and Staff members in an informal setting
- Only 4 meetings each year each lasting about an hour
- No pressure to come onto the committee
- Involvement in decisions that enrich your child’s time at John Tonkin College

We are looking forward to meeting you. Our next meeting is on December 10th 6.00pm in the Tindale Campus staff room. (You won’t get lost – there will be someone there to show you the way).

Emma Bridger Secretary &
Glennie Healey-Burgess (President)
Important Dates

Monday 3rd November  WACE Examinations begin
Monday 17th November  Year 8 and 9 Exams
Wednesday 26th November  WACE Examinations finish
Friday 21st November  Year 11 Last Day
Monday 24th November  Year 10 and 11 Exams
Tuesday 25th November  Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
Thursday 18th December  Students Last Day of Term

Graduation Tickets
Graduation Tickets are now on sale at the Finance desk at MET Campus
There are two tickets for each family the cost is $15.00 per ticket.

Homework Club
Tuesdays and Thursdays
3—4 pm in the shared area of the Lower GTA at Tindale.

A Big Thank You
A BIG thank-you to the P & C from the Mathematics Department for the purchase of two class sets of Graphics Calculators!!!!!
They will be used by all students in Years 8 – 10.
THANK – YOU!!!!!
Interschool Athletics Carnival

John Tonkin College competed in our second 8-10 Interschool Athletics competition held at the new WA athletics stadium on Thursday 23rd October 2014.

The students were amazing! They represented the school in such a positive manner and everyone who attended had a great day. There were some standout performances. In particularly, Vicky Riddiough (yr 10) and Soniah Kearing (yr 9) who were absolute guns on the day and were second overall champion girls in their year group. Honestly I don’t know how they didn’t win it overall!! Also Elijah Simpkins (yr 8) and Jessie Miles (yr 8) came third overall champion. The school placed 4th overall and improved from their 7th place in 2013.

A big thank you to Ben Duke, Kim Davies, Hayley Hill and senior school helpers for their great efforts on the day, without them the day would not have been a success. Also thank you to the P&C, without their contributions the student would have not looked as good in their new athletic shirts. Thank you. And finally to the PE staff who organised the students, attended training sessions and helped out. Next year we may get on the podium and finish 1st even. Look forward to it.

Mr Heeley
National Titration Stakes 2014

Congratulations to Ahmad Khan, Rafe Newsome and Jin Zhang for placing 28th in the National Titration Stakes competition on Tuesday 26th of August at Murdoch University.

The competition was run by RACI (Royal Australian Chemistry Institute) and there were 15 teams representing each state/territory. The students were required to make 2 solutions and perform 2 titrations to determine the concentration of an unknown solution. A titration is a precise and accurate chemistry technique that involves a lot of patience and concentration. The teams were scored based on how close their calculations were to the actual values and were ranked accordingly.

Our team from John Tonkin College placed 28th out of the entire country. As it was also an individual competition, the boys received medals that awarded them for their accuracy.

Ahmad and Jin received Gold medals and Rafe received a Silver.

Overall the team received an Excellent ranking, the highest that can be awarded.

The boys did a fantastic job and did themselves proud.

-Mrs Jessica Wilkins
Chemistry Teacher

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Last Friday Mr Dawson, Mrs Mclean and students Billy Somsee, Kate McClure, Mitchell Walker and Sarah Currie were invited to a morning tea to celebrate the Duke of Edinburgh's Award being in Australia for fifty years. Mrs McLean was presented with a certificate of recognition for her invaluable dedication to the Duke of Edinburgh International Award by His Royal Highness the Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex KG GCVO. The students got to see 9 gold level students receiving their awards and to hear Prince Edward speak about the award which inspired Billy, Mitchell and Kate to continue with their silver level and Sarah is contemplating completing a higher level individually whilst studying at the Australian Defence Force Academy next year. John Tonkin College is very proud of our students and their accomplishments in the Duke of Edinburgh Award and of the fantastic efforts of the staff to support them.
Peel Youth Services will be holding an ‘Info/Support’ meeting especially dedicated to Parents of Teens -
where: Relations Australia: 21 George St, Mandurah
when: Monday 24th November, 6.30pm - 9.00pm

This group’s focus topic is 'Keeping You and Your Teen mentally strong’. We will be
discussing the importance of 'Self Care' during the challenges and turbulence
that teenagers can present + strategies to promote our Mental Health and resources/
services we can access during times of stress.
We will also focus on Teenage Mental Health - discussing some of the areas we see
teens struggle - and a range of suggestions for us as parents to utilise to build
resilience in our teens, and specific supports available when concerns exist.

For those who wish to attend they need to phone and register with Relationships Australia, ph: 9583 6090.
The cost is $25, with generous concessions available on request.