



# CALLAGHAN COLLEGE

Jesmond Senior Campus

Newsletter

Term 1, Week 11 2024

# HARMONY

Celebrating our culture and diversity

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# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Ms Hayley Macdonald, Rel. Principal

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of term 1! Our Year 11 students have settled into Senior Campus learning and our Year 12 students are progressing well on their journey to the HSC. It's been a wonderful term of learning and engagement with many opportunities for students and staff to develop and strengthen their connections, along with our extended Callaghan Jesmond community.

Harmony Week is always an amazing experience at Callaghan College and I would like to thank our students and staff for creating a wonderful week of activities on campus. Culture, food, fashion and ideas were shared, creating many joyous moments of understanding and appreciation between students and staff.

Surfest is also an important event on our Callaghan calendar and this year we continued our close association with the event. Students joined together to perform at the opening ceremony of the Indigenous Round, celebrating and showcasing culture and getting the round off to a great start.

I'd also like to thank our Callaghan families and students for attending our Year 11 Welcome Evening and Year 12 Parent Teacher interviews. Our lines of communication are open to families, however these important events allow staff, students, parents and carers to come together, get acquainted and offer an additional level of support to students on their learning journey.

We have many things to look forward to in term 2, including the launch of a new Student Recognition Program. Details of the program will be announced to students at our school assembly in Week 1, with a follow-up information flyer sent out to families soon after. We encourage families to become familiar with the program and support your student(s) in achieving even greater things during their time at Callaghan Jesmond Senior Campus.

As we break for term 1, I wish you all a wonderful holiday and thank you for your commitment to our students and their learning. I look forward to celebrating even more wonderful moments as we progress through the year.

Warm regards,

**Hayley Macdonald**  
Principal Jesmond Senior Campus (Relieving)



# OUT & ABOUT

Activities across the campus and beyond



Coffee Club has been serving up delicious hot drinks on Wednesdays of this term, with our Year 12 hospitality students taking the role as our on-campus baristas. The Easter Bunny hopped in for a visit, sharing some chocolate and holiday fun. Field trips have seen geography students out and about, with visits to Taronga Zoo Sydney and the Hunter Wetlands. NBN also paid a visit to cover our APRA AMCOS SongMakers Program - check out more details on this on page 5. We also welcomed Pablo Tapia onto campus for an Australian Tonal Impressionist masterclass. Finally, we'd like to say a big congratulations to Chelsea and Riley for reaching the District Finals of Lion's Youth of the Year.

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## Engaging with our Callaghan Families

This term we had a fantastic turnout for our Year 11 Welcome Evening and Year 12 Parent Teacher Evening. It was wonderful to see our Callaghan community out in great numbers, with parents, students and staff connecting. We know that the stronger these connections are, the stronger the support will be for our students.

We encourage these connections to continue to foster and grow. We believe in open communication and encourage both students and parents to reach out to teachers and support staff if they have questions or need additional help.

A reminder to check emails regularly, as updates, reminders and permission notes are sent out frequently. Our social channels are also a great way to keep up-to-date of student and school achievements and celebrations.

Through open communication and the ability to talk to and share with one another, we can achieve great outcomes for our students. We look forward to continuing to build our relationships with our amazing Callaghan community.



# APRA SONGWRITERS

Exploring and understanding today's music industry

Sixteen of our students recently had an amazing opportunity working directly with established professional music artists Tim Commandeur, Asti Holz and Dimes as part of APRA AMCOS SongMakers program.

APRA AMCOS is a music rights management organisation that helps songwriters, composers and publishers get paid for their music, as well as advocate for the industry. It helps music creators get paid for their work, and provide a straightforward way to legally play and copy music. Royalties keep the music coming and ensuring the industry's future.

SongMakers is a trail-blazing, contemporary music initiative nurturing students' creativity and team skills. Australia's leading songwriters and producers collaborate with students to create and record new music on school campus.

Students are immersed in a real world, collaborative co-writing environment and given invaluable insight into the forces that drive the global contemporary music industry.

Engaging, challenging and rewarding, SongMakers fast tracks young people's understanding of opportunities in today's music world. It helps unlock a range of creative capabilities important for success within and beyond the music industry. It's about creating songs and helping get more next-gen hitmakers onto the world's playlists.

"At Callaghan, we value industry and education partnerships as vital members of our College learning community as we collaborate to empower every learner," said Hayley Macdonald, rel. principal at Jesmond Senior Campus. "This initiative is one of a number of programs that focus on real-world learning, designed to provide our students with opportunities to explore career options and what it takes to be work-ready."

For more information on the program, visit - <https://songmakers.com.au/about/>

We also invite you to listen to and add Callaghan Jesmond to your Spotify accounts. This includes an EP of the recent recordings that were made as part of the SongMakers program. You can access the Spotify playlist [here](#).



# TAKING THE LEAD

## Our new Junior AECG Leaders

We are excited to announce our Junior Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group for 2024. Congratulations to -

**Ruby** - President

**Garuahgal** - Vice President

**Matilda** - Secretary

**Lennox** - Vice Secretary

The Junior AECG is looking forward to creating a strong cultural presence throughout the school. Each of our leaders have their own individual expertise and knowledge around culture and heritage, with a strong desire to share this with both Callaghan Jesmond students and staff, along with our surrounding community.

One of the initiatives for the first half of this year, is the opening and naming of our cultural centre - The Maru Ngurraba Centre for Aboriginal Student Success.

This meeting place celebrates and embraces identity, giving students a space for learning, culture, conversation and support. The Junior AECG have a strong vision for the use of this space, not only for students, but the broader Callaghan community.

Our amazing, self-determined leaders are already working collaboratively throughout the campus to make informed decisions and we look forward to seeing their achievements in 2024.



Ruby - President



Garuahgal - Vice President



Matilda - Secretary



Lennox - Vice Secretary

# SPORT REPORT

Sporting success and opportunities

Term 1 has seen some great achievements in sport, along with continuing to strengthen ties between our Callaghan campuses.

On a hot and humid day, Callaghan girls attended the Hunter 7's Rugby Union Gala Day. We are proud of our students as they were willing to learn new skills, adapt and be competitive on the day. Even without having substitutes, our team qualified for the 3rd place playoff to achieve a win. Congratulations to all the girls who demonstrated a fantastic attitude, competed within the spirit of the game, and supported each other.



Boys and Girls Open Touch both progressed to the Hunter Region Finals Day. Our girls team reached the quarter finals and our boys have progressed to the finals. An outstanding effort from both teams! Thank you to our coaching team - Mrs Atkins, Miss Bradley and Mr Goodfellow.



Boys Open Soccer also competed in the CHS Regional Gala, heartbreakingly going down in the quarter final to Kotara 3-2. A big thanks to Mr Niddrie from Waratah Campus for coaching the team.

Boys Open Cricket unfortunately lost their pool round game to Warners Bay High. Thank you to Mr Kelana from Wallsend Campus for coaching.



Congratulations to Girls Open Soccer who are through to the finals gala of the Hunter CHS competition. They had two fantastic wins in their gala against Mt View and Toronto High School. Thanks to Mr Thorne for coaching the team.

An amazing effort from our Girls Open Softball team who won their regional final against Warners Bay and have progressed to the state finals. A fantastic effort! Thank you to Mrs Blight from Waratah for coaching the team.



Congratulations to all our students that have also represented our school in Hunter Region teams for volleyball, softball and baseball. We have even more students in Hunter Region teams in term 2.

There's more great opportunities in sport for Term 2 and beyond. Students wishing to trial for the Open Girls and Open Boys Baseball and Girls Softball College Teams should make contact with Miss Yorke or Mrs Atkins to express their interest now.

# POST DESTINATION SURVEY

Building the foundations for a great future

Preparations are already underway to welcome our Year 11 cohort for 2025. A series of events and transition days are planned, enabling students to become familiar with Senior Campus learning, along with assisting in subject selection choices.

Time spent at Callaghan Jesmond Senior Campus marks the end of high school learning, however, it's an important step to then transition into further education and career opportunities. We look forward to collaborating with current Year 10 students on their journey of subject selections, career pathways and post-high school possibilities.

And for those that have already graduated, we love receiving feedback regarding their time at Callaghan College and how their studies here have enabled them to achieve great things.

Former student Joshua, pictured below, completed his pilot's course last year. It was a long and challenging journey for him, however also a rewarding one. Supported by his wife, Laura, he's learnt a lot about flying, but also life itself.

And former student Sonam went on to study medicine, graduating from the University of Newcastle in 2020. Sonam is now a medical registrar with the Physical Training program across various hospitals in the Newcastle region.

These are just two examples of the inspiring stories and feedback we receive regularly from former students. We'd love to hear more!

To help collate this information, a survey has been emailed out this week to our Year 12 cohort from 2023. This survey seeks information around the employment and education choices our recent graduates have made after finishing at Jesmond Senior Campus. This information can help shape the future of learning at Callaghan and enable others to also achieve great things.

We encourage all families with graduated students from 2023 to complete the survey that has been emailed to each individual student.

We can't wait to see what you are achieving!





# SURFEST

Celebrating culture

Over 800 male and female surfers converged on Newcastle in early March to compete in the southern hemisphere's largest surfing festival, Surfest.

Celebrating its 38th anniversary, this year's Surfest was better than ever and Callaghan College was proud to continue to support the event by performing at the opening ceremony of the Indigenous Classic.

Callaghan College has a well established and long term association with Surfest. For many years now, students and staff from all three campuses, have joined together with surrounding Hunter schools to showcase their culture and talents. This includes dance and yidaki performances, along with a Welcome to Country.

In addition to Callaghan College's involvement in these proceedings, the event also provides important and valuable work experience for our hospitality and CAPA students.

Thank you to our amazing students and staff who gave of their time and talents throughout Surfest.





# HARMONY WEEK

Celebrating culture and diversity

A full week of celebrations were devoted to Harmony Week this term, with culture, food, fashion and tradition on display. We are proud of the culture and diversity that is abundant at Callaghan Jesmond and it's wonderful when we can take the time to share, learn and grow from each other.

The week was launched with a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, followed by daily activities that included traditional dress and fashion displays, food tastings and dumpling cooking, cultural dances and a video presentation and open discussion on embracing diversity and celebrating success.

Thank you to all our students for sharing their culture with us and our staff for helping to organise the activities. Through learning from and appreciating others, we can understand, evolve and grow with each other.







# SUPPORTING TEACHER WELLBEING

## A call to respect work-life balance

As part of our school's partnership with families, we want to bring you up-to-date with a recent initiative by Department of Education to establish clearer boundaries for teachers' right to 'switch off' from non-emergency communication outside of school operating hours. This new Department procedure is being introduced to support our communities in enjoying a healthy work-life balance.

While digital communications have made it easier than ever to stay connected, they can also lead to an increasing expectation of near-instant responses, which can sometimes blur the boundaries between work and personal time for staff.

We understand that as parents and carers, you may have questions, concerns, or valuable information to share with teachers at various times throughout the school year. We value your involvement in your child's education and encourage open communication.

However, we also ask for your support in respecting the wellbeing of our teachers in the following ways:

- Be considerate of our teachers' personal lives and their right to 'switch off' by limiting non-urgent communications with teachers to during school hours wherever possible.
- Have a respectful expectation around the timeliness of teacher responses for non-urgent matters. At Callaghan College, we aim to respond to non-emergency communications within 2 to 3 days during school operating hours.

You can read more about this initiative, the "Expectations for Digital Communication Procedure" [online](#).

Thank you for helping us support our dedicated teachers and administration staff to maintain a healthy work-life balance, so that they can continue providing the best possible education for our students.

## Permission to Switch Off from non-emergency communication

### We encourage families to contact our staff



We have a number of ways that we engage with our families, from calling our Administration Office, to emailing your child's teachers via our online systems, we welcome open communication during school hours.

### Please respect our reasonable response times



Under most circumstances, staff will respond to queries within 2 school days. **For urgent matters**, please contact our Administration Office and they will direct your call to the appropriate senior executive as a priority.

### Families can help safeguard our staff's wellbeing



Callaghan College is promoting guilt-free boundaries for staff to 'switch off' from non-emergency communication after school hours. Our Executive team encourage staff to prioritise personal time. Callaghan appreciates our families respecting these boundaries too.

### We respect our families reasonable response times too!



It takes time to plan, organise, book and pay for school excursions, special events and camps. We appreciate our families responding to the deadlines for permissions, payment and providing additional information where needed.

# STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Callaghan College Jesmond Senior Campus is excited to announce the launch of our **Student Recognition Program**. This program rewards students at different points in the year, and in different ways.

As part of this program, rewards will be given to students with excellent school attendance records. These students will be recognised at Year Assembly Meetings and Celebration Assemblies at the end of each term.

A reminder that school attendance matters. Miss school and you'll miss important learning and social opportunities. If a student is late or absent, the absence must be explained in one of the following ways -



## CALL OR TEXT

Call our Administration Office or reply to the text you receive from the school



## EMAIL OR NOTE

Email our Administration Office or provide a written note

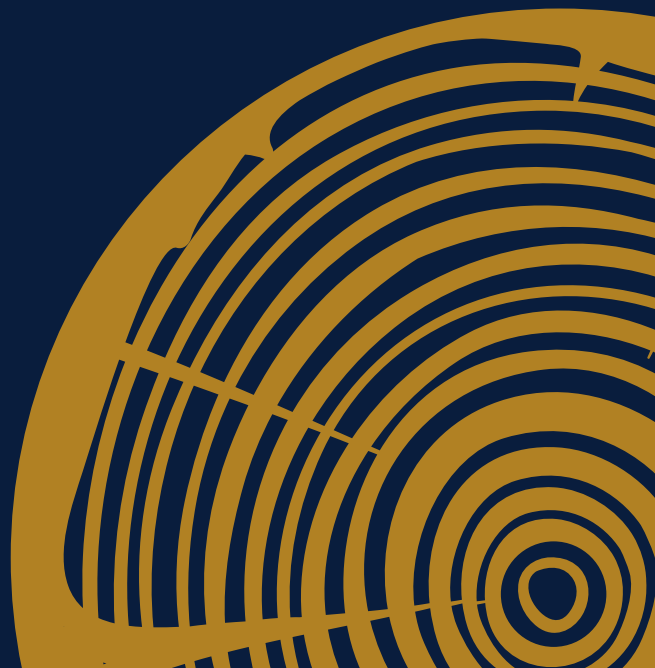


## SENTRAL PARENT PORTAL

Login to the Sentral Parent Portal to record absence details

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

Attend school, make the most of your learning journey and be rewarded.



## OUR SOCIALS

A great way of keeping up-to-date with the activities, celebrations and achievements of Jesmond Senior Campus is to follow us on our social media pages.

Our [Facebook page](#) celebrates our campus, along with providing general information on school events and important dates.

Our Instagram page is driven by our Student Representative Forum, giving a student voice back to our community, capturing the day-to-day activities of Senior Campus life.

We encourage families to join us on our social media journey, become more familiar with our campus and support our students in their learning and achievements.

Search for @ccjesmond



## FEES & CONTRIBUTIONS

Statement of accounts are emailed to families once a term. If you have any questions regarding your statement of account, please contact our Administration Office.

A reminder regarding payments for excursions. All students must have parent/carer permission to attend excursions and camps. This is by way of completed and signed online permission forms that are emailed to parent/carer email addresses via School Bytes. Online permission notes for your student(s) are also available in the Sentral Parent Portal.

For all excursions, payment must be made in full before a student can attend an event.

If required, parents and carers can discuss payment options with our Administration Office.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

A reminder that Entertainment Books are available for purchase. Support our school and get some amazing deals at the same time.

<https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/34660f>

## CALENDAR DATES

<b>APR 12</b> Term 1 Last day for students	<b>APR 30</b> Term 2 First day for students	<b>MAY 02</b> University of Newcastle Parents and Carers Info Session
<b>MAY 16</b> Career Expo	<b>MAY 29</b> Multicultural Services Expo	<b>JUN 14-15</b> Star Struck at Newcastle Entertainment Centre

## YEAR 12 SAVE THE DATES

<b>SEPT 24</b> Year 12 Graduation NEX	<b>NOV 11</b> Year 12 Sign Out Day	<b>NOV 13</b> Year 12 Formal
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