



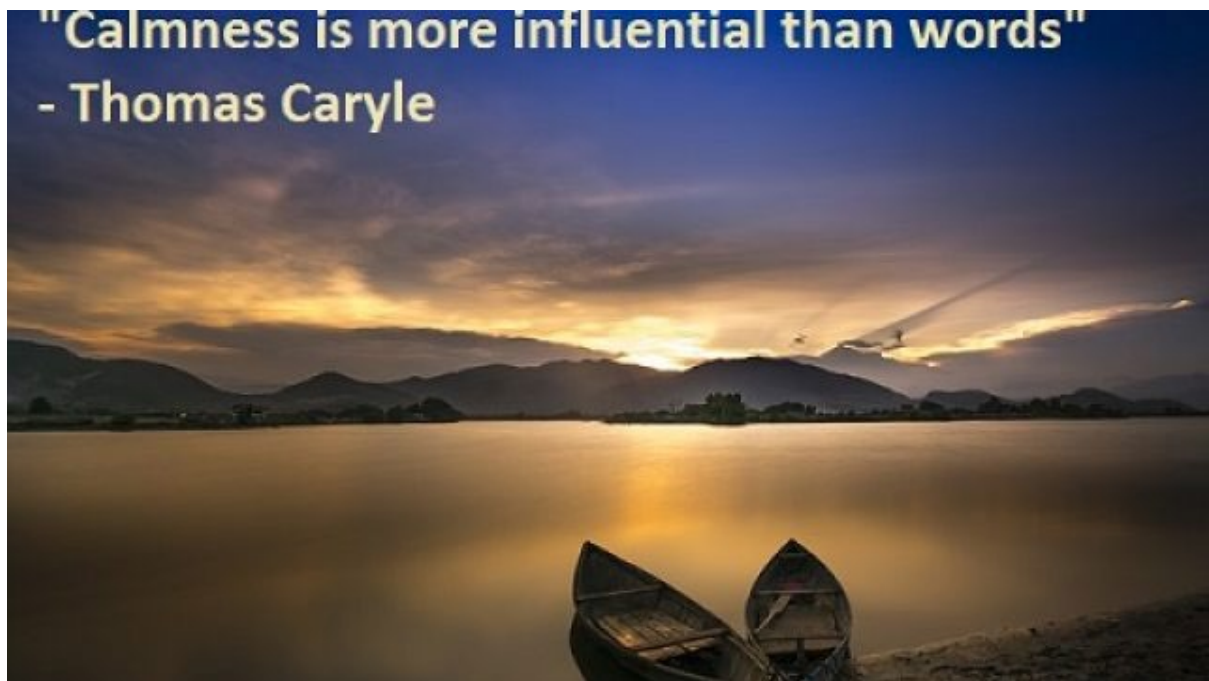
James Fallon High School

Transition Back To The Classroom

May 25, 2020

I would like to acknowledge that today we meet on the beautiful land of the Wiradjuri people. I would like to acknowledge that I live, work and learn on Aboriginal land. I pay my respects to elders past, present and future, and I acknowledge, with deep gratitude, the many thousands of years of their continuing custodianship.

Quote of the week is this:



Today there are many emotions as we return back to full time, face to face learning at JFHS. Today's speech will outline some things to remember for our return to school. I will also talk about the Personal Interest (Give it a Go) project today.

The definition of the word calm is tranquil, smooth, removing strong emotion. I ask that our classrooms be calm. While you may be very excited, nervous, anxious, or all three, breathe, stop, and remain calm. This has been a turbulent time, but we as a community have managed it brilliantly. We have put measures in place for the safety of our school, and I will go through those now.

The Department of Education's Plan is to return to full time face to face schooling for students, with measures to support increased hygiene and reduced adult contact on site.

If students are not at school, as we do normally, we ask families to explain that absence and that will be marked as leave. If there are students at risk of COVID, then, as per department requirements, please provide medical support to our school. It would be great to get our attendance at school up and going, and have all absences explained.

Operations for Students:

Regular class timetables and rooming apply for the entire school.

Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12): Regular lessons will apply. Students who are exempt will be supported by their teachers.

Stages 4 & 5 (Year 7 to 10): Timetable at Normal times. A flexible learning plan will be delivered with the aim to support the transition of students back into classroom learning.

Masterclasses can be held via Teams in timetabled lessons. These will be organised and advertised through faculty bulletins.

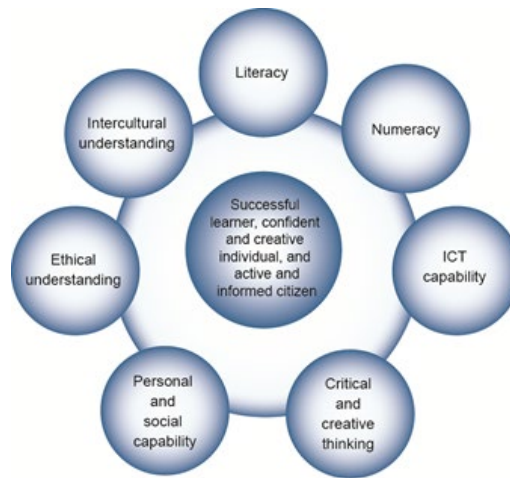
There will be a brief report on learning concepts. No marks or comments will be distributed.

- ✓ Practical classes: can occur where appropriate.
- ✓ PDHPE practicals will occur. Students can wear their PDHPE uniform, and bring their shoes for any other practical classes during the day.
- ✓ Students can still bring their devices to school, and keep them with them at all times. Like phones, students are responsible for the safety of their property.
- ✓ The Give it a Go Project will be supported throughout the school until the end of Term 2. The principal narrative will be distributed in Week 6 Term 3.
- ✓ Sports will occur when safe protocols are established. Thursdays will finish at 3:27pm.
- ✓ Online Lunch orders will be made, and distributed to playground school areas. There will be strict line up procedures for the canteen.
- ✓ No excursions, work placement at this time.
- ✓ Big Picture advisory will operate as normal.
- ✓ Special Education will remain in Rooms 1, 2, 3, 21 & 22 for all discrete classes.
- ✓ Toilet use for students will be as per normal, with students washing their hands before and after use.
- ✓ PG areas: Multisports & seats Year 10; Bottom Oval & Basketball court seats (Area 4) Year 9; Year 12 and Year 11 areas as is; Year 8 Area 3; Year 7 Quad. Oval is out of bounds for repairs.
- ✓ Non contact ball sports can be played – the balls brought to school are not be stored in staffrooms.
- ✓ No scooters, helmets, bike equipment belonging to students will be stored in the office or staffrooms.
- ✓ All teaching and learning spaces are to be cleaned if another group is to use the space. Each room will be cleaned daily. Hand sanitiser will be in every classroom and soap and water where possible. Students are to use it on entry into the classroom.
- ✓ Students will not be able to use bubblers until further notice.
- ✓ The bus services will run as normal.
- ✓ Bring your booklets, pens and stationary - we won't have laptops for everyone and there will be no sharing of equipment. 😊

What is the Personal Interest (Give it a Go) Project?

At James Fallon HS, we saw the COVID 19 event as an opportunity to explore 21st Century learning. We are, after all, 20% into the 21st Century. We also wished to consider the General Capabilities of the Australian Curriculum, which are: Literacy, Numeracy, ICT Capability, Critical and Creative

Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding, and Intercultural Understanding.
(The infographic is below.)



To that end, we have transitioned programs to technology platforms, and asked our students in Years 7 to 10 to undertake the Give it a Go project.

This project is supported myself as Lead Teacher of JFHS, and by one of our staff members who has been working with NSW Premier and Cabinet for 2 years on 21st Century learning, Ms Jane Mackinlay. We are indeed fortunate to have such expertise on our staff.

The concept behind this project is to exercise skills in self-determination and creativity around a student's passion or interest. This can be a range of things that are based on what young people like and enjoy, not necessarily what they are good or bad at. The learning dispositions of each student are areas we encourage them to explore, whether they are hands on learners, visual learners, verbal learners, and the like. The resources are sourced by the young people themselves, and in the true spirit of entrepreneurial learning, they develop a proposal, consider and map the development of the project, and finalise and show or exhibit the project.

The learning for some has been magnificent. Some of our young people have been re-energised in their learning over this project. Over the next few days, I will ask students who are willing to share their project ideas to talk about them, so that you as students and families can see what is possible in this space. This project is not designed to be hard. It is designed to support lifelong learning beyond the school gates.

On completion of student projects, each student receives a detailed narrative on their skills, aptitudes and dispositions from myself as the Principal. This is as good as a reference, which I am not permitted to supply to anyone unless they are leaving as an HSC student.

My philosophy on learning is that all of us are lifelong learners, and we find joy in learning about the things that interest us. I also believe every student is more than a numerical mark on a page, and that learning can happen outside of what a teacher directs a student to do.

I ask that our school community support this project, which I have made part of the learning for students in Years 7 to 10. This is not mandatory, but encouraged, and not hard, but easy and interesting. If there are any questions, direct them to me. Thank you.