



## Principal's report

Last Friday we inducted our 2018-2019 Prefect body. It was a lovely ceremony honouring their induction. Thank you to Ms Nancy Zhu, Ms Catherine Hayes, Ms Mayers and Ms St Louis for ensuring the success of the event. It was wonderful to share this event with their parents and teachers. Next week our Prefects will spend a 2 day camp collaborating, planning and exploring the role of leadership at James Ruse Agricultural High School. It was also a time to thank our outgoing Prefects, led by Julia Tran and Daniel Forrest, for their dedication and service over the past year.

## Our Prefects:

Aisha	Abdu	<b>School Captain</b>
Jeffrey	Kennedy	<b>School Captain</b>
Abha	Gourshettiwar	<b>School Vice Captain</b>
Charlie	Yang	<b>School Vice Captain</b>
Leila	Nguyen-Hoang	<b>Senior Prefect</b>
Daniel	Chen	<b>Senior Prefect</b>
Michael	Guo	<b>Sports Captain</b>
Jocelin	Hon	<b>Sports Captain</b>
Colin	Cui	
Min-je	Hwang	
Wilson	Jiang	
Calla	Lee	
Flora	Lee	
Derrick	Ma	
Erica	Mai	
Gahvin	Park	
Eunice	Seo	
Jason	Shi	
Matthew	Shu	
Sharon	Thio	
Nina	Wang	
Kai	Wang	
Emilie	Wu	
Francis	Yang	
James	Zhao	
Kim	Zheng	
Eric	Zhuang	



Congratulations to our International Chemistry Olympiad Students who have earned three medals in Prague. Congratulations to Richard Huang (10), Raymond Li (12) and Phillip Liang (12) who achieved two silver medals and a bronze respectively.

Congratulations to our Year 11 Debating Team - Rehan Gunawardhana, Calla Lee, Flora Lee and Charlie Yang who were spectacular in their debate on Friday. They now move on to the next round.

On Tuesday night the CoJR hosted Dr Michael Spence, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sydney. Michael's address was engaging, motivating and very informative. Thank you to our parents and students who were able to attend. It was also wonderful to have members of our neighbouring selective schools in the audience as well. Thank you to Dr Yvonne Lo and the CoJR executive team for organising the night.



Winter lambs are being born on the farm. So far we have three sets of twins and one set of triplets. One little lamb needed some extra help from Ms Ashhurst and Ms Novotni.



On Wednesday we had the honour of hosting Ms Catherine Brennan, Executive Director of the Department of Education and Mr Dean White, Director Public Schools, Carlingford network. Our School Captains, Julia Tran, Aisha Abdu and Jeffrey Kennedy showed Ms Brennan and Mr White through our school and classrooms. Ms Brennan wrote the following email to us:

"It was such a pleasure to spend some time with you and the wonderfully articulate and passionate student leaders. The impressive, open culture of practice amongst the teachers and students made visiting classrooms a welcoming and informative experience. James Ruse AHS really is a special place! (And thank you for the honey! What a treat!)"



On Monday, Year 8 will celebrate the completion of their Ginko writing competition. Finalists will read their pieces to a gathering on our farm:

**Time:** 10am

**Place:** JRAHS Farm

Entry via our farm gate.

Year 8 are now selecting their subjects for Year 9 over the next week. It is important that decisions are made by the students and after discussions with teachers at Tuesday's parent teacher afternoon.

As part of our Gym Opening celebrations, we are building a new path with engraved pavers. For \$50 per paver you can have your name engraved on a paver to be part of our new path. Please see the attached form and return form to the Accounts Office if you would like a paver.

We are also creating a special honour board for the Gymnasium. Later in the newsletter I will publish the list of names of donations in excess of \$2000. If you feel you have donated \$2000 or more to the gymnasium and your name does not appear on the list (each column is alphabetical currently but will be mixed when on the board) please let us know by emailing [jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Coming Events

### Week 3B

### HSC Trial Examinations

Monday August 6<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday August 7<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup>

Thursday August 9<sup>th</sup>

Friday August 10<sup>th</sup>

Year 8 Ginko Writing Project Celebration 10am

Year 11 Study Skills

Year 8 Parent Teacher Afternoon

Chemistry Olympiad NQE

Australian Mathematics Competition

Earth and Environmental Science Olympiad

Year 11 Prefect Planning Camp

Year 7 Study Skills

Year 11 Prefect Planning Camp

### Week 4A

### HSC Trial Examinations

Monday August 13<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup>

Thursday August 16<sup>th</sup>

Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>

Biology Olympiad NQE

Earth and Environmental Science NQE

Physics Olympiad NQE

Preliminary PDHPE Camp

Preliminary PDHPE Camp

Silver Duke of Edinburgh Hike

Have a wonderful week ahead

**Megan Connors**

**Principal**

## MAJOR GYMNASIUM SPONSORS

Alex Cui	Daniel Selvadurai
Amynee Yu	Erny Tsao
Andre Lo	Kevin Zhu
Andrew Pan	Koe and YYH Chu
Andrew Yu	Kwok K Ho
Annabelle Hon	Leela S Mendis
Anthony Kwan	Leigh Stachowski
Audrey Wang	Leo Liu
Bala S Pudipeddi	Leonard Chan
Bei Chen	Li Guang
Bobby Dey	Lily Gan
Boon A Ong	Loncus Zhao
Brian Le	Long Yu Chen
Charmaine Lo	Lucas Chan
Charran Kethees	M Nirthanakumaran
Cindy Chong	Michael Guo
Colin Cui	Michael Kim
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Elton Yang	Quy Chung Dang
Elvin Cheng	Ricky Wan-Lung Wong
Emma Chen	S Kathirgamanathan
Erica Liu	S Leong Chong
Hai Dovan	Sabrina Zhang
Hannah Qu	Sai Keung Wong
Hantian Chen	Sei Jin Park
Hao Chen	Shao Tao
Harish Suresh	Shelley Sun
Hayes Choy	Siaw Ping Kho
Helen Wang	Sicheng Li
Henry S Yao	Sing Lo
Hua Guan	Solon Neville Brown
Hua Zheng	Susan Ka Wai Lee
Hyo Jin Kim	Tak Kwong Tsang
Ivan Shen	Tara Mahendroo
James Ji	Thien Dinh Phan
James Zhao	Tieu Anh Huynh
Jamesina McLeod	Tiong Teck Kho
Jennifer Sun	U V Gorolay & V R Gorolay
Jenny Wei	V & G Jeyaprakash
Jeremy Wong	Vathsala Arumugam
Jiaying Chen	Vincent Xiao
Jimmy's Kitchen	Wai Yee Wong
Joanne Liu	William Wu
Jody Pan	Winston Woong
Joey Tsao	Xia D Chen
Joshua Anandanathan	Xin Long Xu
Julia Tran	Xindi Chen
Julie Yeongyu Kim	YA B Xiao
Owen Tsao	Yon Su
Yoshua Selvadurai	Yong Chern Kho

## MAJOR GYMNASIUM SPONSORS

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Aastha Bansal	Adrian Law
ACG Pty Ltd	AE Sook Park
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Alexander, Christine & Edward Zhang	Billy Yi
Andrew Park	Calvin Guo
Andy K D Lam	Chau Ling Leung
Anh T Le	Chong-Mei Dong
Ashvin Ragavan	Christopher T Nguyen
Australian Taiwanese Association	Daniel Yan
Bravin Ragavan	Dr & Mrs D Lung
Brian Marr	Dr Amita Thakkar
Chris Nahm	Dr Lee P Wareham
Dr Milind C Deshmukh	DW Lung Pty Limited
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Emily Mar	Emil Entchev
Eric Fan	Eric Yao
Frank & Astrid Yuen	Felix Ziwen Zhu
Freeman Tsang	Harish Patney
Hock L Ooi	HH & BA Coleman
Huy Quoc An	HK and TBH Nguyen
John Walker	James Park
Joseph Wong	Janine Lee
Jun Qiang Ye	JW & C Lockard
Justin Phung	Kim Chan
K & YYH Chu	Lawrence Lou and Margaret Ma
Katelyn Zhang	Leila Nguyen-Hoang
Kevin Ly	Lesley White
Kin Fuk Kwong	Li Feng She
Kok-Chin Lee	Li Guo
Lachlan Lau	Mark D Berry
Lakshmi S Mayadunne	Matthew Xu
Lawrence Tam	Mei Fang Chen
Laxman Vasani	Michael Y Chui
Lee Choy	Michael Zeng
Lien Thammavongsa	Mr & Mrs Choy
Ljupco K Butneski	Nathan Jo
Loo Ping Ng	Oscar Gao
Man Chung Kwong	Phillip Xie
Mary Beth Beirne	Po Cheung Ng
Min Zhu	Sau Kuen Chan
Monique Cheung	Sheree Nguyen-Hoang
Mr J & Mrs T Juarez	Shirley Chen
Mr S Gounder	Shu Hsia Yeh
Pradeep Sinha	Simone Cheung
Qi X Chen	Susanna S Yeung
R & S Marwah	Thoai Nhan Phan
Raymond C Kwok	Tim Zhao
Sakthi Satkumaran	Tudi Huang
Sanchit Gupta	Venkata Subramanyan
Shen Y Qin	Vishal Sood
Shirley Chen	Wei Ming Wu
Stephen Burke	Xi Da Li
Steve Qian	Y C Chang
Sunil Khandkar	Yong M Lin
Vivan Ng	You Jian Luan

## Prefect Update

Hello Ruse Community!

We would like to start off our very first newsletter by thanking all the students, parents and teachers for participating in what was for us an amazing Prefect Induction. Tears of joy and nervous laughter is what we think is the best way to sum up the morning. We would especially like to thank Mrs Hayes, Ms Zhu and everyone involved in the daunting challenge of organising such a successful event. It was genuinely a gratifying and magical experience for us to officially become a part of an organisation that has continually gone above and beyond to help the school community. On behalf of our body, we are extremely grateful to the outgoing Prefects for an amazing year and we hope to be able to meet the extremely high bar set and bring some new ideas to the table.



This year, our articles will include two main things, the first being any updates, news or previews of what our body is doing (including future events). We want to keep Prefects as transparent and open as possible during our tenure in serving the school and the students who elected us to represent them. The second is essentially whatever we want! Whether it is reminders to eat healthy and exercise, or inspirational stories and messages, we just want to use this platform to make your Ruse life better!

### 3 ON 3 SOCCER

We've decided to 'kick off' our Prefect year with the annual 3 on 3 soccer competition, where teams of 5 will compete to win the grand prize! Sign ups are open online (link on email or Facebook) until Thursday in Week 3 so grab a team and hand in your \$10 to the flagpole ASAP.

### THE HOUSE CUP

In order to sustain the competition between our four houses (Jones, Rassack, Mullavey and Toft) throughout the entire year, we've decided to bring back the House Cup! The House Cup is a point system where participation in activities such as 3 ON 3 SOCCER and the annual James Ruse Colour Run awards students with points towards their respective houses. This means that the overall house champion will no longer be decided by carnivals alone and will reflect participation in a wider range of activities. Every point counts, so make sure you grab your friends and participate in all of our activities!



For more information on 3 on 3 soccer or the House Cup, check out the post on our Ruse Prefects' page on Facebook, or the email from Mr Low.

### WHAT'S COMING NEXT?

The Prefects are currently hard at work on the much awaited Prefect Introduction Video, which will be shown at the next school assembly this term.

After our 3 on 3 competition comes to an end in Week 6, we'll also be having a Teachers vs Students soccer match in Week 10 to finish off the term with a bang!

As always, if any student (that's you!) needs help with exams, homework or just school life in general don't be afraid to approach one of us, we've been through the ups and downs of school and will give it our all to share our experiences and make school fun and enjoyable.

It's going to be a busy few weeks for us, but we are super excited at being able to start serving the school.



Until Next Time!

**Your Prefects '18 -'19**

### **Maths News**

#### **Mathematics Challenge**

The Mathematics' Challenge consisting of 6 problems was held over a 3 week period at the beginning of term 2. Congratulations to the following students who achieved High Distinctions in this competition:-

Year 7: Darshanik Aryal, Ragav Prabhu, Gabriel Santiago

Year 8: Bensen Liu, Eileen Wang, Dilan Abeysinghe, Frances Kan, Kerui Yang, Kevin Yu and Richelle Zhang

Year 9: Iris Fan, Natalie Le, Andy Lin, Jason Liu, Edmund Guo and Darryl Chen

Year 10: Yasiru Jayasooriya, Jennifer Du, Harrison Hu and Samuel Lam

Thanks to the Mathematics' staff for the many hours it took to mark these challenges.

#### **Australian Mathematics Competition**

All students from Years 7-11 will be participating in the Australian Mathematics Competition on Thursday August 9<sup>th</sup> in periods 4 and 5. This is a great chance for our students to show their excellent problem solving skills and is the beginning of the Olympiad journey for some. Last year's papers with worked solutions can now be found on the school intranet. Thank you to Mr Ng for his organisation of this event.

**Heather Weber**

**Head Teacher Mathematics**



## Year 8 Parent Teacher Interviews

Year 8 parent teacher interviews will be held on **Tuesday 7 August from 3:30pm to 5:45pm** in the school Library.

- Interviews are booked via the [Sentral Parent Portal](#)
- Sign in using your registered email address and password.
- Click on the Interviews link and choose your times.
- **Year 8 Bookings** open at 9:00am Tuesday 31 July and close at 3:00pm on Monday 6 August. You may log in again and change times until 3:00pm on Monday 6 August.
- Book early for the best choice of appointment times.
- Please leave a 5 minute gap between appointments to allow time to move to your next interview.  
**Please respect other parents and keep to your confirmed times.**
- Teachers may request an interview with your child. You will see this when you open your interview bookings if a teacher particularly wants to see you.
- If there are no more times available for a teacher, select 'request interview' and the teacher will contact you at a later date.
- You will be sent an email confirming your interview times.

Please email the school at [jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) if you have any problems with bookings. Please include your child's name and class.

## Music Update

On Sunday 29 July, our bands performed at the 2018 NSW School Band Festival at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and achieved the following results:

**Wind Orchestra - Gold Award**

**Jazz Orchestra - Silver Award**

**Symphonic Band - Bronze Award**

Photos and Videos of the event can be viewed here: <https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/jrahs-bands/nsw-band-fest>

Each of our bands performed very well in the company of other excellent school band programs. Thanks should be given to each of the tutors and conductors who helped prepare the students at the recent band camp as well as at rehearsals and lessons throughout the year. Thanks also to the parents and school staff who continue to support the band program and to the students who have worked hard all year to produce such excellent music.

**Regards, Richard Brus**  
**Bands and Ensembles Coordinator**

### Australian Science Olympiad

Congratulations to our International Chemistry Olympiad Students Richard Huang (10), Raymond Li (12) and Phillip Liang (12) who have earned three medals in Prague - two silver medals and a bronze respectively.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018 | PARRAMATTAADVERTISER.COM.AU



Science students Kim Zheng, Wayne Wong, Richard Huang, Raymond Li and Phillip Liang. Picture: Angelo Velardo

## Our Olympians of the science world

### Maryanne Taouk

ONLY the best and brightest in high school science make it onto the Australian Science Olympiad team.

Remarkably, five students from James Ruse Agricultural High School have made it onto the 17-person squad.

Raymond Li, 17, Phillip Liang, 17, Wayne Wong, 17, Kim Zheng, 16, and Richard

Huang, 15, were chosen from a pool of more than 6000 high school students around the country to take part in a worldwide competition that pits the smartest biology, chemistry and physics students against each other.

Richard, Raymond and Phillip have just completed the chemistry leg of the Olympiad in Bratislava, Slovakia, and Prague,

Czech Republic, where they won two silver medals and a bronze medal.

"Everything they have achieved is an absolute feat," head science teacher Sheila Pooviah said.

"They are extremely motivated, very competitive and, more than anything, they are great human beings."

The next challenge will be the International Earth

Science Olympiad. Wayne and Kim will travel to Kanchanaburi in Thailand next week for the competition.

The five students make up the highest number of Olympians from any one school in Australia.

Australia's chief scientist Alan Finkel said the program "unlocked Australia's next generation of brilliant minds".

### Agriculture Update

It's happening again down on JRAHS farm. The pitter patter of little hooves is echoing around the paddocks. Five of our ewes have given birth this term - 2 sets of twins, 1 of triplets and 2 single births.

All three of the triplets were of a very good size but their mother could just not cope with raising them all after she had carried them for the 5 month gestation period and refused to accept the little female lamb. This lamb was named Millie by our farmhand, Mark and the students have been helping to care and feed her. At night she has gone home with Mrs Ashhurst and Dr Zounis to keep up the intensive feeding regime of a baby. After a few weeks, her need for milk feeding will reduce as she becomes able to feed herself on grass and she will rejoin the school flock.

Over the last month, record prices for Prime Lamb keep being broken. Last week a 40kg lamb was sold for \$297 in Wagga Wagga. No one thought this could be beaten. Then this week, there was yet another record

set in Forbes where a lamb sold for \$300.60. These really are outstanding prices but sadly it is due to the shortage of supply due to the massive drought farmers are experiencing in NSW.

Not that our lambs will come up to these heady prices, but they certainly will have far more value than in previous years.

We have 9 lambs born to date and there are two more ewes yet to give birth. Fingers crossed for two more sets of twins.



**1 day old twin**



**5 day old twin**



**Millie with Jet - or Blackie and Whitey!**



**Little buddies sleeping together**



**Dr Zounis creates a palatial enclosure for Millie at home.**

**Robbie Ashhurst  
Agriculture Teacher**

## Careers Update

### Projects Abroad Info Sessions

Throughout the year we hold various Information Events and attend Career Fairs in cities around Australia and New Zealand. We also run interactive

Online Information Sessions that you can attend from the comfort of your own computer, wherever you happen to be.

[Sydney](#) | Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> August | 6:30pm

Find out more - <https://www.projects-abroad.com.au/more-info/information-events/>



### Defence Force Australia - Engineering: Facebook Live Q & A

August 2 | Online

Where else will you be paid to take a degree, have no uni fees and walk straight into work on graduation? Come on a tour of the campus and have your questions answered.

Find out more - <https://www.facebook.com/events/261549594651004/>

### Defence Force Australia - Women in Defence

August 6 | [Wollongong](#)

August 13 | [Newcastle](#)

Speak with current serving women in the ADF and learn about opportunities in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

Find out more - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/>

### Defence Force Australia - Defence Careers Info Sessions

August 6 | [Bateman's Bay](#)

August 6 | [Parramatta](#)

August 8 | [Bega](#)

Thinking of a career in the Australian Defence Force but not sure if you're best suited to Navy, Army or Air Force?

Find out more - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/>

### Defence Force Australia - Army Reserve Info Session

August 7

[Adamstown](#)

[Parramatta](#)

[Tamworth](#)

[Port Macquarie](#)

[Armidale](#)

[Muswellbrook](#)

[Coffs Harbour](#)

[Erina](#)

Find out more - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/>

### Macquarie University - Campus Tours

August 8, 16, 21, 25 & 28

September 1, 8 & 13

October 8

November 2 & 20

December 5 & 18

On every tour you'll see our various lecture theatres, our award-winning library, the campus common and so much more.

Find out more - <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/why-study-here/our-campus/campus-tours>

## **Australian National University – Admissions, Scholarships and Accommodation Roadshow**

August 27 | [Wagga Wagga](#) August 28 | [Sydney](#)

ANU is making it easier for students to choose their university by creating a single application that covers admission, accommodation and scholarships.

Find out more - <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/events>

### **University of Sydney Open Day Workshops**

Saturday 25 August 2018 - Workshops available for year 10, 11 and 12 students.

#### **Year 10 Parent Information Session**

Tips and strategies to support your child through senior study and higher education

#### **Year 10 Preparation for Senior Study**

Tips and strategies to stay motivated and maximise your studies

#### **Year 11 Thinking Ahead**

Learn how to write about your personal skills and qualities to produce an effective scholarship application

#### **Year 11 and 12 Smash Essay Writing**

Tips and strategies on how to improve your essay writing skills for the HSC

#### **Year 12 Promote Yourself**

Learn about persuasive writing skills and how to address E12 scholarship application questions

#### **Year 12 E12 and Cadigal Program**

Work one-on-one with a tutor to improve your draft E12 or Cadigal scholarship application. Please bring a draft application to the consultation (20 minute consultations).

#### **Year 12 HSC Exam Prep**

Learn about the role of the syllabus, how to deconstruct questions, take effective notes and manage time in exams to maximise marks

To register visit: [wpo.sydney.edu.au/app/openday](http://wpo.sydney.edu.au/app/openday)

### **Western Sydney University – U Day**

November 7 | Parramatta Campus

Providing the opportunity for high school students to experience a day on a Western Sydney University

Campus and allow them to speak with current students and academic staff. Experience the range of courses available through interactive workshops.

Find out more - <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/student-life/events/western-sydney-u-day.html>

### **University of Wollongong – STEM Camp for Girls**

January 13 - 16 | Wollongong

Applications now open, our four-day summer STEM Camp provides young women with a fun and hands on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) experience and an exciting introduction to careers in STEM.

Find out more - <https://news.eis.uow.edu.au/event/stem-camp-for-girls-2/>

### **NIDA Undergraduate Applications for 2019 are open**

NIDA's three-year practice-based Bachelor courses provide an intensive and immersive experience, as students work together to create, perform and stage full theatrical productions, films, events and exhibitions.

Applications are now open and close September 30

Click on the individual links to apply -

[BFA \(Acting\)](#)

[BFA \(Costume\)](#)

[BFA \(Design for Performance\)](#)

[BFA \(Technical Theatre and Stage Management\)](#)

[BFA \(Properties and Objects\)](#)

## [BFA \(Scenic Construction and Technologies\)](#)

### [Scholarships and bursaries](#)

Find out more - <https://apply.nida.edu.au/undergraduate>

## **Invictus Games - Sydney**

October 20 - 27 | Sydney

To successfully deliver the Invictus Games Sydney 2018, we need a team of enthusiastic and passionate volunteers. These incredible people will help make these Games a memorable and inspiring experience for our competitors, their families and the spectators.

Find out more - <https://www.invictusgames2018.org/join-us/volunteers/>

## **10 Jobs that didn't exist 10 years ago**

Sustainability and web-based services seem to be driving the change - how does this fit in with your post-school plans?

Watch the video - <https://www.facebook.com/SheFliesAu/videos/1306917866105503/>

## **UNSW@ADFA Girls in STEM**

We know women are under-represented in STEM careers, particularly at high levels. Women are under-represented at university in physical sciences and engineering courses in Australia and most other countries. And girls are under-represented in high school science and maths classes. UNSW Canberra Scientia Education Fellow Dr Kate Wilson considers what could be contributing to this problem.

Watch the video - <https://www.facebook.com/UNSWCanberra/videos/2023502917659717/>

## **Early Offers**

**Receive a guaranteed spot at the Universities of your choice *before* you get your ATAR/OP.**

Embarking on a tertiary education can be a daunting process. You've got lots of decisions to make and lots on your plate, but an Early Offer from a university can help reduce the normal stresses of Year 12 and give you some space to breathe.

It's easy to apply for an early offer now, and depending on the university you apply to, you may be offered a guaranteed place before you've even started sitting your HSC exams. Sometimes there may be other conditions, as described by UAC -

"Such offers are generally conditional on other requirements being met, such as successful completion of a Senior Secondary Certificate of Education or achievement of a specified minimum ATAR."

But some will even offer you a secure spot based on the expectation that you "*maintain or exceed the level of academic performance indicated in your application and interview*" (from the University of Wollongong).

## **Am I eligible to apply?**

Are you excelling in your studies or sports, or have been recognised for your volunteering efforts or other extra-curricular activities? Then you may well be eligible to apply.

If you're still unsure, have a chat with your teachers or principal to discuss whether they think you're able to apply and how they can help you complete your application.

## **What happens next?**

Once you've decided that you are eligible to apply for an Early Offer and made up your mind that's what you'd like to do, (why wouldn't you if it could guarantee you a spot at Uni before your exams?), there's a few steps you need to take:

1. Go to your chosen University's website
2. Search for the Early Offer (or similar) section
3. Take note of the closing date and make sure you take action well in advance.
4. Follow the prompts. Download any forms, or fill in the online form, speak to your teachers if you need their input. Failing that, call the contact number and ask for help from the admissions department.

5. Submit the forms and any additional information required.
6. Keep up the good work at school and wait for an interview date or an email notifying you of your successful application and guaranteeing you a place at University.

You can find a great list of all your local universities on the [MHSCareers Website](#) - there are lots of Early Offer links there for you to look through as well. [Find out more about Early Offers](#)

## COJR & P&C Updates

### COJR P&C COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

The goal of CoJR P&C is to always serve the community of staff, students and parents in an inclusive, relevant and accessible manner. Besides fundraising activities, CoJR P&C also organises special forum talks once every term in the hope that everyone who attends can come away learning something new & also provide parents an opportunity to connect with one another. So many parents work during the day and by being a selective school with families living all over Sydney, it would seem logical to meet at a central place we all know, our school.

Ruse is lucky and unique as CoJR P&C organises regular talks for free for our community (like the one we've had this week), where staff, students and parents can all attend together. It is not a regular feature event seen at other public high schools.

Parents often ask whether the talk will be relevant to the education stage of their child. All we can say is that everyone who comes with an open mind will be inspired and informed. It can provide a chance for discussion between the parent and the child over what was presented, in a topic that CoJR P&C sincerely thinks will add to the holistic education experience we want for our children. Everyone will take home a different message or find something that will give them that light bulb moment of realisation about an issue, so we do highly recommend you come to one of these evening meetings to truly understand the benefits of these talks. The Question and Answer time at the end of the talks is always a highlight, and can be the most interesting part too, helping clarify what the speaker has said.

Come join CoJR P&C - make it a regular date with friends and car pool to school on those evenings.

### 2018 CoJR P&C TERM 3 FORUM MEETING RECAP

CoJR P&C works in close consultation with the School Executive months before the actual forum takes place to decide on the speaker and topic to be presented. This was especially the case when we invited the highly sought after and high profile **25<sup>th</sup> Vice Chancellor and Principal of University of Sydney, Dr Michael Spence**.

On **Tuesday July 31**, CoJR P&C were very honoured to have Dr Spence personally showcase how University of Sydney is "Reimagining the Undergraduate Experience" through their 2016-2020 Strategic Plan via 3 strategic themes of excellence, engagement and simplification.

Dr Spence is a lifelong educator and a lifelong learner - he is currently both an academic staff member and an undergraduate at USYD. In 2017 he was awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) to recognise his "eminent service to the higher education sector, to the advancement of equitable access to educational opportunities, to developing strategic programs focused on multidisciplinary research, and to the Anglican Church of Australia". He was also on the 2016 Macquarie Dictionary Word of the Year Panel which determined "fake news" as the winner.

USYD aims to develop their undergraduates to have the ability to be flexible, adapt, multitask, problem solve, think big picture and work in teams. It will be a global environment. Dr Spence who can speak 5 languages himself, (French, German, Mandarin, Italian and Korean although he did admit not all are fluent), encourages undergraduates to consider including a language in their university studies and in his thinking, participating in extracurricular activities is beneficial. Many jobs, such as social media managers and cloud architects/engineers that exist today did not exist 10 years ago, let alone 20 years ago, so undergraduates need to be prepared that their careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century may not follow a traditional pathway.

Through USYD's new 4-year Bachelor of Advanced Studies degree, a student will be able to study 2 Major subjects, which can be totally unrelated, making it an exciting time for USYD to see the different combinations that will be possible. Dr Spence did comment the employment rate for 3-year graduate degree has decreased as employers now want to hire graduates with more life experience and this 4-year degree may now help fit the requirement. <https://sydney.edu.au/study/find-a-course/undergraduate-courses/bachelor-of-advanced-studies.html>

These were only some of the many gems of information given that night. Dr Spence has loved his first visit to our school and says he is happy to talk to our community again. Don't miss out next time to hear him speak!

CoJR P&C thanks Ms Connors for coordinating this successful forum talk with USYD Associate Director of Student Recruitment and Outreach, Mr Finneran and our very own Careers Advisor Mr Driscoll.

The wonderful P&C committee members outdid themselves again with the light refreshments that were enjoyed by all before and after the talk. Thank you for your time, to set up, pack up and for making all our guests feel welcome.

We thank the Ruse parents and students who attended and also our guests, fellow parents from our neighbouring high schools of Baulkham Hills, Normanhurst Boys', Hornsby Girls', Penrith and Girraween.

CoJR P&C welcomes feedback on any of the events held so we can improve the experience we deliver to the School Community. If there are topics that you would like us to consider at YOUR future forum talks, do email us those suggestions.

**Yvonne Lo**  
**President, CoJR P&C**  
**E: [cojr12@gmail.com](mailto:cojr12@gmail.com)**

## **Mothers' Club Update**

### **Mothers' Club Special Food Day**

The Mothers' Club will be hosting a **Special Food Day on Thursday 23 August (week 5) during lunch & recess.**

Many famous and delicious dishes will be offered on the day, all prepared from fresh ingredients by our parents. All profits from the day will go towards the Science lab refurbishment project.

Teachers and year 12 students are welcome to pre order.

The menu for this day can be found at the end of the newsletter.

### **Parents this is what you can do to help us:**

1. Volunteer your services as a helper on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> August  
Contact us on [cojrmothersclub@gmail.com](mailto:cojrmothersclub@gmail.com)  
**Or**
2. Cook 1 kg rice and deliver to school hall before 9.40 am on 23<sup>rd</sup> August  
**Or**
3. Donate money of any amount and send it to the uniform shop  
**Or**
4. Contact us on [cojrmothersclub@gmail.com](mailto:cojrmothersclub@gmail.com)



On behalf of the Mothers' Club, I would like to thank you all for the continued support in all our fundraising events.

**Marissa Li**  
**President, CoJR Mothers' Club**

### **Entertainment Books**

The 2018/2019 Entertainment Book is now on sale in the uniform shop & is available either as a Digital version or Book version.

Sydney/Sydney North \$70.00

Sydney Greater West \$65.00

The Entertainment Book can be ordered through the:

- Uniform shop Tuesday and Wednesday 8am -2pm, cash only

OR

- Via Mothers' Club email: [cojrmothersclub@gmail.com](mailto:cojrmothersclub@gmail.com)

OR

- online through the link: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/21563e6>

Any queries can be directed by email to [cojrmothersclub@gmail.com](mailto:cojrmothersclub@gmail.com)

There will be \$13 contributed to the school for each book sold.

On behalf of Mothers' Club, I would like to thank those families who have purchased the books, and also those who simply just donate money to support the fundraiser.

**Marissa Li**  
**President, CoJR Mothers' Club**

2018 Mothers' Club Food Day Menu Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August



Fried Wonton \$3/5



Takoyakiball \$2/3



Deep Fried Chicken & Prawn Crackers \$6



Curried Chicken & Rice \$6



Fried Dumplings \$ 3/6



Dim Sim \$3/3



Pearl Milk Tea \$3