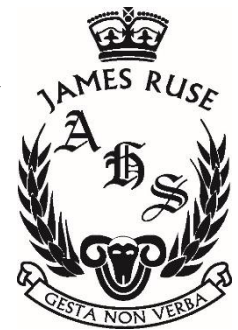


# *James Ruse Agricultural High School*

# NEWSLETTER



Web Site [www.jamesruse.nsw.edu.au](http://www.jamesruse.nsw.edu.au)

Issue 22 of 2018

Friday 10 August 2018

## **Principal's report**

On Monday we celebrated the completion of our Year 8 Ginko Literacy Project. This project that involves Carlingford West and Cumberland High School enables over 600 students to work closely with author Dr Bernard Cohen. Our Year 8 students completed the program writing their stories inspired by a "Ginko" or observational walk to our farm. We welcomed Mr Dean White, Director of Public Schools, to our event to celebrate Education Week at JRAHS.

I would like to acknowledge the fabulous work of every Year 8 student who created a high quality piece of writing.

Special commendation to our James Ruse Finalists -

**Sanbo Peng**  
**Sayuni Wijayatunga**  
**Jeffrey Wang**  
**Thomas Loo**  
**Oscar Dong**  
**Selina Ma**

Thank you also to our Year 8 English teachers, Ms Bowie, Ms Birbara, Ms Webb, Ms Romic and Ms Kindis who supported our students and to Ms Schultz for leading the project.





Congratulations to all our Athletes who competed successfully at the regional level last week. We have many teams and individuals who qualified for prestigious NSW state finals - well done.



As mentioned last week, our Chemistry Olympiad students achieved wonderful success at the International Chemistry Olympiad. Kim Zheng (11) and Wayne Wong (12) are now competing at the International Earth and Environmental Olympiad.

Follow their progress at - <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=australian%20science%20olympiads>

### Kim's Bio

Kim's interest to learn more advanced and accelerated content has led him to give the Australian Science Olympiad Exams a go. It was an avenue to apply his scientific curiosity and make his dream to compete internationally in science a reality.

"The entire journey (travelling, preparing and competing) will definitely be full-on and fun. I will be able to learn things to a greater depth and gain a more holistic understanding of Earth Science and improve my scientific thinking."

His favourite discipline is physics, because it describes the fundamental processes of nature, and is able to do so with accurate equations. He also enjoys the satisfaction in learning two separate topics, and in a moment when he's thinking about the topics, they seem to click together, and explain each other perfectly through physics.

Besides science, film-making is an essential part of Kim's life where he enjoys spending most of his time watching YouTube videos or television shows. His inspiration is American television host Conan O'Brien because he is able to remain dedicated to his work, and never loses motivation. At school, Kim is vice president of the Go Green club, plays table-tennis and piano, and is currently working towards his Duke of Edinburgh Silver Medal.

As he ticks his Science Olympiad dream off from his bucket list, Kim's next adventure will be studying science abroad, and then conduct research in a field which interests him the most.

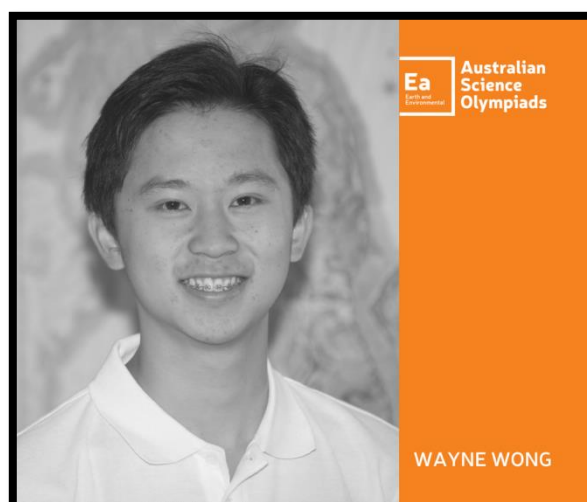
[#sciencewithASI](#) [#AustralianScienceOlympiads](#) [#SummerSchool2018](#) [#InternationalEarthScienceOlympiad](#) [#IESO2018](#) [#IESO](#) [#geology](#) [#geoscience](#) [#Kanchanaburi](#) [#Thailand](#) [#TeamAustralia](#) [James Ruse Agricultural High School](#)



### Wayne's Bio

Wayne decided to participate in the Australian Science Olympiad program as it offers him a chance to test and extend his scientific skills and knowledge. As someone who enjoys the process of learning and the satisfaction of solving problems, he loved the idea of possibly representing Australia on the global intellectual stage.


"I'm looking forward to meeting and working with like-minded people from completely different backgrounds, which will also provide great motivation for me to work harder and learn more. I'm sure I will be in awe at the wonders of Thailand, from both personal and Earth Science perspectives."



He has always been particularly drawn to not just Cosmology and Earth Sciences, but also engineering solutions to both theoretical and practical problems. He wishes to understand issues that stem from humanity living out of balance with nature, and wants to develop the solutions to ensure a sustainable future for both humanity and the environment.

His spare time outside of academics is currently split between music, his school Army Cadet Unit, and running school events. His varied interests mean he loves playing guitar with his rock band mates, but also hiking in the Australian bush. At school, he's been the President of the Amnesty International club, co-run a philosophy and discussion club, and organised Ideas Forum, an annual TED-style event for students to present their interesting ideas.

Wayne sees himself in a STEM related career, possibly in the Earth Sciences or a field of Engineering. He hopes that it will enable him to continue learning, surround him with passionate people like those he's met at Summer School, and provide him the opportunity to leave a positive mark in his community.

[#sciencewithASI](#) [#AustralianScienceOlympiads](#)[#SummerSchool2018](#) [#InternationalEarthScienceOlympiad](#)  
[#IESO2018](#) [#IESO](#) [#geology](#) [#geoscience#Kanchanaburi](#) [#Thailand](#) [#TeamAustralia](#)  [James Ruse](#)  
[Agricultural High School](#)

On August 23, Mothers' Club will host their Food Day. Every year this is a fabulous event showcasing the teamwork of our parents and amazing cuisine.

**Drought Relief** - As an agricultural high school we feel a close association and connection to our rural colleagues and friends who are suffering from our NSW drought. As a school we have begun fundraising and hope to raise enough money to send a truck of animal feed to the Tamworth area. We have been donated the use of a truck. If families are able to donate \$20 each we would fill a truck with feed - if parents wish to donate via our POP system, please identify the payment with the words "DROUGHT appeal". Students have been fundraising and last week raised \$400 selling honey. Please help if you can.

Thank you to teachers and parents who have attended our parent teacher nights this year. Moving to six nights adds an additional burden to staff but has allowed more parents to meet teachers and more information shared and students guided.

Once again I have attached the list of names that will appear on our JRAHS Gymnasium Honour Board. Please check that your name is on the Honour Board list. Parents/Students that made donations over \$2000 are being recognised.

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.

## Coming Events

### Week 4A

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>

### HSC Trial Examinations

Biology Olympiad NQE  
Earth and Environmental Science NQE  
Physics Olympiad NQE  
Preliminary PDHPE Camp  
Preliminary PDHPE Camp  
Silver Duke of Edinburgh Hike

## Week 5B

Tuesday August 21 <sup>st</sup>	HSC Music Performance Night 6.30pm AMOC Year 8-11 students
Wednesday August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	PISA testing at James Ruse
Thursday August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mothers' Club Food Day
Friday August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 9 High Resolves program

Have a wonderful week ahead

**Megan Connors**  
Principal

### JRAHS Gymnasium Honour Board

#### 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
Divakar Herle	Mi-Kyeong Kim
Dominic Lam	Mr & Mrs L Tan
Douglas Wang	Mr & Mrs Ruting
Dr Cher-Sang Kuo	Murugathas Shanmugam
Dr Horace Drew	Nga Hue Tran
Dr V Dhanapalaratnam	Parashar Patel
Elomar Family	Phillip Liang
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

## JRAHS Gymnasium Honour Board

### MAJOR GYMNASIUM SPONSORS

A & F Yuen Medical Pty Ltd	Adheesha Dayananda
Aastha Bansal	Adrian Law
ACG Pty Ltd	AE Sook Park
Alan Ka Chun Woo & Sophia Ka Ki Woo	Allan & Sylvia Chan
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
Dr Vathany Jeyaprakash	Eileen Y Wong
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

### Has anyone lost a key?

A key was found in the hall last week. It does not belong to the school. We think it could be a student, teacher or parent's key from parent teacher week.

If this key belongs to you, please contact the school at [jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## **Illuminate**

ILLUMINATE is an immersive festival that is coming to James Ruse Agricultural High School on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (5:30pm-7:30pm). It is being led by our Year 10 Multi-Disciplinary Communication students who are imagineering this unique event for the first time ever.

ILLUMINATE will be open to our entire community to showcase the extreme creative talents, beautiful stories and rich imaginations of our students and teachers.

There will be 11 immersive INSTALLATIONS from MDC (they are impressive as they are instagrammable).

An Art Gallery experience of the best VA work. Sculpture gardens. Soundscapes from Music. Pop-up Drama performances from our thespians over the entire school. Music performances from our bands (with a twist)...and that is just CAPA.

PE are playing a series of LASER SOCCER games in the GYM over the course of the night.

English are crafting and then projecting some performance poetry over the school!

And other faculties are also contributing their own installations in various locations.

We want James Ruse to feel like a different world! Those who enter the world of Illuminate will have their imaginations nourished forever and fixed mindsets about our school will grow and transform.

There are a number of ways that your child can be involved. Please tell them to keep an eye on their emails. Please keep this night free to either participate or support your children. But ultimately, HAVE FUN!

For those interested in...

### **HELPING TO CREATE OTHER PEOPLE'S INSTALLATIONS**

Please come along to the VA Rooms every Friday lunch to help cut or glue or craft or glitter...we need as much help as we can get and it also provides you with a break from the usual!

### **VARIOUS OTHER ROLES**

Please just pop your name down on the board and we will contact you when necessary.

Just generally, if you have any amazing ideas, please email me and we can establish a time to meet and discuss. Look out for some of our marketing over the next week.

Hope you're as excited as we are!

**Amy Murphy**

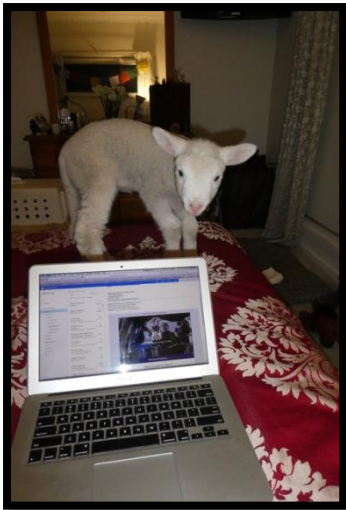
**Head Teacher**

**Creative & Performing Arts**

## Agriculture update on Millie the lamb

Millie has grown so much in just one week. She is now sharing Jet's kennel box and helping me do my emails. Millie has had her first two baby teeth come through and they are VERY sharp! She is now nibbling on all sorts of things in an apparent effort to relieve her teething.

Students and staff around the school have been meeting Millie in the classroom or outside and several students have taken the time to feed this lively & hungry little lamb.



**Robbie Ashurst**  
Agriculture Teacher

## Ginko Literacy Project Photos





## Interact Update

During Week 8 and 9 of Term 2, Interact participated in the Bandage Bear Appeal which raises money for Westmead Children's Hospital to fund the necessary equipment and research to improve the lives of ill children. Throughout the weeks, Interact members sold merchandise around the school and in turn, were met by immense support from the students, particularly the juniors, who wore their pins, key rings and wristbands all week! With everyone's help we were able to raise over \$500. Every contribution counts.

Thank you to everyone who participated.

Interact runs every Monday recess in the lecture theatre. It's never too late to bring some friends and sign up. Keep an ear out for our next events!

**Aneesa Abdu**  
Interact President



## Prefect Update

Hey Ruse!

Everyone's heard it on the news. Whether it is the Western, North-West or Central areas, the entire state of NSW has been declared in drought. June and July have been much drier than usual and as an agricultural school, we know how essential rain is in sustaining farm life. Farmers' crops are failing due to severe water shortages and a diminishing supply of fodder means maintaining stock is becoming harder than ever. Help is coming slowly and is not enough, everyone is hard pressed to resolve such a widespread natural phenomenon.

The drought is a huge problem that is causing our community's backbone to struggle. So how can we, as Australian citizens do our part? Simple! The prefects are working with a few other groups in the school to organise an event to raise awareness and get everyone involved and chipping in. It's still in its early stages, but expect updates in the next couple of weeks.

We are super keen to get started and help out, and we hope that the rest of the school shares the same mentality! So keep your eyes peeled for any event announcements and get ready to donate to and support our farmers!



### **3 ON 3 SOCCER**

3 on 3 kicks off on Monday, with our first few games taking place at both recess and lunch. For the year 12s, signups will still be open until the end of next week and all games will be after trials so there's definitely no excuse not to sign up. If you want a piece of the action, check out our promo videos on Facebook or come down to the oval to watch the best soccer competition since FIFA!

### **PREFECT CAMP**

This week we have the opportunity to go on the first ever prefect planning camp, where we get to spend two days getting to know each other better and to start working on exciting events and initiatives for the year! A big thank you to Ms Zhu, Ms Connors and Mr Travers for organising such a wonderful opportunity for the prefects. By the time you read this, we'll already be back, so expect some photos and a thrilling story for next week!

In general, we'd like to wish the year 12s (and accelerated students) good luck for the rest of their trial exams! Good luck also to our Science Olympians who are sitting entrance exams in the next few weeks, we hope to see many of you in summer school! Finally, big congratulations to our International Olympiad students for representing the school at such a high level.

We'd like to end this segment on a joke but please take the drought issue to heart as it's a very serious one currently faced by so many of our fellow Australians.

What is Ms Zhu's favourite song?

"Prefect" by Ed Sheeran

Until next time!

**Your Prefects '18 - '19**

### **COJR P&C Update**

#### **COJR P&C - Claim Your Tax Back**

By now everyone would have already received their School Accounts this year and are in the midst of organising 2017/18 tax returns. We would like to remind parents that the CoJR Contribution and Building Fund Donations are both tax-deductible and any donation over \$2 made before 30 June can be a deductible tax donation too. Please note the \$5 CoJR Membership fee and Raffle Ticket purchases are not tax-deductible.

Instead of funding the tax office, donate so you can claim your tax benefit and at the same time fund our school! However, to do so, please ensure the Accounts Office knows that is your intention when you donate, so we can issue you the correct receipt.

CoJR P&C welcomes all feedback 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