This term’s dates for your calendar

**Week 8**
- Fri 21st Mar: Harmony Day Celebrations, Yr 6 High School EOI returned to JPS, Yr 6 High Achievers applications for Waratah Campus returned to JPS

**Week 9**
- Mon 24th Mar: School Council AGM 7.20pm
- Tues 25th Mar: P&C Meeting 6.30pm
- Wed 26th Mar: Zone Cross Country

**Week 10**
- Mon 31st Mar: Parent / Teacher interviews, Yrs 1-6 commence
- Fri 4th April: Out of Uniform, chocolate donation for P&C Easter raffle

**Week 11**
- Wed 9th April: Parent Interviews conclude
- Thurs 10th April: Easter Hat Parade & P&C raffle drawn

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**STAGE 2 & 3 EXCURSION PAYMENT SCHEDULES**

- **Great Aussie Bush Camp**
  - $60: 19th March
  - $100: 2nd May
  - $70: 23rd May

- **Canberra**
  - $50: 18th March
  - $100: 30th April
  - $100: 4th June
  - $100: 30th July
  - $50: 27th August

**Great Aussie Bush Camp**
Thank you to our wonderful P&C who have donated $1000 towards families costs for the Great Aussie Bush Camp excursion. For students attending this excursion it has brought the final payment down from $100 to $70. The total cost for this excursion in now $230 per child.

**Student Assistance**
Thank you for your patience with the student assistance requests. I hope to have letters out to families later next week.

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**Harmony Day Celebrations - Orange Day**
Every year on 21st March, in line with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Australians recognise and celebrate our rich tapestry of cultures and diverse population. The message “Everyone Belongs” reinforces the need for respect and appreciation of each other. We are all unique and valued no matter our nationality or ancestry.

Once again the Multicultural Ambassadors Team will lead our school Harmony Day celebrations. They will be giving class presentations over Thursday and Friday which they have been researching and planning this week. They will be leading some morning activities before school Friday morning. This will involve painting an orange ribbon on their hand, arm or cheek. The paint is water based and child friendly. However, should you decide you do not want your child to have the painted ribbon please inform the school, either in writing or by phone call 4957 2605 by 8:30am Friday morning.

Thanks to our MAT members Aqsa, Ghala, Jaylen, Jacob, Ruarai, Bodhi, Annan and Winsen for leading us in this celebration.

Children are encouraged to wear something orange on this day but need to wear covered shoes and to be sun safe.

Our P&C canteen ladies have organised a special pre-order for Friday 21st March to make it an even more special day. Thank you ladies!

**Teacher Professional Learning - Numeracy & Writing**
On Tuesday 25th March and Tuesday 8th April the Stage 2 and Stage 3 teachers will be having periods of time off class for professional learning.

The first Tuesday teachers will be reviewing all the school numeracy student assessment data and using it to improve numeracy and teaching outcomes. The second Tuesday teachers will be working together analysing student writing samples and ensuring consistent teacher judgement across the stages.

On Monday 7th April our Kinder and Year 1 teachers will be engaged in professional learning from recess onwards working with the national English syllabus.

**Parent Interviews 31st March until Wednesday 9th April**
On Monday class teachers will be sending home parent interview forms for you to nominate your preferred time for a meeting. You will then receive a confirmation slip back.

I encourage you to take this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and discuss their progress this term and see some of their class work. We have these
interviews at the end of Term 1 as children have settled into the academic year and it is a perfect time for some valuable, two way sharing of information. We look forward to seeing you over Weeks 10 & 11 this term.

Cross Country
We had our Cross Country Carnival at Jesmond Park last Friday, 14th March. It was a sensational day with great weather, fantastic performances and fun was had by all. K-2 raced around the inside of the oval and took part in a series of activities with their senior buddies. Under 8’s and above had the gruelling task of running the course on a very hot day and every competitor that finished their race should be congratulated. Congratulations to the following students who are representing Jesmond Public School at the Zone Cross Country next Wednesday 26th March:

8 Yrs Boys – 1 Nicholas 2. Obedi 3. Patrice
10 Yrs Boys – 1. Tayler 2. Karungurungu 3. Fian
11 Yrs Boys – 1. Zac 2. Fariz 3. Cody
12 Yrs Boys – Jaylen 2. Jacob 3. Jaliullah

We wish them the best of luck for next week.