



GESTA NON VERBA

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE.

- It is wonderful to be able to report after 35 days as principal of the jewel in the crown of the public education system, that the reality lives up to the rhetoric of excellence. Amazing students, amazing staff, amazing programs, amazing parents! It is a joy to observe the students in the classrooms, in their range of co-curricular activities, in the playgrounds and in their various groups around the school, working together, discussing their learning, of just having fun.
- The school is in full swing for the production of 'Anything Goes' – you would all remember the intensity of last minute rehearsals!
- **Elizabeth Macgregor**, Director, Museum of Contemporary Art, spent Wednesday at the school as part of Education Week's *Principal for a Day* program. She observed Years 11 and 12 Visual Arts classes, toured the school, the Year 10 playground artists and artworks. She observed a drama class, and met with students and staff. She addressed students in the lecture theatre on her role, her passion for art and future directions for the MCA. Staff and students were interested in her Leadership journey and how she overcame the challenges, especially our Olympiad students, the prefects and the graduates of our Leadership Program. We look forward to continuing our relationship with the MCA.
- Students at James Ruse have continued to have a global perspective and a wonderful social conscience. This week they participated in the following competitions: Rio Tinto Science; Business Studies; GERRIC. They also took part in Amnesty International; chess; Interact; Scrapbooking; Knitwits; Focus; Film Club; voice classes; Waterwatch; a recycling and worm farming workshop; TREE; and the Anime club, as well as church services on Thursday morning.
- Last week the list included: the ICAS Science Competition, the Premier's Reading Challenge, debating, musical rehearsals, ushering and program selling preparations, working in the canteen,

preparing for the cadet bivouac in the Blue Mountains on the weekend, the lunchtime Focus groups, Zone cross country, preparation from the 3 on 3 Basketball run by prefects, *MATHSEARCH*, Olympiad training and the "Lord of the Weeds Competition". All these, as well as assessments. A wonderful achievement!

- We have been managing some technology challenges in the past few months. However, the Department is assisting us in a performance audit of our Internet public face, our Intranet and our infrastructure. Some enhancements will follow!

Larissa Treskin

HELP!!!

Your union is in need of someone to administer your web site. This is a very important means of communication for you and helps keep you up to-date with news, reunions etc. Our current administrator is unable to carry on in that role and is willing to train anyone who can help.

If anyone is interested I can be contacted at either jamesruse.union@bigpond.com.au or robin.legge@education.nsw.gov.au.

ARCHIVES

If ex-students have any items they would like to donate to the School Archives please let me know. We would appreciate any photos, articles etc. to add to our collection of memorabilia.

Robin Legge

30 YEAR REUNION

Hi to all James Ruse Old Boys! Particularly those from the 1977 crop.

A group of us 1977 folk are putting together a 30 year reunion hopefully to happen sometime in July. The co-ordinator of this is Dale Lloyd who would like to hear from anyone in the 1977 bunch so they can be added to the data base that is rapidly growing (amazing who comes out of the woodwork) as I write!

You can contact Dale by phone on 0419473341 or e-mail him at: dale.lloyd@bigpond.com. Hope to hear from some of you soon!

Andrew Collier (1977)

NOT A GUINEA PIG'S PICNIC

The class of 1962 were at the time known as the Wyndham Guinea Pigs. It was the first group that had 6 years of secondary education, a school certificate in 4th form and Higher School Certificate in 6th form, as distinct from the Leaving Certificate in 5th year.

We were the cohort around which the tradition of James Ruse musicals commenced under the inspiration of the Colin Anderson and Leslie Lino team.

We have held a 25 year reunion in 1992 and are planning a 40 year reunion on the weekend of 20th and 21st October 2007.

Graeme Elder is coordinating a Saturday 21st daytime event at the school and in the evening Greg Richards is coordinating a posh night out with good food, a few speeches and wine later that day.

If you were in that group that started in 1st year 1962 or joined us at some period of our six years at JRAHS up until the HSC in 1967, and not one of the 44 of 140 we have already tracked down, please contact the reunion coordinator Craig Bryant on (02) 6247 4551 or cybregrey@iinet.com.au for more details of the reunion.

Craig Bryant (1967)

ROBERT TANG (2002)

Robert Tang has been invited to participate in the prestigious 37th Gallen Symposium in St Gallen in Switzerland. He submitted a paper on international sustainable management of commercial fish stocks and was congratulated by the selection panel on his excellent effort. Robert, who is in his final year of a Law Commerce degree, said that he had relied heavily on his Agricultural knowledge that he gained at James Ruse in the preparation of his paper. The symposium will be held from Thursday to Saturday, May 31 to June 2, 2007 and Robert has an all expenses paid trip including some sight seeing.

INGRID JOHNSTON (1997)

Ingrid Johnston, Production Co-ordinator with George Miller, director "Happy Feet" and the Oscar for Best Animated Film 2007.



Ingrid Johnston, Production Co-ordinator with George Miller, director "Happy Feet" and the Oscar for Best Animated Film 2007

ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY PURSUED AT THE SCHOOL

CADETS

Over 10% of the school is involved in the cadet program. We currently have 3 Cadet Under Officers (CUO's) supported by a Major from the Army Reserve and 3 officers from the school.

The cadets participate in 4 bivouacs per year where they undergo activities such as rock climbing, navigation, radio communications and field craft. The annual camp in the past has been conducted t placed that include New Zealand, Kangaroo Island, Snowy Mountains and Fraser Island. These camps generally are for 10 days.

School parades are conducted once per fortnight. These are led by the CUO's and teach leadership, discipline and course content that is necessary for promotion in the cadets.

Our cadets represent the school at Anzac Day Services in the local region. In 2006 our cadets represented all government schools at the Sydney Anzac Day Service. In 2006 Major General Mark Kelly (1974) was our special guest at our school's service.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

At this school the Program has been running successfully for well over 20 years and is patronized enthusiastically by about 100 students at any one time. The program is divided into three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold each of which involves students engaging in four different and increasingly challenging areas of activity. These areas are Physical, Skills Expedition and most importantly, Service. Participants are encouraged to challenge themselves and become involved in improving their own best efforts. To help with this the school runs several expeditions during the year, but most of the activities are organized and undertaken by the students independently.

In the past two years 41 students have completed the Bronze Level, 31 students have completed the Silver Level, and 11 have gained their Gold Award which they receive from the NSW Governor at Government House. The program is immensely rewarding and opens opportunities for your people.