Principal, Mr Nash’s corner

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Thank you to parents that are ensuring their children come to school in their correct school uniform each day. Term 4 has commenced in a very positive manner.

KINDER ORIENTATION
Our Stepping Stones program commenced well with the first meeting held in the hall last Tuesday. It was great to meet so many parents while our new Kinders spent time in the classroom after being introduced to their Year 5 ‘buddies’. With a show of hands for new time parents or parents new to our school, approximately half indicated they will be new parents in 2015 to Oatley West Public School.

PLAYGROUND ISSUES
Due to the inclement weather and high winds last week we have cordoned off the area near the Junior Toilet Block and the COLA. This area has two trees that I deem dangerous and currently in discussion with the department to have them inspected with the idea for both to be removed. This restricts movement to J Block via the steps nearest to the toilet block and has the toilet block remaining closed. The gate to Park Avenue will also be locked until the issue has been rectified. Students in the three demountables are using the garden path to the playground alongside the computer room. The Caterpillar playground has been closed and will continue to be closed this week until I am sure the trees have stabilised after the recent storms. A large branch came down close to the fence line, thankfully during recess when there were no children in the playground.

Dates for the Diary
Wed 22 Oct. – Grandparents Day
Fri 24 Oct. – Scholastic Book Club Due Date

The School by the Park –
Great Kids, Great Teachers, Great School!
LOUD SHIRT DAY
What a great day we had last Thursday with everyone getting into the spirit to raise funds for hearing impaired children. With wacky hair and bright coloured clothes, the school raised over $700.00 for this great cause. Many thanks to Ms Aravanopoulos, SRC Seniors and staff for joining in the fun for a serious fund raiser.

PHOTO DAY TWO
Many thanks to Mrs Playford for her fabulous organisation and to teachers for their efforts in making our second day of photographs go so well. Sport, Band and special groups were completed and we were blessed with the weather. Rain was predicted but held off just in time for us to finish the photo shoot.

GRANDFRIENDS DAY
I am really looking forward to Grandfriends Day this Wednesday. This is something I have wanted to introduce since my arrival at Oatley West. Thanks to Mrs Ross and her team, we will be experiencing something new and exciting – a first for Oatley West Public School! Please be reminded that this is a day for Grandparents and Grandfriends. Parents should leave their parents and friends with us for an enjoyable time with teachers and students.
PEAKE COMMUNITY OF LEARNING
Our schools continue to work together, sharing expertise and resources as we implement new syllabus in English, Maths and next year Science. Each of the schools [Beverly Hills, Lugano, Peahurst, Peahurst West, Peahurst South and Oatley West] has representation at the Principal, Assistant Principal, Teacher Librarian and Learning & Support Teacher levels. Our school is also working with another group of schools, training for the New School Planning initiative, as we go into the next round of organisation for 2015-2017/2019 and the 2024 long term vision.

I have included a survey that I would be grateful for you to really think about and give me your ideas/feedback for 3 year, 5 year and 10 year planning. What do we need to be doing for our students’ long term? The teachers have also completed this survey. When we think about next year’s Kindergarten hitting the work force in 2032 which includes completing high school and university, we need to think clearly about what the world will look like, feel like and sound like at that time. What education should we be presenting at Oatley West Public School to ensure our children are ready to take their place in that world? What jobs will be available? What technology will be available? What advancements will the world have achieved over the next 17 years? I look forward to your ideas, suggestions and comments.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
School Council will be meeting tonight at 7.00pm. School Council is the overarching governing body of the school working directly with me to bring about the best possible outcomes for the school and all who work and play here. If you would like to put forward suggestions or have concerns or ideas, please put it in writing with your signature and the signature of two other parents at the school (3 signatures in all).

There is a school mail box in the foyer marked School Council to deposit your correspondence.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY THURSDAY
30TH OCTOBER
Maybe our students could think of a creative way to thank their teachers during World Teachers Day next Thursday. A simple card or something hand-made could go a long way to thank their teacher.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
You may never know what results come of your actions BUT if you do nothing, there will be no results.

Mahatma Gandhi

GRANDPARENTS’ DAY - WEDNESDAY
22ND OCTOBER
All Grandparents and “Grandfriends” of Oatley West Public School students are warmly invited to our school for a special celebration of Grandparents’ Day on Wednesday 22nd October.

The timetable of events on the day is as follows:

- 9:45am Years 3-6 Assembly in our school hall
- 10:15am K-6 Classroom visits
- 10:45am Kindergarten – Year 2 Assembly in our school hall
- 11:15am Morning tea (provided for Grandparents and “Grandfriends”) with students in the playground
- 11:50am Regular lessons recommence

Parents and caregivers please note that attendance at this special celebration is for Grandparents and “Grandfriends” only.

Grandparents and “Grandfriends” – Please don’t forget to bring your camera with you so that we can capture that special moment for you with your grandchild!
Public Speaking News

Last week I was lucky enough to attend the 2014 Sydney Schools Public Speaking competition, which was held at Penshurst West Public School. Four of our talented students presented their prepared speeches to a room full of strangers! Lachlan Q from KB dazzled the audience with his speech on fishing. Gillian C from 2R presented her fabulous speech on art, and Simone Allen captured the audience with her very informative speech on bacteria! All of the students received participation certificates on the day.

Lara M from 4G won the stage 2 competition round with her captivating speech on making a difference. Lara will now represent Oatley West Public School in the stage 2 competition of The 2014 Greater Southern Sydney Primary Schools Public Speaking Grand Final. The Grand Final will be held in the hall at Loftus Public School on Wednesday, 5 November 2014. This is a huge accomplishment and I wish Lara all the best, as does all of Oatley West. Well done Lara!

Application for Year 7 – Selective High School Placement in 2016 – Government Schools

Selective high schools cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Offers for selective high school placement are determined mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 12 March 2015.

If you would like your child to apply for selective high school entry to Year 7 in 2016, you need to do so now. You will need to apply on the internet. You will need to have an email address (not the student’s email address), access to the internet and a printer.

Detailed instructions on how to apply online are available from 14 October 2014 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. The application website opens on 14 October 2014 and closes on 17 November 2014. No late applications will be accepted.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the unit for assistance.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

Please collect a booklet from our school office titled, “Information about applying for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016”, if you are going to apply.

Sue Ross
Assistant Principal
Sports Report

Boys Basketball Round 4

Last Friday we played Penshurst at Hurstville Aquatic Centre and won both games.

Juniors had a massive win 57-6 with top scorer Matthew scoring an incredible 22 points, followed by Dean who scored 12 points, William 8 points, Oliver V. 5 points, Martin and James 4 points each. Great effort by all the team.

Seniors had a very challenging game as Penshurst kept the scores even for most of the game. We managed to just win 30-25 with top scorer Harrison on 9 points, followed by Lawrence on 7 points, Jonathon 6 points, Alex 4 points while Nicholas and Jayden scored 2 points each.

Special thanks to Joel Collett for refereeing both games.

This Friday we play Kingsgrove here at school.

Anne Laurence

STAGE 3 NEWS

Gymnastics- Stage 3 started their Gymnastics program today and it will run for the next seven weeks. A permission note was sent home separately from the Stage 3 Term Note which you received last Friday. There is also an extra copy in the term note if needed and the cost will be $22 per student. Sports uniform will be worn by Stage 3 students every Monday from Week 3 - Week 9.

Peace Posters- Congratulations to all students in Year 6 for their excellent Peace posters. These are currently on display in the school hall and classes will be given the opportunity to view them this week whilst their teachers cast their votes for the posters that best depict this year’s theme “Peace, Love and Understanding”

Transition to High School- Students in Year 6 will begin a six week transition to high school program starting next Monday and running for a six week period. These lessons will take place in their classes for one hour each Wednesday morning and will be run by a retired high school head teacher who will cover all there is to know about starting high school.

Year 6 Farewell Parent Meeting- A note was sent home last week notifying parents of a special meeting to be held in 6L’s classroom at 6.30pm this Thursday (23/10) regarding the Year 6 Farewell function. We are in need of parent helpers for this event so please come along if you are able to help.

Anne Laurence- Acting Assistant Principal Stage 3

Uniform Shop

Acting Manager – Sia Coelho
E-mail: scoelho@iinet.net.au

The Uniform Shop is open every Thursday from 9-10am outside the KW classroom in C Block.

Kindergarten Orientation Thank You – Many thanks to our parent volunteers, Carmel Sharples, Shaneena Tsui, Leonie Eivers, Rowena Shek, Natalie Hanlen, Liz Lomas, Kym Coleman, Bernadette Hanna, Belinda Lien and Kelly Baker who gave up their time to assist at Kindergarten Orientation. We would not have a successful orientation without your help. Thank you also to John Sharples and Antonio Coelho for helping with set up which is a huge job in itself.

There are another two dates for Kindy Orientation coming up on Tuesday 28th October and Wednesday 12th November. Again, if you are able to volunteer approximately two hours of your time on these days to help with Uniform sales, please contact Sia Coelho at scoelho@iinet.net.au
**Summer Uniform:** All students should now be wearing their summer Uniform. All uniform requirements are outlined in the School Website and P & C Website.

**Uniform Orders:** If you are unable to get to the Uniform Shop, an order form can be completed and dropped in to the school office. All orders will be delivered to your child’s classroom on Thursday when the shop is open.

**Parent Volunteers:** Uniform Shop is run by volunteers. If you have an hour to spare weekly, fortnightly, monthly or even just once or twice a Term, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sia Coelho at scoelho@iinet.net.au
All Grandparents and “Grandfriends” of Oatley West Public School students are warmly invited to our school for a special celebration of Grandparents’ Day on

**Wednesday 22nd October, 2014**

The timetable of events on the day is as follows:

- **9:45am** Years 3-6 Assembly in our school hall
- **10:15am** K-6 Classroom visits
- **10:45am** Kindergarten – Year 2 Assembly in our school hall
- **11:15am** Morning tea (provided for Grandparents and “Grandfriends” ) with students in the playground
- **11:50am** Regular lessons recommence

Parents and caregivers please note that attendance at this special celebration is for Grandparents and “Grandfriends” only.

**Grandparents and “Grandfriends” – Please don’t forget to bring your camera with you so that we can capture that special moment for you with your grandchild!**
Dear Parents & Community

As part of the school evaluation for the **2012-2014 School Plan** could you please complete the following:

**WHAT DO YOU THINK WERE THE TOP THREE (3) GOALS WE WERE STRIVING TO ACHIEVE OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS 2012-2014?**

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•

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**THINKING AUDACIOUSLY (AND OUT OF THE SQUARE); WHAT THREE THINGS (GOALS) DO WE NEED TO COVER OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS 2015-2017?**

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**PLEASE INDICATE YOUR VIEWS ON FUTURE TEACHING AND LEARNING AT OATLEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL. WE ARE IN THE 21ST CENTURY AND OUR NEW INTAKE OF KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS FOR 2015 WILL JOIN THE WORKFORCE IN 2032 [IF THEY COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY]. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN TO BE AS THEY TAKE THEIR PLACE IN WIDER SOCIETY.**

(please continue on back of sheet or write under separate cover)

I thank you in advance and look forward to your responses to drive our planning.

Paul Nash (Principal)
Term 4, Week 3 highlights:

Art and Craft Show - The Art and Craft Show for 2015 is in planning stages already. Our first meeting is this Thu 23rd October from 7.30pm in the multi-purpose room. We would love to see some new faces there as quite a few existing committee members are leaving the school.

Cake Day – Wed 22 Oct for Grandparents Day. KW (Miss Warren) and 3/4C (Miss Cross) to provide cakes. Don't forget to send children with 50c to buy a cake.

Concert Band will perform on Wed 22 October in the 3-6 Assembly at 9.45am for Grandparents Day. Wear normal school uniform. Remember to bring instruments and music.

Music Council meeting and AGM will be held on Thursday 30th October at 7.30pm in the multi-purpose room. All welcome.

Training Band 2015 – There will be an Instrument Demonstration Session for all Year 2 in the Hall on Thur 23rd October from 9.30-10.30am. This is an opportunity for Year 2 to see the band instruments up close. The children will be given an Information Package outlining what’s involved in joining Training Band and how to apply. An Information Night for parents will be held in the school hall on Wed 5th November at 7.30pm.

OWPS Cookbook orders are now being taken. Complete the order form and return with payment by this Thu 23 October for a special price of $25 per book. The price will go up to $30 per book past this date.

Canteen daily specials - Helpers always needed. Can you help out on Tue 21 October? Please contact Laronne on 0438422 179 if you can assist.