PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

IGA SHOPPER DOCKETS
One of our new Kindergarten parents contacted me last week suggesting that I notify new parents to the school as well as a reminder, that when you shop at IGA @ Oatley there is an Oatley West Public School box to put your dockets in. At the end of the year, IGA gives the school a dividend according to the amount spent after tallying up the shopper dockets for the year. This is usually around the thousand dollar mark so it is worth mentioning in the lead up to Christmas. This year I will put the money together with the WOO bike-a-thon money allowing us to complete the sun shelter over the bike pad.

GURUNG PARADE
I was very pleased to receive the following email from another school after the parade on Thursday. It further impresses what a great school we have here at Oatley West and the calibre of our students and staff.

“To the principal
Oatley West Public School,
Today I took part in the Gurung Parade as a teacher of another school.

I am writing to let you know how impressed a number of our teachers were with the way in which your students conducted themselves as representatives of your school. They were extremely well behaved, showed respect for those performing, ensured that any area they were in was completely clean before leaving and were very polite in all their interactions with others. All of this was done in extreme heat but your students did not falter. Congratulations to you and your staff for instilling respect into your students for their environment and for others when out and about. It was very evident that they come from a great school and I wanted to give you this positive feedback.”

It’s great to see someone take the time to write such a letter as this congratulating our school.

Dates for the Diary

- Tue 25 Nov – White Ribbon Day
  - Musical Evening 7pm
- Wed 26 Nov – Cake Day
  - Musical Evening 7pm
- Thu 27 Nov – Year 6 Fete (Mufti Day)
- Fri 28 Nov – PSSA Finals
- Wed 3 Dec – Last day to order sport/music/dance photos

OWL
Oatley West Lantern

The School by the Park –
Great Kids, Great Teachers, Great School!
There has been a huge improvement in the wearing of our school uniform and especially the school hat. Very important during these hot days and predicted weather forecasts.

As you are no doubt aware, our school mantra when it comes to trees is the ‘Three Ds’. For a tree to be removed from the playground it must be:

- **Dead**
- **Dying**
- **Dangerous**

It is always sad to lose a tree however we must all be kept safe and out of harm’s way. We have had the entrance to J Block closed, the Junior toilets closed and the playground out of use for some months now. With this work done we can go back to normal routine. The two birds that were nesting in this area have been removed to a safer place to live. They are very happy with their new surrounds thanks to Mrs Golledge in the office.

I have someone coming to remove four dead trees, the fallen limbs and to cut the dead wood out of the canopy in the Caterpillar Playground and at the front of the school near the Kindergarten rooms. This is a continual battle between safety and nature. I am continually made aware that our school is built on the remnant bushland of Oatley Park. The last tree audit was extremely complimentary towards the way I have maintained safety and yet considered the leafy environment that we enjoy at our school. It can certainly become a juggle at times. Council will also be trimming some trees that are overhanging school buildings and present some danger if the right conditions prevail.
SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Notification to re-apply for a Chaplain came through last week. Our application was one of the first received. The Chaplaincy Program under the guidance of Mrs McDonald and with our Chaplain Miss Benita has become an integral part of our school and its day to day life. I certainly hope funding is made available for this very special program to continue into next year and beyond.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
A Great Attitude becomes a Great Mood;
A Great Mood becomes a Great Day;
A Great Day becomes a Great Year;
A Great Year becomes a GREAT LIFE!
- Unknown

Paul Nash
Principal

GURUNG PARADE

Stage 2 and the teachers from Oatley West Public School went on a magnificent excursion to the city on the 20th November. The Gurung parade started in Hyde Park and finished in the Botanical Gardens. The parade was to celebrate the Eora and Aboriginal culture. Before we left we had to choose a buddy to stick with the whole day. That way, if one kid got lost their buddy could tell a teacher. After we chose a buddy we made our way to the buses. Our bus was a Moore’s bus with monsters on most of the windows. When we arrived at St Mary’s Cathedral, we had to take tunnel under the road to get to Hyde Park. After we sat down, we had recess. I had cookie and a cheese ‘n’ dip snack. Then we all lined up with thousands of other kids with red waratahs! The parade started! Macquarie Street was blocked off by police and all of the cars had to halt. TV camera men drew kids from all over the parade!

At last we arrived at the Botanical gardens to have lunch under a shady tree. Once we finished eating, we had 20 minutes to run around until the concert started. Sadly I was stung by a bee after I walked past its hive in a spiky bush! Soon after that, the concert began and a performer sang a song by Taylor Swift. There were many more dancers and performers. Soon enough, we had to leave. I think that it was one of the best excursions I’ve been on!

Dylan Watt 3B
ABC News coverage of the event
(3rd photo down features OWPS students)
WHITE RIBBON DAY

Tuesday 25th November is White Ribbon Day. At OWPS we are recognising the importance of respecting other people. In class we have learnt about how we can respect ourselves, our friends, people we don’t always play with, teachers, parents and people in the community. Respect can mean treating ourselves and others with consideration, care and esteem. To show respect means to have regard for other people’s feelings and to treat them with dignity.

To cover our school in messages of respect we have written about respect on white ribbons and they are weaved in the school fence. Please take time to read these messages and take time to talk with your child about the importance of respect.

Miss Benita
School Chaplain

JUNIOR AND SENIOR CHOIR

A reminder that Junior and Senior Choir have a meeting tomorrow morning at 8.45am in the school hall for a combined rehearsal with the Concert Band. We hope to see all students there.

Cheers,
Miss Morgan, Mr Burr & Mrs Koutrodimos

CHESS TOURNAMENT

The chess tournament will be going ahead next week on Friday 5th December. All application forms and fees ($17.50) must be in by this Friday please to allow final numbers to be sent to the Academy of Chess. Forms are included in this newsletter or can be collected from my room.

Anne Laurence

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Sport, Music and Dance photos are now on display in the hall. Order envelopes are located with display. When completed with name, number of photos required and payment (either cash or cheque) the envelope must be taken to the school office and placed in box. Online payments can be made at www.theschoolphotographer.com.au and also need order envelope to be deposited at school office.

Costs:
1 photo .................. $16
2 photos ............... $30
3 photos ............. $42
4 photos ............. $52
5 photos ............. $60

Any additional orders over 5 photos are $10 each. Booklet with all photos is $30.

Last day for orders is 3rd December.
MUSICAL EVENING

Our Musical Evenings will be held on Tuesday, 25 November and Wednesday, 26 November.

The children involved will need to be in their holding rooms by 6:40pm for a 7:00pm concert start.

The children need to come dressed in the outfit for their performance. Children who are in two or more performances need to come dressed in the outfit for their first performance and bring a bag with their other outfit. Performers who require musical instruments and sheet music please do not forget to bring them.

Parents please take your child to their holding room and hand over to the teacher who will be in charge of that room and then make your way to the hall via Short Street steps.

Entry fee will be a gold coin. Concert should end approximately 8:30pm.

Thank you,
Martin Ballantyne

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Tuesday Night Concert:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performers</th>
<th>Holding Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comperes</td>
<td>Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year One Choir</td>
<td>1B Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keyboards</td>
<td>2T Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Percussion Power</td>
<td>5M Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hip Hop</td>
<td>1C Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Percussion Power</td>
<td>4G Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Dance</td>
<td>6R Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Percussion Power</td>
<td>6L Room</td>
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Wednesday Night Concert:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Performers</th>
<th>Holding Room</th>
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<tr>
<td>Comperes</td>
<td>Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Choir</td>
<td>KM Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training Band</td>
<td>5/6F Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorders</td>
<td>2M Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Band</td>
<td>Computer Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>3B Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert Band</td>
<td>Library</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Oatley West P.S. Performing Arts Evening Tuesday 25/11/14

Compares:
Lachlan Quinn
Gillian Cottier
Lara Murphy
Simone Allen
1. Acknowledgement To Country

2. Welcome and to introduce compares
Mr Nash

3. National Anthem performed by Year One Choir
Conducted by Miss Brown

4. Keyboards
Conducted by Mrs Rita
Group 1
Disco Fever
Beach Party
Group 2
Dolphins
Hip Hop Kids

5. Junior Percussion Power
African Jam
Conducted by Mr Chris Fields

6. Year One Choir
Conducted by Miss Brown
Push Bike Song
Octopus’s Garden

7. Hip Hop Dance
Basketball
Choreography by Nadine Sauvage
Teacher Miss Chalkiotis

8. Intermediate Percussion Power
Jungle Boogie
Conducted by Mr Chris Fields
8. Senior Dance
   Wings
   Teacher Miss Brown

9. Senior Percussion Power
   Batucada
   Conducted by Mr Chris Fields

10. Music Council Awards

11. Thankyous

With special thanks to all the teachers, parents and students who came together to make this performance evening a success.
Oatley West P.S.
Performing Arts
Evening
Wednesday 26/11/14

Compares:
Lachlan Quinn
Gillian Cottier
Lara Murphy
Simone Allen
1. Acknowledgement To Country

2. Welcome and to introduce compares
   Mr Nash

3. Concert Band, Senior and Junior Choir
   National Anthem

4. Junior Choir
   Disney Medley
   Conducted by Miss Morgan

5. Training Band
   Bubblegum
   Latin Fire
   Race to the Moon
   Conducted by Chris Brasche

6. Recorder Stars
   Good King Wenceslas
   Joe Joe,
   Jingle Bells
   The Grand Old Duke of York
   Conducted by Ms Fiona McNamara

7. Intermediate Band
   Farandole
   Tomahawk
   YMCA
   Conducted by Chris Brasche
8. Senior Choir
   Jambo Bwana
   Conducted by Mr Burr

9. Concert Band
   Fanfare and Jubilee
   The Pink Panther
   Conducted by Chris Brasche

10. Music Council Awards

11. Thankyous

12. Concert Band, Senior and Junior Choir
   I Feel Good
   Happy
   Conducted by Chris Brasche, Miss Morgan and Mr Burr

With special thanks to all the teachers, parents and children who came together to make this performance evening a success.
Oatley West Public School Chess Championship 2014
Entry Form

This tournament will be held on Friday 5th December from 9:00am - 1:00pm.

To enrol, please tick the appropriate boxes below (equipment is optional):

- Workbook 1 – Cost: $22
  [Beginner / Rookie]
- Workbook 2 – Cost: $22
  [Intermediate]
- Workbooks 1&2 – Cost: $35
  [SPECIAL OFFER]
- Chess clock – Cost: $65
  [DGT Easy Gametimer]
- Chess set – Cost: $22
  [Roll-up chess board + pieces]
- NEW Advanced Book – Cost: $33
  [Exploration in Chess Beauty]

Total amount paid: $______________

The tournament will be run as a Swiss, with approximately 7 games.
This means that all children play in all the rounds and no one is knocked out.

There will be trophies awarded for the highest 3 scorers, medals presented as age prizes, as well as a perpetual trophy for the school with the name of each year’s winner engraved on it. Each child playing will also receive a participation certificate. There will also be encouragement awards, depending on the number of entries.

To enrol, please fill in this form and return it with payment to the school office by Monday 1st December. Cheques are to be made payable to Oatley West Public School.
Please place your form and payment together in a sealed envelope, with your child’s name and class written clearly on the front.

Student’s Name: ___________________________ Date of Birth: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _

Class: ___________ Parent’s Name: ___________________________

Contact Numbers: (Home) ___________ (Work) ___________ (Mobile) ___________

Email: ___________________________

Relevant medical conditions / allergies: ___________________________

Signed: ___________________________ Date: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _
Questions Parents Ask

7. I'm worried that Jane is only reading the words on the page and she does not understand what the book is about. How can I check this?

There are two ways you can understand what Jane comprehends when she reads. The first is to ask questions such as: “Tell me about this story so far...”. “Why do you think that X happened? ” “What do you think will happen next?” The second is to listen to Jane’s miscues. Miscues are deviations from the text and give you a good insight into whether or not she is reading for meaning. When Jane substitutes a word with a similar meaning to the one in the text, she is reading for meaning. The word might be “horse” and Jane reads “pony” – in this case, meaning is being maintained and she does not need to be corrected at this point. If however, the word is “horse” and Jane reads “house”, this miscue could indicate that she has lost meaning. If Jane continues to miscue and lose meaning, simply switch to echo reading, shared reading or NIM.

8. The other children in Matt’s class seem to read much better than he does. How well should he be reading at age 8?

How do we gauge “good reading”? This is a difficult question for the best researchers in reading. Does good reading have to be reading out aloud? Reading out aloud is a performance and many factors impinge upon how we sound reading aloud. Good readers can often read well silently but, feel embarrassed or anxious when reading aloud. The most natural way to read is silently. Children need lots of opportunities to snuggle up with a book. Spend time with Matt, relaxing with books. Talk about books and build a sense of confidence and encourage his desire to read the books that are of interest to him. When Matt discovers the love of books, establishing his reading age will be significant -- you won’t be able to stop him from reading.

Parents often become overly anxious and concerned that their children are “slipping behind” their peers. All children are different. Matt may have learned to talk early, or much later than his peers. He may have learned to walk before 12 months, or much later. As his parents, you accommodated such differences. You expected him to succeed – you knew that he would eventually talk and walk. When it comes to reading, parents’ expectations are often tainted with fear and anxiety. It is this fear and anxiety that often gets transferred onto the child. The child senses “there is something wrong here” and responds accordingly. The essential thing is to build on your child’s strengths. Link reading to his interests and make reading a fun family thing to do. Relax and enjoy the time you spend reading together and you will find Matt responds positively. Limit the time to 10 minutes in the first few weeks so that the anxiety is lessened and you can share the best 10 minutes of Matt’s day with a book.


9. How do I know that Kristy hasn’t just memorised the book?

10. Should I cover up the pictures? Ben seems to be just making the story up using the pictures.

The most important thing about reading is comprehension. It is the reason that we read.

June Playford
LaST
Visit the P&C Website for what's on this week.  

**Term 4, Week 8 highlights:**

**Canteen Thank You Afternoon Tea for volunteers and AGM.** Thur 4th December 3.30 pm in the Quiet Area. We need new Committee Members due to people leaving the school. All Committee positions will be declared vacant. Some positions are filled, however it would be great to see some new faces on board. Vacancies exist due to kids finishing year 6 and illness.

**Art and Craft Show Committee Positions Vacant** - many key positions need filling for 2015! Each year we lose some of our dedicated parent volunteers when their children leave the school. Can you help? Check out the positions vacant on the next page and email mark.dorawilson@gmail.com or julianne@kennardconsulting.com with your interest. Come along to the next Committee Meeting on **Thur 4th December** at 7.30pm in the multi-purpose room.

**Musical Evening** - Concert Band, Intermediate Band and Training Band will perform this **Wed 26 November** in the school hall at 7.00pm.

**Senior, Intermediate and Junior Percussion Power** will perform on **Tue 25 November** in the school hall at 7.00pm.

**Year 3 Parents Christmas get together** – Sat 29th November from 7pm at Oatley Pub. Click here for more info.

**Year 2 Mums Christmas Get Together** - Sun 7th December from 4pm at Skeeta & Jacks. Please RSVP to Liz Lomas 0403 783 805.

**Year 4 Mums Christmas Get Together** - Fri 5th December from 7.30pm at Skeeta & Jacks. Please RSVP to Liz Lomas 0403 783 805 or Julia Dimovska 0418 409516.

**OWPS Cookbook orders** The cookbooks will arrive in the last week of term and will be available for sale then. Order now ($30 each or 2 for $50) and the books will be delivered to your child’s classroom as soon as they arrive.

**Canteen volunteers** – Helpers always needed. Please contact Laronne on 0438 422 179 if you can assist.
The 2015 Oatley West Art and Craft Show is on **Friday 20 March to Sunday 22 March**.

For 35 years, people have come to enjoy the fine art, high quality jewellery and market stalls as well as the fairground rides, children's entertainment and food outlets.

Last year we raised **$48,000** for our school and that all goes back into funding resources for our kids and improvements to the school environment.

There are many key vacant positions that need filling for 2015! Thanks to many dedicated parents our Show is always a massive success. Unfortunately, we lose some of our volunteers each year when their children leave the school.

**Vacant roles – do as a group or as an individual**

**OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT** – coordinate local performers (dance schools, gymnastics groups, etc), devise a roster and organise them for the weekend. Also meet and coordinate performers on show weekend.

**RIDES** – book and coordinate the rides providers. Coordinate volunteers over the weekend and act as liaison with rides people.

**KIDS CLUB / CHILDRENS WORKSHOP** – a group of parents required to get together to brain storm, plan and run children's craft and fun activities on show weekend.

**OUTDOOR FACILITIES HIRE** – Gather the equipment and furniture hire requirements from the various coordinators of the show and consolidate into one spreadsheet. The relevant equipment is then booked in with the supplier – Walkers Party Hire. This is a fairly straight forward role.

**SPONSORSHIP** – this role is central to sourcing the funds raised each year. It involves contacting and liaising with potential sponsors and managing the relationships with them. There are a team of 3 or 4 parents willing to help in sourcing sponsors. Someone just needs to coordinate and act as the main contact.

**SILENT AUCTION** – for the first time in 2015 we're going to have an online silent auction. The goods will most likely be sourced by the sponsorship team so this role is all about getting this new online site up and running and loading all the items sourced. See [http://www.32auctions.com/](http://www.32auctions.com/)

**SHOW RAFFLE** - source raffle prizes, print tickets and coordinate sellers on the weekend for selling them.

**Like to know more?**

If you are interested in finding out more about one of these roles contact **Mark Wilson** on mark.dorawilson@gmail.com or **Julianne Kennard** on julianne@kennardconsulting.com.

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**Next meeting**

The next Art and Craft Show meeting is on **Thur 4 December** at 7.30pm in the multi-purpose room.

All welcome.