PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

IGA SHOPPER DOCKETS
One of our new Kindergarten parents has contacted me suggesting that 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 docket in. At the end of the year, IGA gives the school a dividend according to the amount spent after tallying up the shopper docket 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.

SHELTER OVER BIKE PAD
Our bike shelter between the multi-purpose room and M Block has finally come to fruition thanks partly to a donation from the Women of Oatley Bike Group (WOO) and school funds. It has been a while coming and will now provide the bikes and scooters with protection from the elements and protect riders from the sun and rain when they get to school and gear up to go home.

NEW WASHROOM FIGURES
Thanks to Carl, our General Assistant on Thursdays and Fridays, our toilet blocks now reflect the real world with the painting of universal male and female figures.

Dates for the Diary

Wed 3 Dec - Last Day for Photo Orders
Thu 4 Dec - Year 6 Excursion
Fri 5 Dec - Year 5 Excursion Cockatoo Island
   Chess Tournament 9am – 1pm
Mon 8 Dec - K -2 Academic Assembly 10.00am
Tue 9 Dec – Sports Presentation Assembly 10.00am
Wed 10 Dec – Yr 3 – 6 Academic Assembly 10am
Mon 15 Dec - K – 2 Xmas Concert 10:00am
Tues 16 Dec – K – 6 End of Year Picnic – Kurnell
Wed 17 Dec – Last Day of School for Students
This is a better solution than the chalk mark signage that told you which was boys and girls toilets in the past. These signs are common in most shopping centres and public buildings.

The Annual Mulga Road Oatley Community Christmas Celebration is on Wednesday evening the 3rd of December from 6pm
Come along for lots of family fun!

Join us for the
MULGA ROAD
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Wednesday
December 3rd from 6pm

• Fire Engine rides around the block;
• Photos with Santa;
• Face painting;
• A magician;
• Musical band with Christmas carollers;
• A dance display;
• Lots of food tastings; and
• Store discounts.

WHITE RIBBON DAY
Respect was the theme chosen for our school to commemorate White Ribbon Day this year. Each class was presented with a length of ribbon to write their message of respect and these class ribbons were joined to weave along the Oatley Park Avenue side of the school. Many thanks go to our School Chaplain Miss Benita for her organisation of this special day.
SRC SENIORS
PREFECTS AND CAPTAINS FOR 2015
I am really looking forward to working with the following elected students next year. In 2015 the SRC Seniors will still be part of the SRC as seniors, but will also be known as School Captains and Prefects for any official duties with me or when they represent the school in the wider community. Congratulations to all the candidates, first for nominating for this position and then getting this far in the voting process. Their speeches reflected maturity and a strong knowledge of leadership and how they could express this leadership in the coming year. Unfortunately not everyone can become a leader and I certainly hope the students that weren’t elected will pursue a leadership role across the school in the many and varied positions that present themselves at Oatley West Public School.
Captains:
Jamie Wappett / Luke Woosnam
Prefects:
Natasha Langley, Connor Stock, Layla Philippou, Lawson Croucher.

WE ARE A SUN SMART SCHOOL
Please ensure your child wears the school uniform hat each day to school. Oatley West Public School has a No Hat Stay in the Shade Policy.

I am pleased to announce that Ray White Oatley have signed on as our Principal Sponsor again for the 2015 Art & Craft Show. The Art & Craft Show is the main fund raising event for the year and I know organisers are looking for parents and interested community members to get involved in the show for 2015. Profits raised from the A&C Show weekend go directly back into the school. The school lists its priorities, programs and special projects that it would like to achieve throughout the year and the P&C Executive vote on the projects they can support within their financial budget for that year.
If you are new to the school, and would like to know more, please come along to the next meeting this Thursday 4 December at 7.30 in the multi-purpose room. There are many ways to have input into the show and all the ‘jobs’ do not require having to be up at the school. You may be able to assist from home.
TREE MAINTENANCE

The Arborist is in this week removing dead trees from the playground/s and cutting all the dead wood out of the canopy especially in the top (Caterpillar) playground. He will also tidy up all the yards from the fallen branches and limbs that came down during the recent storms.

I have a duty of care to maintain our bushland setting so that our environment is as safe as it can be. This means that hard decisions sometimes have to be made to maintain this safety.

Here you can see the Arborist high up in the canopy using a cherry-picker to reach the uppermost branches.

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**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Everyone suffers at least one bad betrayal in their lifetime. It’s what unites us. The trick is not to let it destroy your trust in others when that happens. Don’t let them take that from you.

Sherrilyn Kenyon

QUESTIONS PARENTS ASK

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

   Memorising the book is just part of the reading process. It may look like memorising to you but Kristy is actually modelling reading and behaving like a reader. These things need to be celebrated. Sit back and enjoy watching Kristy grow and develop in the world of literacy. Acknowledge that she is actually picking up a book and wanting to read. Many children are not interested enough to find a book. A child, who feels like a reader, looks like a reader and acts like a reader will continue to develop a love of books and master the reading process.

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

   Pictures hold vital clues to what is happening in the story. Readers need all the support they can get to understand the events of the story. Reading is not a test!!!!
Sometimes pictures complement the story; other times a different story is being told through the pictures. Either way, pictures are a story within the story. Allow Ben the time it takes to look at the pictures. Prior to reading together, spend time discussing the pictures. This is part of the book orientation and can be most beneficial in scaffolding his reading attempts.

When Ben is reading independently, he needs to know where to look for extra clues to help piece the story together. These clues are often in the pictures.

When children begin to read, they retell the story through the illustrations. When they do this, they are indicating that they know how books work. They often use the language of the books. They recall the events of the story and it is not unusual for young, developing readers to gather an enthusiastic audience of their friends.


These excerpts from Professor Kaye Lowe may have only answered some of your questions, or may even have created more questions for you to think about. As the Learning and Support Teacher, I, as well as the OWPS class teachers, are available to answer any questions you may have about children and learning.

Enjoy those ten minutes a day.

June Playford
LaST

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

SPORT MUSIC
&
DANCE

Last day to order photos is Wednesday 3rd December. All order envelopes, including online payments, must be handed into the office.

K – 2 NEWS

**K-2 Academic Assembly**
Family and friends are warmly invited to the K-2 Academic Assembly which will be held on Monday 8th December at 10:00am in our school hall. Notes will be sent home to the parents and caregivers of all students who will be receiving an award.

**K-2 Christmas Concert**
Everyone is invited to the K-2 Christmas Concert which will be held on Monday 15th December at 10:00am in our school hall. Every K-2 class will be performing a special item. The Junior Choir and Year 1 Choir will also be performing. Please stay for recess afterwards (tea, coffee and cake provided for adults). The students cannot wait to perform for you!

Sue Ross
Assistant Principal Stage 1

STAGE 3 NEWS

**Year 6 Farewell** – A note went home last week with final details of the Year 6 Farewell at Maso’s on Wednesday 10th December. The cost will be $25 and I would appreciate it if all permission notes and money could be returned to the box in my room this week please.

**Year 6 Farewell Parent Meeting** – There will be a final meeting of parents who are helping, or wish to help with the organisation of the night in my room this Thursday 4th December at 6.30pm.

**Year 6 Collage** – Year 6 students should be working on their collage to be displayed at the farewell. It can be on either A3 paper or a normal size piece of cardboard. All collages are to be placed in my room no later than next Monday 8th December please.

**Year 6 Fete** – Many thanks to Miss Ross and Miss Farah who spent many hours, along with the students, in the organising and running of the annual Year 6 fete. It was a huge success and the students are to be congratulated on the way they set up and ran their different stalls on the day. The money raised, coupled with the hot dog fundraiser, will go towards providing soccer goals for the astro turf. Thankyou also to the canteen ladies for all your help.

**Year 6 Fun Day** – Don’t forget this Thursday 4th December, Year 6 will be travelling to Cronulla for their fun day at Cronulla Cinemas. They will need to be at school at 8.15am for an 8.30am departure.
**Year 5 Excursion** - A reminder to all Year 5 students to return notes and money for Friday's excursion to Cockatoo Island. Please be at school by 7.45am as the bus will leave at 8am sharp in order to meet the ferry on time.

Anne Laurence - Acting Assistant Principal Stage 3

**CHESS TOURNAMENT**

The Chess tournament will take place this **Friday 5th December** in the school hall starting at 9am. If your child is competing, please ensure that they are at school by 8.45am so that they do not miss the start. Applications have now closed for the tournament.

Anne Laurence

**Canteen News**

Please note the Last day for Canteen in 2014 is **FRIDAY DEC 12th**

Thank you.

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**SPORTS REPORTS**

**Boys Basketball Finals 2014**

Four fantastic finals games were played last Friday at Hurstville Aquatic Centre after both our teams remained undefeated at the end of the season. The day turned out to be both emotional and exhausting for everyone.

The day began with the semi-final for the Junior team against Penshurst West. Our team scored the first win of the day **55-14**. Top scorer was Matthew with an incredible 19 points followed by William with 8 points, Aidan and Tom scored 6 points each, Oliver K and James 4 points each while Dean, Oliver V, Martin and Louis scored 2 points each.

Next up was the Senior semi-final also against Penshurst West with a nail biting win by our boys **32-31**. Top scorer was Jayden with 10 points followed by Socrates with 5 points, Daniel and Jonathon each scored 4 points, Alex 3 points, Connor and Lawrence 2 points each, Harrison and Nicholas 1 point each. This was an amazing game!

The Juniors then faced Oatley in the finals and became **Junior Premiers** with a score of **39-29**. Well done once again to Matthew who top scored with 17 points, Aidan with 8 points, William 4 points while Louis, Martin, Tom, Dean and Oliver each scored 2 points. Congratulations boys on bringing the trophy back to us for another year. Congratulations also to Matthew for receiving the MVP award from St George Basketball Association on the day. The final game of the day was the Senior Boys final against an undefeated Oatley team who were far too strong for us despite our boys’ best efforts. With a final score of 48-9 we became **Senior Runners Up** for the season. Well done to Alex, Lawrence, Jayden, Socrates and Harrison for scoring our points.

Special thanks must go to our coaches, Nikolas and Joel who were on the sidelines during every game coaching and giving encouragement to the boys. Thanks also to Anna Pazanin for scoring all games and to Gretel Bush for refereeing the weekly games throughout the season.

Don’t forget our end of season presentation today (Monday) in my room at 3.30pm. Thank you to the parents for your wonderful support during the season.

Anne Laurence
Girls Oztag

Last Friday the senior girls Oztag team travelled to Peakhurst Park where we were lucky enough to compete in the finals! The girls were undefeated the whole season! The first game was against Oatley Public School and the girls won with big smiles on their faces and a ticket through to the grand final. Our opposition was Lugarno Public School- our biggest competition. The girls played brilliantly, and once the first try was scored, and then the second we were quite ahead! By the time the final whistle blew we knew we had victory! Oatley West won the 2014 Georges River PSSA Oztag competition. Congratulations girls! I am very, very proud of you all! You played well all season, always showing our school values and doing your best.

Miss Hart

SENSORY MOVIE DAY - Maya the Bee

Sensory Movie Day is an inclusive, monthly event for families with special needs or sensory processing disorders. Children are free to roam around the cinema, flap or stim, talk and generally be themselves. This is a non-judgmental session and there is no need for families to feel uncomfortable. Lighting stays on dim (not dark) and sound is lowered. Fire exit doors are monitored by volunteers for those escape artists. This month, there will also be free balloon sculpting and temporary tattoos on offer in the foyer from 12:30pm.

For more details visit https://www.facebook.com/SensoryMovieDayCronulla

Next screening:
Maya the Bee (the movie)
1pm Sunday 7th December
Entertainment from 12:30pm
Cronulla Cinemas

All Tickets: $8 each (You will need a membership card to purchase tickets at the cinema, but these are available in the foyer on the day)
Children 2 years and under are free
Companion ID cards accepted
Any questions contact Jo at sensorymovieday.cronulla@hotmail.com

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

2nd Mortdale Scout Group, located on the corner of Gungah Bay Road and Roberts Ave. Mortdale are holding a Christmas Tree Sale on Saturday, 13th December. This is to raise much needed funds to support our cubs and scouts in their activities. We would be very appreciative if you could place the attached advertisement in your school newsletter before the 12th December.

Kind Regards
Susan Ray
Secretary – 2nd Mortdale Scout Group Parent Support Committee
Would like to invite you to the

**K-2**

**Christmas Concert**

*Date:* 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014

**Time:** 10am

**Where:** OWPS School Hall

All K-2 classes performing

+ Junior & Year 1 Choir

Please stay for recess afterwards

(tea, coffee and cake provided for parents)
TREASURE ISLAND

By the Oatley West P.S Drama Group with the Senior Dance Group and Senior Choir

Performing on Thursday December 11
6pm at Oatley West Public School

Entry by donation towards the OWPS Performing Arts Program
Visit the P&C Website for what’s on this week.

Term 4, Week 9 highlights:

Canteen Thank You Afternoon Tea for volunteers and AGM.  Thur 4 December 2.30 pm in the Quiet Area. Come along for afternoon tea before pick-up. The Committee needs a Secretary and 2 other members in order to continue.

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 4 December at 7.30pm in the multi-purpose room.

Intermediate and Training Bands will be performing at the K-2 Academic Assembly on Monday 8 December starting at 10.00am.

Concert Band will be performing at the 3-6 Academic Assembly on Wednesday 10 December starting at 10.00am.

Concert Band final 2014 performance - at the annual Oatley Combined Churches Carols in the Park on Saturday 13 December from 6.50pm. A great community event not to be missed!

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

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

Annual Mulga Road Christmas Celebration this Wed 3 December from 6pm. Please support these businesses, many of whom support our Art and Craft Show each year.

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.