**Principal, Miss Eaton’s corner**

**Thank You**

I just wanted to begin this week by saying thank you to the staff, parents and students for your support during this term. I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to relieve in the position of Principal at Oatley West Public School during Term 2.

The teaching staff at Oatley West PS is the most dedicated group of teachers. Through their support and hard work we have achieved a lot this term:

* Electronic roll marking
* New reporting system
* New Kindergarten Orientation Program
* School Promotions
* Purchase of new teaching resources
* New Communication Application
* NAPLAN
* Stage 3 Camp
* KidsMatter Launch
* Started a new Aboriginal Committee
* New Working with Children Check Policy
* Weekly Newsletters
* Improvements to School Website
* Copyright Training for ALL staff
* ESL survey collection to increase funding
* Most importantly a quality, differentiated curriculum continued to be implemented across all K-6 classrooms.

* Plus Much, Much More!!!

Teaching is one of those professions where much of the work from teachers goes unnoticed or unrecognised. Please take a moment to thank your child’s teacher this week as they have gone above and beyond to cater for the individual needs of your child. They care about your child and their learning and you will see this reflected in their report.

I hope that everyone has a restful and enjoyable break from school and enjoys the holidays.

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**Student Reports**

Student Reports will go home this Thursday 26th June. Parent/Teacher interviews will mainly be held in Week 2, Term 3, dependent upon the availability of the classroom teacher. The online booking system will become live at 4pm on Thursday 26th June.

Just a reminder that reports and parent/teacher interviews are held later this year due to the new reporting system being introduced to the school.

Next year Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held late in Term 1 on a trial basis.
Kindergarten Enrolments- 2015

If you intend on enrolling your child here in 2015 or you know of someone enrolling their child at Oatley West PS next year please ensure that they are enrol at the beginning of Term 3 so that we can formulate numbers for the ‘Stepping Stones Kindergarten Orientation Program.’

Skoolbag Application

The Skoolbag Application is ready and can be downloaded onto your Apple or Android device.

Just follow the instructions below. The staff will receive training on how to use the skoolbag application early next term and we will launch the app in Term 3. If you would like to familiarise yourself you can download it now.

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using Oatley West Public School.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using Oatley West Public School
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Chess Club Term 3

Our current Chess Club classes for Term 2 concluded today. Term 3 Chess Club will commence on Monday 21st July, 2014 (Week 2) at lunchtimes in Mrs Laurence’s room. The cost for Term 3 is $67.50. The chess club is run by the Sydney Academy of Chess who provides weekly tutoring to students at all different levels of ability in chess. The club is run on a term by term basis but some people prefer to pay for the whole year upfront. There is also the opportunity to purchase workbooks at different levels as well chess clocks and chess sets.

Forms were given out to interested students last week and there is also a form in last week’s newsletter. I will need these back no later than Thursday 17th July, 2014 (Week 1 Term 3) in order to organise tutors. Please ensure you indicate on the form the skill level of your child. Please return forms and money in one of the school payment envelopes and place in the note box at the office.

Parents who paid in advance last term need not fill out a new form as your child is already enrolled in Term 3.

Anne Laurence
**Lifeskills**

**What is Lifeskills?**

Lifeskills is a program designed to teach students about financial matters in the real world using a hands-on approach. At the beginning of the school year, students from Years 2-6 are encouraged to apply for ‘jobs’. These jobs include directors, bankers, CEOs, auctioneers, treasurers, buyers, or they can be members of a variety of other groups including gardening, candle making, jewellery making, card making and recycling. Successful applicants work one shift (one half lunch) per week and earn our school currency “Redbacks”. The bankers pay the workers through cheques and then the workers have to deposit their cheques into their own account at the Lifeskills bank (staffed by the student bankers). Students can spend their Redbacks at School Market Days or Auctions. Students in Years 1-6 can apply to run a business on Market Day and earn Redbacks this way. They have to provide and sell their own merchandise and determine how the profits are shared. Market days help develop entrepreneurial skills, creativity, teamwork, cooperation and leadership skills and of course money management. The Lifeskills bank also operates on Market Day and the student bankers exchange Australian dollars for Redbacks ($1 = 10 Redbacks). Students can also withdraw Redbacks from their account to spend. This enables students to learn the process of bank withdrawals and currency values and exchange. Students can also spend their Redbacks at auctions where they learn that they need to work for and save their Redbacks in order to successfully bid on the most prized items. An auction will be held late Term 3.

**Lifeskills Market Day**

Lifeskills Market Day will take place on Thursday 31st July beginning at 1:15pm. Students will have an early lunch before Market Day commences. Places for stalls are filling fast and business applications must be returned to Mrs Smits by Friday 18th July. Stall holders will need to make a sign for their stall, have a price list in Redbacks and a container for their takings. Tablecloths, stands, displays etc are all optional. Each business will be provided with a float on Market Day. All Kindergarten children will receive 20 Redbacks each to spend on Market Day. If they want to spend more, Australian currency can be exchanged for Redbacks at the rate of $1AUS for 10 Redbacks.

Please note that this Market Day is for the students of Oatley West Public School. Parents may need to support their child at home in the preparation and lead up to Market Day but on the day students are expected to run their own stall. This gives children the opportunity to learn many valuable financial literacy skills and there are lots of teachers available to help if the need arises. Thank you for supporting this exciting day.

Kylie Smits

**Library News**

**Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is well under way and all Oatley West students are invited to participate. There are fantastic books to read! The PRC aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure and enables them to read a wide variety of quality literature.

Permission note are still available in the Library.

Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to widen your reading choices with high quality literature!

Congratulations to Peta G who has completed the challenge already. Well done!

Mrs V Morris and Mrs R Fitzpatrick

**Sports Report**

**Boys Rugby League**

Last Friday the junior and senior boys Rugby League teams played against Connells Point Public School. The senior team played an excellent game with some fantastic defence, with the final score being 8-6 our way (even with a small downpour of rain!) The junior boys played incredibly well and managed to draw 3-3 with Connells Point. Congratulations boys! A game well played!

Christie Hart
Athletics Carnival Volunteers Needed

Thank you to all of the parents / carers who have volunteered for the athletics carnival in Term 3 - 16th July.
We still need at least 10 more parent / carer volunteers in order for the carnival to run smoothly and for the students to compete in all of the events. If you require transportation, you are welcome to come via bus with the students departing school at 8am and returning by 3:25pm (traffic permitting).
If you wish to make your own way to and from the carnival and volunteer your time, you would need to be at Bankstown Crest from 9am - 2:30pm.
If you would like to volunteer your time, please notify Miss Cross.
Thank you.
Miss Cross

Art Competition

Last Monday, we celebrated Multicultural Day and showed our support for World Vision, by holding an art competition. All classes toured different countries (classrooms) to see the different artworks. Well done to all the classes for their manners and participation! It was fabulous to hear mini art critics and see the excitement on the students faces.

After much deliberation….  
The winners are  
K-2 Mitchell L 2T  
3-6 Dylan T 5A  
Honourable mention  
Nick and Joseph 6L  

Well done on behalf of the SRC

Thank you to Miss Aravanopolous for organising

Canteen News

The Canteen will be closed on Wednesday 16 July, due to the Athletics Carnival.
Thank you.