Dates for the Diary

Tue 27 Oct – Year 2 Excursion Powerhouse
   Kinder Excursion Audley
Wed 28 Oct – Grandparents/Grandfriends Day
Thu 5 Nov – Year 1 Excursion Vaucluse House

PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

RUOK DAY
Last Monday we celebrated RUOK Day for Oatley West Public School. Something we’re never too young to learn is that asking “are you ok?” can make a difference. We want to inspire our students to ask each other about the stuff that really matters and be there for one another when life gets a bit tough or stressful. By giving our children the confidence to start conversations regularly and with real care, they can be the generation that transforms the way we look out for anyone struggling with life’s little issues. We want more young people in our school to have meaningful conversations with each other by asking the question “are you ok?” and listening without judgement to foster and support a culture of connectedness, resilience and empathy.

Our ‘Buddy Bench’, is a perfect place to have such a conversation by:
- having a dedicated place for meaningful conversations,
- providing a quiet space to talk away from the busy playground,
- encouraging everyone to take time to start conversations.

Our staff certainly joined in with the full meaning of RUOK Day. We are all very mindful of each other and I’m glad to say that this is not just a one off day for Oatley West.
KINDER ORIENTATION

It was fantastic to address over 100 parents and grandparents at the first of our Stepping Stones program (Kindergarten Orientation) last week. Our new intake of Kinders spent time in the classroom and mixed with their senior student ‘friends’ and teachers. This year we will be forming five classes to cater for the 100+ intake. Many thanks to our Uniform Shop mums who provided a store for parents to purchase school uniforms. They didn’t leave until well after 1.00pm. This year’s very capable Kindergarten students paraded on the catwalk demonstrating the summer, winter and sports uniforms.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

P&C met last Tuesday. John Sharples and Jamieson Louttit who have been co-chairing the president position have both notified me that they will no longer be able to fill this position in 2016. I would like to publicly thank both of these men for their time and effort spent supporting the school in this way (and many other ways around the school), as well as their personal support for me during my time at Oatley West. Both men will continue to be associated with the school in other areas. This leaves the position vacant for next year. The upcoming meeting of P&C will be the final one for 2016, and the AGM where all positions are declared vacant and new members elected. If you haven’t thought about becoming part of the school maybe this would be the time to come along and make a difference and assist me in driving the school plan. The school needs a strong P&C to have input into future directions and to support our staff in their day to day role working with your children. This could be a good opportunity for new parents to the school to become involved in their child’s education or for existing parents that haven’t thought about becoming involved to support the school in this way. I am always open to discuss my vision for the school or to answer questions you may have about our future plans.

PARENT ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

The Parent Online Payment system was implemented last week and the feedback from parents has been really positive. Our community has been requesting this for some time. Thanks to our new School Administration Manager, Karen Haavisto for implementing this facility as this has been one of her first priorities since beginning at our school. Thank you to the families who have utilised this new system already, we trust you have found this a simpler, safer and more time efficient way of making payments to the school.

OATLEY CALENDAR FOR 2016

The Oatley (History) Calendar for 2016 is available at the school Administration office. The calendar is full of historical photos and information. The calendar is a project of Oatley Heritage & Historical Society, Lions Australia Oatley and Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society and a good investment at $10.00 per calendar. It certainly would make a good Christmas present featuring our great suburb each month throughout 2016.
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our Value for the week is Integrity. Integrity is 'doing what you know is the right thing to do without being asked'. Everyone at our school will be looking for and practising integrity across the week.

Classes for 2016
We are currently in the process of looking at numbers and the creation of classes for 2016. We need to know if there are any students leaving or haven't yet enrolled.

If you have any other requests or things you feel we should know about, such as cousins or friends you wish your child to be with or not to be with, we would like to hear from you. Please address these to Mrs Chappell and return to the office and we will endeavour to take this into consideration when forming classes.

Neralie Chappell
Deputy Principal

Organic Diggers Report
Despite the weather last week it was a busy week in the garden patch. Diggers began removing plants going to seed and will continue to do so this week, harvesting seed as we go for use in 2016. Our beans are struggling, so we mulched around them in an effort to hold more water around the roots. Rocket was planted and slug and snail traps were installed. We are looking forward to our organic pasta day later this term, and the Working Bee on November 7th. The note for this event will be issued this week, and is attached to this Newsletter should non-Digger families wish to participate.

Happy gardening!

Mr Burr and Mrs Aekins
Boys Basketball Round 4

Last Friday we played Penshurst West at school and the games were very challenging. Juniors played very well but Penshurst West were too good and beat us 19-6. Mohamed scored 4 points and Kai 2 points.

Seniors won in a very exciting game 44-28. Harrison and Martin top scored with 8 points each, Tom scored 6 points, Aidan, Jonathon, Louis and Matthew each scored 4 points, while Connor, Alex and Julian each scored 2 points. Well done boys!

Many thanks to Gretel Bush for refereeing both games and to the many parents who came to support the boys.

This Friday we play Hurstville South here at school. - Anne Laurence

School Club

School Club would like to thank all of the parents and teachers who have supported our fundraising initiatives this year and especially all of it’s members for all of their time and energy. We would like to advise that last week School Club donated the funds for the purchase of 8 additional iPads for student use. A new AV screen for the hall will also be donated before the end of the year as soon as the appropriate screen is found. Thank you, School Club.

Training Band Recruitment for 2016

Children currently in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 are eligible to join Training Band in 2016. Recruitment will take place this term.

Band Program Information and Audition form was handed out to year 2 students at the Instrument Demonstration session last week. This information is also available on skool bag or by emailing Carmel Sharples.

If interested, please complete an Audition form and return it to the Band box in the office by Monday 2nd November.

A Parent Information night will be held on Wednesday 28th October at 7.00pm in the hall. Important information about the Band Program will be discussed.

Kindergarten Orientation Thank You – Many thanks to our parent volunteers, Natalie Hanlen, Belinda Lien, Rowena Shek, Peggy Chandler, Sarah Cummings and Megan Combe who gave up their time to assist at Kindergarten Orientation. We would not have a successful orientation without your help. A very special thank you to all the students who assisted with set up. Also, thank you to the wonderful group of Year 5 students who worked hard with pack up, we couldn’t have done it without you!

Orientation Volunteers - There are another two dates for Kindy Orientation coming up on Wednesday 4th November and Wednesday 18th November from 10am. 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

NB: Uniform shop will not be open for general sales on these days.

Summer Uniform: All students should now be wearing their summer Uniform. Uniform requirements are outlined on the School 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
Organic Diggers Working Bee- Saturday 7th November 2015

Dear Parents / Carers,

A community Working Bee will be taking place on Saturday 7th November in our school garden patch.

We will be working on removing grasses and weeds from various locations and mulching our proposed native garden site. If possible, tools and wheelbarrows brought from home will be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, we will prepare sites for new garden beds to be installed.

The day will conclude with a complimentary barbeque from 12pm-1pm.

We will begin at 10am and leave school grounds at 1pm. Due to the fact that we must comply with Duty of Care legislation, all adults attending must have a current Working with Children Check, www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check

No adults are permitted on site without a current WWCC. There is no cost involved for the WWCC for volunteer applicants.

If you intend to participate, please return the slip below to Mr Burr by Friday 6th November.

Many thanks

L Burr & S Aekins
Organic Diggers Co-ordinators

Organic Diggers Working Bee

Mr. Burr,

I / we (names) ____________________________ intend on participating in the Organic Diggers Working Bee on Saturday 7th November.

My child(ren) ____________________________ from class(es) ___.

There will be _____ children attending with us.

DUTY OF CARE

☐ I / we are already on the school system.
☐ I / we have a current Working with Children Check(s).

Clearance Number(s): #_____________________

Signed: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WISHING TO JOIN
TRAINING BAND IN 2016 (Children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2015)

Being a part of a school band is a wonderful experience for children. It not only helps them learn to play an instrument, but teaches them great teamwork, raises their confidence in performing in front of people and enhances their appreciation of a whole range of different music.

The band program at Oatley West Public School is run by Music Council, a sub-committee of the Oatley West P&C. As such, it is the parents of the children in the band program who manage the day-to-day running of the band, led by the Music Council President and Band Conductor. Parents are expected to support their child in the band by helping with the running of the band.

The band program adheres to the Music Council’s policy statement, a copy of which is available from Music Council.

Joining the Training Band

Parents need to complete an audition form (attached to this package) for their child to join Training Band. Applications close on Monday 2nd November. Please put audition forms in the Band Box in the school office.

On the audition form, please nominate up to three instruments your child would like to play, although we understand that some children may be very particular about their choice of instrument and may only want to nominate one or two – that’s fine! Auditions will be held for all children wishing to join Training Band. To maintain the sound balance of the band we only have a limited number of instruments of each type and auditions are our way of determining the suitability of children for their chosen instrument and balancing the number of each instrument in the band. As a result of the audition, some children (in consultation with their parents) may be offered an instrument that is not their first choice.

Auditions will be held in the school hall in mid November and you’ll be notified by email of the day/time of your child’s audition. Our Band Director, Mr Chris Brasche, will perform aural and rhythm tests to assess your child and match an instrument suitable for your child. Please be assured that there is no prior music learning required to join Training Band and, in fact, the ‘audition’ is really just a chance for the children to meet Mr Brasche and take a closer look at the instruments.

Shortly after auditioning, parents will be notified by email and asked to select an option for entry to the band, either:

- Purchase a new or, if available, second hand instrument from Music Council; or
- Hire of Music Council-owned instruments (restricted to certain instruments); or
- Use of student’s own instrument.

Prior to commencing, instruments will be handed out and there will be an information evening when more information about the band program will be provided.

Training Band 2016 is expected to commence in about Week 3 of Term 1, 2016.
Key dates for Training Band 2016

Wed 14th Oct  Current Training Band performs for K-2 assembly
Thurs 22nd Oct  Year 2 attend an Instrument Demonstration Session in the Hall
Wed 28th Oct  Band Information Night for parents, school hall at 7.00pm
Mon 2nd Nov  Closing date for audition forms
Week 6 & 7  Training Band auditions, 8.50am in school hall
Week 8  Letter to parents offering a place in Training Band with instrument allocation
Week 9  Final date for return of acceptance forms; final date for buying new or second hand instrument through Music Council
TBA  Training Band instrument hand out night
Week 3, 2016  Training Band rehearsals commence

Requirements for Band Members

Being a part of the band involves a number of commitments which you must consider before your child auditions.

- Currently Training Band has two rehearsals each week before school from 8.45-9.15am (arrive at 8.35am to set up and finish after pack-up at 9.25am) on Mondays and Wednesdays in the hall. For the first few weeks Training Band will be split into separate instrument sections for rehearsals. Later in Term 1, Training Band will come together and begin rehearsing as a group. **Note: Rehearsal times may change if school hours are changed.**

- Your child must have private lessons on their band instrument. A list of tutors and contact numbers will be provided. Fees for private lessons vary, but generally will be $25-$35 per half hour.

- **Band fees** are invoiced each semester (2 terms) and are currently $120 per semester. These are payable by all members of the Training Band. **Instrument fees** may also be applicable and vary according to the instrument your child plays. All fees must be paid on time – failure to pay will lead to review of your child’s inclusion in the band program.

- A Bond of $100 is payable by all parents opting to purchase an instrument by instalments from Music Council. This bond is refundable.

- All band rehearsals require **parent supervision** and a roster of parents will be drawn up to cover rehearsals. All parents are expected to assist with supervision of rehearsals.

- The following year, all children progress to the **Intermediate Band** which currently rehearses on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8.00-8.45am. Entry into **Concert Band** is by audition. Concert Band currently rehearses are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8.00-9.00am. **Note: Rehearsal times may change if school hours are changed.**

- As children progress to Intermediate and then to Concert Band, they will participate in play outs, often at locations away from school and sometimes on weekends. Being part of the band means children are expected to attend play outs, whether on weekends or at night. Parents will also be required to help with band play outs, such as transporting instruments, supervising their children or set up/ dismantle afterwards.
**Buying a New Instrument through Music Council**

The Music Council will negotiate a special deal for the bulk purchase of instruments, buying the instruments at a discount to retail pricing. Music Council will pass this pricing onto parents wishing to purchase a new, quality instrument. Payment for the instrument may be made in one lump sum up front (preferred option) or made in 4 instalments (over 2 years).

Indicative pricing is below; final pricing will be provided with your acceptance letter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Maker</th>
<th>Pricing</th>
<th>Lump sum</th>
<th>Instalments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>Yamaha YFL 221D</td>
<td>$680</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Yamaha YCL 2551D</td>
<td>$670</td>
<td>$173</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>Yamaha YTR 2330</td>
<td>$685</td>
<td>$177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td>Yamaha YSL154</td>
<td>$950</td>
<td>$243</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxophone 1</td>
<td>Yamaha YAS 280 (with high F#)</td>
<td>$1,650</td>
<td>$423</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxophone 2</td>
<td>Yamaha YAS 26 (no F# &amp; wooden case)</td>
<td>$1,310</td>
<td>$338</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxophone 3</td>
<td>Buffet 100</td>
<td>$1,199</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All prices include GST. All instruments are covered by a two-year manufacturers’ warranty.

Parents will be responsible for servicing, repairing and maintaining the instruments.

**Buying a Second Hand Instrument through Music Council**

Music Council has a number of second hand instruments for sale which may be purchased at a reduced price reflecting the age and condition of the instrument. Once again, parents will be responsible for servicing, repairing and maintaining the instruments.

Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase a new or second hand instrument (if available) through Music Council after the auditions have been completed. We will advise of any changes to this pricing.

**Percussion Instruments**

Students selected to play percussion will need to organise their own drum kit or glockenspiel or keyboard. These students may use the Music Council instruments at school for rehearsals. There are no rental fees charged for students playing percussion, glockenspiel or keyboard.

**Hire only instruments**

Other instruments in the band that are not purchased through Music Council may be hired through Music Council for the duration of your child’s involvement with band. These hire-only instruments are the larger, more expensive instruments such as euphonium (Training band and Intermediate Band) or tuba, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, and bass clarinet (Concert Band).

Rental fees per semester for hire-only instruments are:

- **Euphonium** $75

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

- Carmel Sharples  
  carmelsharples1@optusnet.com.au  
  0467 874 106
- Nicky Byfield  
  nickybyfield@gmail.com  
  0417 045 178
- Sophia Emmi  
  sophiaem@gmail.com  
  0418 220 919

Music Council
AUDITION FORM FOR OATLEY WEST TRAINING BAND 2016

Please return completed forms to the band box in the office by 2nd November 2015

Child’s Name: ___________________ Class ________ Age________

Do you already own an instrument which you could play in the band? ______________
Which instrument_________________________________

Are you learning an instrument? _______________ Which one? ______________
For how long? _______________________

Which Instrument would you prefer to play in the band?
1st choice_______________________
2nd choice_______________________
3rd choice_______________________

If you are not offered ANY of your choices would you consider accepting a different instrument? _______________

There are only a limited number of places available for each instrument type. The allocation of these will be at the discretion of the bandmaster.

Parents/Guardian please sign this section.
I give permission for my child named above to audition for the band.

Signature__________________________ Print Name __________________________

Home phone number__________________ Mobile___________________________

Email address __________________________________________________________

For Band Director’s use

Ear Test: 1 A._______ B.________ C._________
2 A._______ B.________ C._________
3 A._______ B.________ C._________
4 A._______ B.________ C._________ Total Ear _________

Singing: (If required) Intonation:_________ Rhythm:_________

Rhythm: 1 (4/4) _________ 2(4/4) ____________
3 (3/4) _________ 4 (6/8) ____________ Total Rhythm _________

TOTAL SCORE _________

RECOMMENDATION______________________________________
School Banking

Unfortunately the Commonwealth Bank has sold out of the Glow in the Dark Solar System and Planet Handball. As mentioned in Term 3 the torch was also withdrawn from the available rewards. Instead, some items from previous years are now available to order. Simply include a note with your 10 tokens on Thursday with your bank book for banking coordinators to process.

Congratulations OWPS students!

- 10 students received Bronze Certificates this week
- 11 students received Silver Certificates this week
- 6 students received Gold Certificates this week
- 18 students have qualified for the family trip to Disneyland competition
- 124 students qualified for the Term 3 competition which will be drawn in a few weeks

Oatley West School Banking program participation is growing with more than 100 students participating each week. As School Banking is run by parent volunteers not CBA staff, we need more helpers on Thursday mornings. Please contact the Coordinators at owpschoolbanking@gmail.com to volunteer your time helping in the running of this program. Various roles may include counting the money being deposited, processing deposits online, ordering rewards, writing names on certificates, delivering rewards to classrooms and assessing printed reports for consistent savers.