PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

2015 is almost over and we’ve had a very successful year here at Oatley West Public School not only academically but across all areas. Over the last two weeks we’ve celebrated two very successful performance evenings which included our junior, intermediate and concert bands, our junior and senior choirs, junior and senior dance groups, recorder group and percussion power drumming group. All their performances were fantastic! We’ve had a great Combined Scripture Assembly, Sports Presentation Assembly, Academic Assembly, K-2 Christmas Extravaganza, and Year 6 Farewell Dinner and look forward this week to the Talent Quest today, School Picnic at Kurnell on Tuesday and the Year 6 Graduation Assembly on Wednesday – it’s all happening here at Oatley West!

We continue to nurture and nourish our students and pride our education here at Oatley West Public School based on the whole child. We develop our teaching programs around the real world and live by our motto of Learning to Live and Living to Learn.

I couldn’t ask for a more dedicated staff to work with here at Oatley West and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly recognise the work of our teachers, office staff, school counsellor, general assistants and our learning support officers who all contribute to make this such a great school.

To conclude I would like to give sincere thanks to all those parents that have helped positively around the school in whatever form that may have taken, especially the parents and community members that I have worked closely with throughout the year. Without a strong commitment from the community my job would certainly be a lot harder.

And all of the effort goes into the school to support our students. Our wonderful student body make getting up each day and coming to work a pleasure. I haven’t been in a school with a more dedicated student body from the SRC seniors right down to Kindergarten. They rise to every occasion the teachers throw at them, and then ask how much more they can give. I’m astounded at the amount of people who ring or email me complimenting them about their manners and exemplary behaviour after excursions, working
with other teachers, schools and visitors to the school. It says a lot about our students and even more about the wonderful school we have here at Oatley West.

Thanks everyone for a great year.

K-2 CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Congratulations to everyone involved with our Christmas Concert this year. It was great to see so many parents and community in attendance; we filled 340 seats and still had people standing up the back and down the side aisles. Our students beamed as each class presented their item with a Christmas theme. The finale with all students on stage for Rudolph the red nose reindeer and We Wish You A Merry Christmas was just fantastic!

KS Twas the night before Christmas
KE Santa Claus is coming to town
KB Christmas on the Good Ship Feathersword
KM When Santa got stuck in the chimney
1S 12 Days of Christmas
1B I saw mummy kissing Santa Claus
1J Santa Bring Me A Dinosaur
1/2H What does the reindeer say?
2T Jingle Bell Rock
2O I want a hippopotamus for Christmas
2L I’m dreaming of a White Christmas
2R Aussie Jingle Bells

Y1 Choir
Has anybody seen Santa

Stage 1 Choir
Santa wear your shorts

YEAR 6 FARWELL DINNER

What a spectacular evening. Our seniors certainly looked very grown up young adults as they sat through dinner, speeches and eventually to the disco. It was great to see so many staff in attendance to wish them farewell from Oatley West Public School.

During my address after dinner I reminded Year 6 that they are a product of all their teachers from Kindergarten to the teachers they have this year remembering that their parents were their first teachers during the first five years of their life.

I certainly wish all of our students in Year 6 the very best for their transition to high school. They traditionally scatter to around 14 different high schools and many will have to make new friendships and form new patterns of learning as they adjust to their new school. Hopefully with today’s social media they will keep in touch with one another to share their experiences and support each other through Year 7 and beyond.

Many thanks go to Ms Farah and Ms Ross for providing a steady hand throughout 2015 and for organising such a brilliant night for their farewell.

We look forward to their Graduation ceremony on Wednesday and to the traditional line, out of the school and under the arch at the front gate.
Congratulations to Dylan Tai for this wonderful artwork depicting his thoughts about this year’s theme Imagine Peace. His words “May each day bring peace to all the nations” support the visual representation of his artwork. Dylan won the District section of the competition and was submitted for Judging at the National Level which involves overseas judging. I am pleased to announce that Dylan’s artwork has won the National competition and has been submitted as the Australian entry to the World Peace Poster Competition.

If Dylan is successful at the international competition he will be flown to America with his parents to receive an award. We keep our fingers crossed and wish him the very best of luck against the world competitors. Good luck Dylan!

Our value for the week is:

**COOPERATION**

Cooperation is working with other people in a fair and calm way!

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

To all of our students at Oatley West Public School. If Santa has a ‘good kid list’ you’ve got to be right there at the top!

I hope your Christmas is full of FUN-FUN-FUN!

Mr Nash

Lara Murphy, 5L, won the annual Christmas card competition held by Mark Coure, Member for Oatley.

Her design will be on over 500 cards he is sending out this Christmas. Here she is accepting her award.

Merry Christmas to all!
BYO iPad trial @ Oatley West PS

During Term 4, 4/5M, 5A, 5L, 6F and 6R trialled bringing their own iPad to school to use as an educational tool. As a result of the surveys conducted, it has been decided to continue this trial next year with our new Stage 3 students. All students in Years 5 and 6 2016 will be invited to bring their own iPad to school if they have one. The school has a bank of iPads that those that don’t have one can access, but these devices are shared amongst all students. More information will be sent home with students in this year’s current Year 4 and 5.

Feel free to contact Mrs Chappell for further information.

Oatley West Chess Tournament

Last Monday, Bevan from The Sydney Academy of Chess, ran a very successful Chess Championship for Oatley West students in the school hall.

There were 21 competitors and results at the end were extremely close. Congratulations to all our players on your skill and sportsmanship. Here are the prize winners from the event:

Trophy Winners

1st Place – William Q.
2nd Place – Rohan R.
3rd Place – Nicholas H.

Medal Winners

Best Stage 3 – Terry S.
Runner-Up Stage 3 – Lawson D.
Best Stage 2 – Coby L.
Best Year 2 – Luke C.
Best Year 1 – Tenzer P.

Chess Club finishes for 2015 today. We look forward to another successful year in 2016.

Anne Laurence
**Library News**

**Library Monitors**

Thank you to our Year 5 team of Library Monitors. We appreciate your assistance throughout the year. Special thanks to the group of students who gave up quite a few lunchtimes to help.

**School Magazine**

Thank you to our group of students from 4G who sorted and delivered the school magazine in their lunch hour: Sam, Leah, Lauren, Ross, Harry and Marissa.

Thank you for your help and enjoyable lunchtimes.

**Overdue Loans**

Many thanks to our students for bringing back their Library books. There are still a number of books that are yet to come back. A second overdue notice will go out today.

We are required by the auditor to account for our book stock. Please bring your books back ASAP.

Rita Fitzpatrick and Virginia Morris

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**Merry Christmas and Thanks!**

Thank you to all our wonderful Library helpers including our wonderful shelvers, busy book coverers and our generous book donors to name a few. We really appreciate everything you do for us in the Library. The pupils, teachers and our Community all benefit from your generosity.

**Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday!**

*Mrs V Morris and Mrs R Fitzpatrick*

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**Junior Football at Penshurst RSL**

Penshurst RSL are inviting interested players for registration – all enquiries to Sandy Plummer Club Registrar ph. 0432 421 173.
Our garden this week.
Hi, it’s Marissa and Lauren here. Last week we interviewed Mr Burr about his plans for the garden over Christmas. Here’s some of the information we gathered:

Q1. What are your plans for the garden over Christmas?

A1. There is an automatic watering system so I don’t have to come in every day.

Q2. Will you come in to check on the garden?

A2. Yes, I will come in to keep an eye on the watering.

Q3. Will someone else be coming in to check on the garden?

A3. Yes, Mrs Aikens will come in as she has been very enthusiastic in the garden.

Q4. Do you think the garden will be the same when everyone returns from the Christmas break?

A4. No, it’s going to grow a lot in the heat. When we come back we will think about putting our Autumn crops in the garden.

Thank you by Marissa and Lauren 😊