The School by the Park –
Great Kids, Great Teachers, Great School!

Our School Values: FAIRNESS / RESPECT / EXCELLENCE / INTEGRITY / RESPONSIBILITY / COOPERATION / CARE / PARTICIPATION

PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

ART & CRAFT SHOW
The P&C Annual Art and Craft Show is to be held next weekend commencing with the Opening Night this Friday 20 March. The Art & Craft Show has had a long history of over 30 years and is an integral part of the school community. The emphasis has been and will always be to bring the community together in the spirit of collaboration for the benefit of the school, especially its students. All funds raised go back into the school via the P&C funding. This event is the main fund-raiser by the P&C for the year. The school and its teachers provide a ‘wish list’ at the end of the year which is linked to the school management plan priorities. The funds go directly into the hands of the students or to infrastructure that will benefit the students and teachers at the school.

The ‘wish list’ is given to the P&C Executive who prioritises the list according to available funds and the expenditure is voted on at a P&C meeting.
The Art & Craft Show is a mammoth task and can only be realised by the input of parents and community members over the weekend. Many parents work in a very visible manner and much work is also done behind the scenes from home. Teachers and Staff from the school add their support throughout the weekend events. If you have not thought about putting in some time to assist over the weekend please help by contacting the organisers at the link below: acoelho@iinet.net.au or text 0416 056 018 with your name, contact number, the area you wish to volunteer, preferred date and time of shift and your child’s first name and class.

We welcomed the Hon Adrian Piccoli to our school last Wednesday. The Minister visited with our Education Director Ms Anne Ross. Mr Piccoli spoke with our Student Leaders, visited the Kindergarten classrooms and had an informal discussion with teachers and students in an open forum in the staffroom.
Mr Coure our Local Member was in attendance and joined us in a very interesting discussion about education history and the future for our students and teachers.

Our teacher representatives included a cross-section at varying stages along the continuum of employment within the Department of Education & Communities. It was also great to have Ms Laarman our exchange teacher from Denver Colorado with us who discussed some insights between the two systems of education.

P&C MEETINGS
A recent communication from Jamieson Louttit outlined the following proposed meeting dates:

2015 Proposed dates/times for P&C Meetings
- 17 March 2015 at 6.30 (Budget meeting)
- 5 May 2015 at 2.00pm
- 16 June 2015 at 6.30pm
- 11 August 2015 at 2.00pm
- 20 October 2015 at 6.30pm
- 24 November 2015 at 6.30pm (AGM)

This and other matters including discussion and acceptance of the budget will be discussed at the first meeting of P&C tomorrow night (17 March) at 6.30pm.

SAFETY AROUND THE SCHOOL
A concerned parent delegation has contacted me to help assist with a plan to ensure our community are safe from careless drivers when walking to and from school each day. After observing many near misses, reckless driving, and speeding, parking in bus stops and across driveways, and double parking, they feel it is time for some decisive action before one of our children is seriously hurt, maimed or killed. If you have any interest in joining a parent forum on this topic please leave me a note at the office so that I can pass it on and inform you when this forum is to be held. If you do not want to be a part of the group but have some ideas that you might want to put forward please leave me a note so that your ideas can be discussed.

Our very own Oatley Bear is also very concerned about the state of affairs over the drivers that use the roads around our school and will continue to talk to all our students, especially K-2 about Road Safety, and how to watch out for careless drivers when they come to school and leave the school in the afternoon. Our ‘little people’ including senior students are still in their ego-centric stage of development and need us to take care of them as they navigate their world.

Please slow down, park correctly and watch out for our precious children when driving in and around the school environs. If you live close, leave your car in the driveway and walk to and from school. This will help save some of the congestion at the busy morning and afternoon pick up and drop off times.
TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

What a great day we had last Tuesday with our school Teddy Bears Picnic. The SRC ran a great day to raise money for the Bandaged Bear Appeal with funds going to The Children's Hospital.

Everyone participated in the day bringing along their favourite teddy to share with friends and family.

It was great to see so many parents at the school to enjoy breakfast on the Astro Turf, have a sausage sizzle and a coffee from the coffee van.

What a great spot for a picnic!

Many thanks to the SRC, Staff and Teachers for their input into making the day such a great success and particularly Ms Aravanopoulos for her organisation to make the day such a wonderful community gathering.
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
An optimist is a person who sees a green light everywhere, while a pessimist sees only the red spotlight.

..... The truly wise person is colour-blind.

Albert Schweitzer (Humanitarian & Philosopher)

SCHOOL INTERVIEWS
School Interviews this year are in Term 1 – Weeks 9 and 10. Interviews can be made online commencing today at 4pm. Please see attachment for how to access.

Thank you.
Neralie Chappell – Deputy Principal

ETHICS CLASS FOR KINDERGARTEN

Kinder Ethics.

Just a reminder that if you want your child to do Ethics, notes or written permission needs to be forwarded to the office by Monday 23rd March.

Thanks
Mrs Neralie Chappell

ENVIRONMENT CLUB REPORT

The Environment club has started to meet on Mondays for the Australian Organic Schools Program.

Last week we watched a video featuring Kosta, who spoke about how important soil is to good gardening.

He also took us on a video tour of a school garden in Melbourne, and spoke about how they are using their produce.

He also discussed successful Composting and Fertilising of gardens.

Next term at Oatley West PS we will begin making our own compost so stay tuned!

This week we started working in our Garden Journals.

We went out into the garden looking for living and non-living things. We learned that many non-living things were once living....even the carpet!

The garden is almost ready to start growing produce.
We are replacing soil in 3 of the beds, mulching all 5 beds to stop weeds growing) plumbing the rainwater tank to irrigate the garden and installing new trellis’ for our running and climbing produce.

2015 is sure going to be a great year in the garden!

Garden Club Reporters
CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
Our annual Cross Country carnival will be held on April 28th, 2015 at Gannon’s Park. All students from Years 3-6, along with Year 2 students who turn 8 years old this year will participate.

As the carnival is very early in Week 2 next term, permission notes were sent out today so that they can be returned and collated before the end of this term. Bus fare cost will be $7 per student but this will not need to be paid until you receive the Term 2 fees note so please do not send money back with the note.

All notes are to be returned to 5L’s classroom where different coloured boxes will be set up for each stage (as for the swimming carnival). A medical form is attached to the permission note but this only needs to be filled in if your child’s medical needs have changed.

Please ensure that your child’s note is returned to me by Wednesday 1st April, 2015 (Week 10).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Anne Laurence- Sports Coordinator.

WHAT IS LIFESKILLS?
Lifeskills is a program designed to teach students about financial matters in the real world using a hands-on approach. Students from Years 2-6 are encouraged to apply for ‘jobs’. These jobs include director, banker, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), auctioneer, treasurer and buyer. Students can also be members of a variety of other groups including gardening, candle making, jewellery making, craft 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 in 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 as well as 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, 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. A Lifeskills Market Day and Lifeskills Auctions will be held in Term 3.

Students who wish to be CEO, Treasurer, Buyer, Auctioneer or Banker need to fill in an application form and return it to the Lifeskills box in Mrs Smits’s room by Friday 20th March. Students’ previous and current teachers will be used as references.

Students who want to work in candle making, craft, knitting, recycling, jewellery making etc. will need to listen for individual teacher announcements at school assemblies. The teachers who run these groups will appoint a director for their group.

Kylie Smits

HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day is on Saturday 21st March. Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. With the theme everyone belongs it encourages inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for all people in Australia. Oatley West Public School will be celebrating Harmony Day throughout Week 8 (16th – 20th March) with in-class activities, a poster competition and an assembly presentation. On Wednesday 18th March students are encouraged to wear an orange accessory (the Harmony Day colour) to acknowledge that everyone belongs in our school and wider community. To help your child get into the spirit of Harmony Day we encourage you to start a conversation with your child about cultural diversity and you own cultural heritage.

Mrs O’Reilly and Miss Benita.
Next Tuesday, March 24th we are very excited to host our first author visit of the year. Geoffrey McSkimming is the author of the bestselling 19 volume Cairo Jim chronicles, the Poetry book Ogre in a Toga and the new Phyllis Wong mysteries, featuring the brilliant young magician and clever sleuth, Phyllis Wong. Geoffrey McSkimming with Sue-Anne Webster will be bringing the magic from the Phyllis Wong mysteries to life in a magical performance at our school. Click on the link to Geoffrey McSkimming’s website to find out more about the author.

http://www.phylliswong.com/author

Mrs. R. Fitzpatrick
Teacher Librarian

Families are the biggest influence on a children’s mental health and play a very important role in KidsMatter.

Schools, preschools, kindergartens and day care services that have adopted KidsMatter need the support and involvement of families to make sure everyone is working towards the good mental health of children.

Bridging the gap between a child’s home life and their schooling or childcare environment is what makes KidsMatter so successful.

Friendship

At any age, having friends provides support and promotes mental health and wellbeing. Children’s friendships are also very important for their social and emotional development. Through friendships children learn how to relate with others. They develop social skills as they teach each other how to be good friends.

Most children want to have friends. Children who have friends are more likely to be self-confident and perform better academically at school than those without friends. When children have difficulty in making friends or in keeping them, it often leads to feeling lonely and unhappy with themselves. Feeling rejected by others may lead to significant distress. Learning positive friendship skills can help children socially so they feel happier and more confident.

Thank you to the parents and members of the community who visited our Kids Matter Stand at the Teddy Bears’ Picnic last Tuesday. It was a successful morning all round.

[KidsMatter. Helping children learn positive friendship skills, © Commonwealth of Australia 2008]

- The Wellbeing Team

Miss Morgan (Co-ordinator), Mr Nash, Mrs Chappell, Mrs McDonald, Miss Farah, Miss Benita, Ms Manuel, Mrs O’Reilly, Miss Aravanopoulos, Mrs Colbert, and Mrs Brown
Positive School Communities create opportunities for families, children and staff to feel included.

It is with heavy heart that I have been made aware of some issues within our school community that do not match our school ethos of a positive school community. This is also impacting children outside of the school, even to the point of parents trying to ostracise children by not letting their child play with another and asking for them to be removed from teams. I have attached a page from Kidsmatter that discusses what feeling included is all about.

Mrs Neralie Chappell
Deputy Principal
Member of the Kidsmatter Team

Impetigo
There have been confirmed reports of Impetigo at school. This is sometimes called “school sores” and is a bacterial infections of the skin. This is very easy to catch from other people. Please refer to children’s hospital website www.chw.eud.au or your doctor for further information.

Thank you
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in week 9 and 10 of Term 1.
Monday 23rd  Wednesday 25th  Monday 30th  Tuesday 31st March
Teachers have different availability, so refer to the website to see what times are available.

From Monday 16th March at 4:00pm, you can book school interviews for the times that suit your family.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

1. Enter your details
2. Select the teachers you wish to see
3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click FINISH, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelt your email address correctly.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the day before the interview.

If you cannot obtain internet access, please contact your child’s teacher directly to make alternative arrangements. Interviews are strictly **10 minutes** and only **one** time slot with the same teacher is available.

Please be considerate of others who also have interviews. If you require more time, please make an alternative appointment with the teacher.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the date of the interview, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times on the day should contact the teacher directly.
What makes a positive school community?

“Mum, Miss Collins told me to be sure you go to the school for the meeting tonight. She says it’s very important.” “You’re not in trouble, are you Omar? Teachers only ask parents to come to school when there is a problem, don’t they?” “No Mum. She says she is looking forward to meeting you.”

When Rasheeda got to the meeting it wasn’t as she had expected. Lots of other parents were there and they were talking with each other and with the teacher. It seemed quite friendly. The teacher explained what the children would be learning in school this term and then asked the parents to talk to two different people they didn’t know.

Rasheeda felt a bit shy about this. Luckily, the other parents at her table started talking to her. They asked her what school was like in her home country. “Oh, very different!” she told them. “Over there the teacher talks and the children listen. They don’t learn in groups. They start early and they go home at lunchtime.” The other parents seemed interested.

Miss Collins also spoke with her. “Rasheeda, I wonder if there’s anything more you would like to know about how Omar is going or what we are doing at school? We want to be sure you feel welcome, so if there is anything the school can do to help you or Omar settle in, please let us know.”

Positive school communities create opportunities for families, children and staff to feel included.
What feeling included is all about

Children come from an endless range of different families, backgrounds, cultures and religions. They also have a variety of interests, learning styles and abilities. Despite all of these differences, everyone should feel included and welcome within their school community.

Positive school communities create opportunities for children, families and staff to feel included. They make help and support accessible and find lots of ways to invite people to take up the support being offered. They help everyone benefit from understanding experiences and cultures that may be different to their own.

When children feel included, when they are part of a community that promotes inclusion and respect for everybody, they show more caring and compassion towards others, and they feel safer and more secure. They are also better learners and have better mental health and wellbeing. In a positive school community every face has a place, every voice is valued, and everyone has something to contribute.

School communities from around Australia chose care, compassion, respect, understanding and inclusion as important values for children to understand. These are things that children can learn about. The best learning happens when children see the adults around them putting values like these into practice. Feeling included is important for mental health, and is supported best when diversity is respected and valued.

Some ways of showing people they are welcomed and included at school

- Display information, posters, and artwork that reflect the diversity in the school community.
- Provide information in appropriate languages, verbally, where possible, as well as in written form.
- Cater to specific needs where possible (e.g., dietary needs, access needs).
- Publicly celebrate diversity (e.g., diverse families, cultures, languages and values).

How parents and carers can help

- Get to know other families, take an interest in others’ different backgrounds as well as what you have in common.
- Set up a ‘buddy’ system where families who have been at the school for a while buddy up with new families to provide welcome and support.
- Encourage children to include and appreciate others’ cultural and individual differences.

Being included and learning to include and respect others are very important for children’s social development.

Being included promotes belonging and connectedness, which are also key factors for supporting children’s mental health and wellbeing.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au
Commonwealth Bank School Banking is at Oatley West Public School!

It’s a great way to give your child a financial head start by helping them to learn about good money management and the importance of saving.

**Encouraging good saving habits and Earning fun rewards**

School Banking gives children **hands-on experience at handling money** and seeing it grow. The program helps them develop the knowledge, independence and confidence they need to manage their finances successfully as they get older. Every time your child makes a deposit through the School Banking program, **regardless of how much**, they will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once they have saved 10 tokens they can swap them for fun Dollarmites rewards.

**How does your child get involved?**

Just open a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at ANY branch. If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver / Dollarmite account, they can use this account now.

Alternatively, CBA School Banking Specialist will be at our school on the following days to take applications. For this option, you need only supply your driver’s licence.

**Wednesday 26th March 2015 at 8.45am & 2.45pm**

**Benefits to our school**

When your child completes their first deposit at school on Banking Day, our school receives $5.00 commission. A further 5% commission will be paid on all deposits made at the school. It is a great way for our school to raise funds while your child learns all the important lessons of saving money on a regular basis.

**Want to help?**

If you would like to volunteer for school banking please contact us by one of the following way:

Ph/Txt: Jess Gregory 0450 175 178
Or: Email: OWPSshoolbanking@gmail.com
Or: Fill out details at end of page and drop it to the school office.

Volunteers will work on Thursday from 9:30 to 10:30/11:00am. You can make up your roster, once, twice or any number of days a term, or even just one of. You will enjoy meeting and working with other parents. All the children and their families would greatly appreciate your contributions.

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Yes, I would like to help with School Banking!

Name: ______________________ Child’s name and class ________________
Phone: ______________________ Or Email: ____________________________
LUNCH ORDERS

On a brown paper bag, write your child’s name, class & order. Enclose money, it’s okay if you don’t have the right change, we will tape it to the bag with their lunch. If you do not have a paper bag, place your lunch order on an envelope or snaplock bag along with 10 cents and we will provide a paper bag.

Example lunch order

Tom Jones 3B

Ham sandwich $3
Juice bomb $2
Total $5

If your child has ordered a drink for lunch, we will put a stamp on their lunch bag. They can come to the canteen with their stamped lunch bag to get their drink.

Otherwise drinks are available to purchase over the counter.

Please do not order slushies/ hot chocolate on the lunch order bag. This is only an over the counter purchase.

All orders are placed into a large pencil case in their classroom by 9:30 and then taken to the canteen.

If there is ever any problems with the lunch order please tell your child to go to the canteen where we will happily help them out.

Like us on Facebook: Oatley West Public School Canteen

Phone: 9580 5048
Supervisors: Laronne Lathlean 0438 422 179
Christine Stojanovski 0421 696 123
Contact us: canteen@owps@gmail.com
Menus, rosters and updates: www.owpsparentinfo.org.au

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED AND WELCOME!

OATLEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL
CANTEEN
Summer menu Term 1 2015

MONDAY- Sushi Day

Tuna & cucumber or avocado $3.50
Tempura prawn & cucumber or avocado $3.50
Teriyaki chicken & cucumber or avocado $3.50
Salmon & cucumber or avocado $3.50

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday- Normal menu

FRIDAY- $5 Sports Pack and Normal Menu

Children can order a lunch pack or choose from the normal menu. If they are in years 3-6 and are leaving school for PSSA they can ONLY order a SPORTS PACK or sandwich, wrap or roll and pick it up before they leave for sport Please label it PSSA.

$5 MEAL DEAL- Choose one Sandwich/ wrap/ roll, one drink & one treat.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwich/ wrap/ roll</th>
<th>Drink</th>
<th>Treat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egg, lettuce &amp; mayo</td>
<td>Juice Bomb</td>
<td>Ovalteenies or sesame snaps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham, cheese &amp; tomato</td>
<td>Just juice</td>
<td>Pretzels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna, lettuce &amp; mayo</td>
<td>Sports water</td>
<td>Jummys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite or jam or cheese</td>
<td>Nippy’s milk</td>
<td>Rice Crackers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SNACKS (over the counter)
5 Cheese sticks..................................................$1
Fresh fruit..................................................$0.50c
Cookie/cupcake/slice...............................$0.50c
Jelly............................................................$0.50c
Popcorn......................................................$0.50c
Sesame Snaps.................................$1
Jumpy’s (Chicken, BBQ, Salt & Vinegar).........$1
Mamee Rice Sticks (Vegetable & Cheese)..........$1
Ovaltineies.....................................................$1

FROZEN TREATS (Over the counter)
Ice Cream cups (Vanilla)..............................$1
Frozen Jelly Sticks.................................$0.20c
Quelch Ice Blocks..................................$0.50c
Lemonade Ice Block..............................$1
Frozen Juice Cups......................................$1
Slushy (Various fruit flavours).....Full ..$2 .....Half $1

DRINKS
 Juice Bomb.................................................$2
Apple & blackcurrant/apple & Raspberry/vanilla & lime
Nippy’s Milk.............................................$2
Chocolate/Strawberry/ Honeycomb
Focus Sports Water (Lemonade/ Fruit tingle).....$2
Bottled water.............................................$1.50
Lipton Iced Tea (Peach, Raspberry & Lemon).....$2

SANDWICHES/ WRAPS/ROLLS
Chicken Breast............................................$3
Ham (from Jumbucks Oatley)..........................$3
Tuna.............................................................$3
Egg (free range)............................................$3
Cheese........................................................$3
Tomato.......................................................$2
Avocado.....................................................$2
Vegemite/Jam/honey....................................$1.50

SANDWICH ADD ONS/ EXTRAS
Toasted....................................................$0.30c
Cheese.......................................................$0.50c
Tomato.......................................................$0.30c
Avocado.....................................................$0.90c
Lettuce or carrot.........................................$0.30c
Salad (Lettuce, tomato, cucumber, carrot, capsicum)....$1
Sauce(tomato/ bbq/ sweet chilli)........................$0.30c
Mayo..........................................................$0.30c
Brown Paper Bag..........................................$0.10c

SALADS
Greek Salad (Lettuce, cucumber, cherry tomatoes, red onion, feta cheese, olives and balsamic dressing)........................................$5
Garden Salad (Tomato, lettuce, carrot, capsicum, cucumber and balsamic dressing)........................................$5
ADD ON Tuna or egg $1/Chicken or ham $1.50

HOT FOOD
Oatley Village Pies- Mince meat or Chicken & corn
Mini..............$3.20 Large.............$4.50
Ham & Cheese quiche.............................................$4
Sausage Roll.............................................$3
Chicken Breast Wedges.........(3).........$2.50
(6).........$5
Chicken Burger....(Chicken patty, lettuce & Mayo)....$4.50
Cheese Burger(Beef patty, cheese & tomato sauce),$4.50
Fish Burger (Fish Patty, lettuce & Mayo) ...............$4.50

*Please note the nuggets have changed. The new wedges are larger and a better product, your children will love these even more*
Dear Oatley west Public School families,

The canteen receives hundreds of lunch orders each day and we’d love to fill all those orders with the support of volunteers from our school community. In order for our wonderful canteen to stay open everyday, offering the fresh food and variety that your children are used to, we need your help.

We understand that families these days are busier than ever but we urge you to consider volunteering. Even if you could spare one hour, this can make a huge difference and the look on your children’s faces when they see you is priceless.

Laronne and Christine would love to see some new faces in the canteen along with all our existing volunteers. Please help us by volunteering some of your time, it really is a lot of fun and lunch is on us. It is a great opportunity not only to see how our canteen operates, the types of items we sell but to meet some other parents too.

If you have volunteered in the past we still need you to return this form with your availabilities.

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER IN 2015

MONDAY  TUESDAY  WEDNESDAY  THURSDAY  FRIDAY

Weekly      Fortnightly      Monthly     Once a term     Other_______________

Morning: 10-12 Afternoon: 12-2 All day: 10-2

Name:_________________________________________ Phone no:____________________

Childs name:___________________________________Class:____________

Drop this in to us at the canteen or into the canteen letterbox in the office.