Another very successful (35th) show behind us. The dedication of our parent body, community and teachers all combine to make this such a successful event each year. The weather held, with a cool breeze on Saturday to help keep the heat down and everyone comfortable.

All amusements seemed to have lots of riders with big smiles full of enjoyment and happiness.

It was great to see so many faces from the school and students and parents from previous years. I enjoyed speaking with one of the visitors who attended Oatley West back in the early 1950s. We are working to digitise our history records and her photo albums and needlework samples from early school days will be great to add to the collection. If you know of anyone that went to school at Oatley...
West and would allow us to digitise their photos and memorabilia please ask them to contact me at school.
Although a bit overcast on Sunday and with a little shower, people still attended and enjoyed the proceedings. Both the Art Café and BBQ tent were extremely busy during lunch time. It was great to catch up with so many of our ex-students that attended over the weekend. Thanks to our local community for their support and to everyone that helped to make the Art & Craft Show such a success this year and hopefully we can look forward to another 35 years. What a great school community event.
FUTURES FORUM (Think Tank)
Our children, Our Community, Our Future.

I have spoken to a few parents individually over the weekend about the prospect of holding a parent forum to discuss education at Oatley West Public School over the next few years. As you know we are in the midst of planning for the school both long and short term, and would like to have some community views. Considering our current Kindergarten students finish Year 6 in 2022 and high school 2029, possible university in 2033 it is very difficult to predict what skills will be needed for them to take their place in society anywhere along this continuum. I would appreciate input from our parents and community, especially those working in industries that are also looking at the calibre of people they will be recruiting for their businesses in the future. I would imagine all industry would be grappling with what type of workforce will be needed in their industry in and around 2030.

If you would like to be part of the discussion please drop me a line at school. I would like to hold the forum (and perhaps continuing discussions) commencing in the first week of next term so if you could register you interest with me by the end of this week, I can arrange some dates that would suit for our meeting. When you contact me if you could put your name, child/children’s class and preferable day and time I will work out a meeting time that would suit everyone.

I look forward to hearing from you.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
If you can dream, you can believe. If you can believe you can do it, you can - then the world is waiting for you!

Hannah (Student 5A)

LIBRARY NEWS

Library News: Author Visit
Due to circumstances beyond our control, there has been a change to our author visit on Tuesday. Years 3 – 6 will be seeing the author Geoffey McSkimming and K-2 will be seeing the author Belinda Landsberry. Belinda is the author of ANZAC Ted. This is a story about the Anzac spirit and how, through courage, loyalty and love, a child’s teddy bear helped to bring our soldiers home. For more information about the book, have a look at the website. http://anzacted.com/

Many thanks to Paul MacDonald from the Children’s Book Shop in Beecroft for assisting with our author visits.
CHESS CLUB
Chess coaching for students at Oatley West Public School is held on Tuesdays from 1:20pm – 2:10pm in Mrs Laurence’s classroom. Term 2 lessons will commence on 27th April, 2015 (Week 2) and Kindergarten students are eligible to participate. The cost for Term 2 is $60.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, there is an enrolment form in this newsletter or you can collect one from Mrs Laurence at school. Forms will also be distributed to interested students this week. All forms and money need to be returned to the box in Mrs Laurence’s room no later than Thursday, 23rd April, 2015 (Term 2 Week 1).

For any enquiries, please see Mrs Laurence or contact Sydney Academy of Chess on 97451170.

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL – PERMISSION NOTES
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 last week 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). Many thanks to all those parents who have already returned notes.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Anne Laurence - Sports Coordinator.

SPORT REPORT
GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUND 5
Our girls played two excellent games against Peakhurst South here at school last Friday.

The Juniors won with a whopping 60-0 result. Top scorer was Lauren with an amazing 32 points, followed by Chantelle with 10 points, Marissa and Emma scored 6 points each, Kate scored 4 points and Leah 2 points.

The Seniors had a harder game but managed to win 30-16. Top scorer was Vicki with 10 points, Paris scored 8 points, Antonia scored 6 points, Maya 4 points and Hannah 2 points.

PLEASE NOTE- This Friday we will travel to Penshurst West Public School for our game. There will also be no training next week (Week 10) due to the Easter break.

Thanks once again to Gretel Bush for refereeing the games.

Anne Laurence
SYDNEY EAST PSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Sydney East PSSA Swimming Carnival was held last Wednesday 18th March at Homebush Swimming Centre. Congratulations to all the Oatley West Public School competitors who represented the Georges River District at this carnival.

One of our students, Vicki L, was selected to represent the Sydney East Region at the NSW PSSA Swimming carnival to be held this week. Congratulations and good luck Vicki!

Anne Laurence - Sports Coordinator

THANK YOU - Values Seeker Sashes

A big THANK YOU to Penny Sotiropoulos for all your hard work repairing the Year 6 Values Seekers Sashes.

The sashes were looking very old and tired, but now they look fabulous!! The Values Seeker Program is a very important role for the students in Year 6 and now they are taking more pride in their responsibilities each week with the revamped sashes. Thanks again Penny!

Annalise Farah

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

School Club

Dear Parents,
Due to the Art & Craft show this past weekend School Club have decided to postpone this Wednesday’s cake day for 1 week to give everyone a break from baking, also as most members of School Club were also Art & Craft Show Co-ordinators we all need a break too. 2O & 6F parents please note your cake day contributions will be welcomed and appreciated on Wednesday the 1st of April. Thank you for your understanding.

Uniform Shop

Acting Manager – Sia Coelho
E-mail: scoelho@iinet.net.au

The Uniform Shop is open every Thursday from 9-10am outside the KB classroom in C Block.

Kindy Parents: Please consider placing an order for the winter uniform in advance, which can be done by placing a completed order form* in the Uniform Shop box in the School Office. Stock will be progressively arriving over the next few weeks and orders can be filled as it arrives. You may not
receive your order immediately however advance orders will ensure sufficient stock is ordered.

**NB:** Winter stock is not yet available for sale “over the counter” at the Uniform Shop.

**Winter Uniform:** Winter Uniform is to be worn Monday to Thursday beginning the day after Mother’s Day. The winter uniform consists of the following:

**Girls** - Winter Tunic worn with long sleeve blue polo (with school logo), grey tights, black shoes, zip jacket and school hat. Charcoal Bootleg pants with the long sleeve blue polo shirt are also available as an alternative to the tunic however traditionally the children in years K-2 wear the tunic. Blue socks and black shoes are to be worn with the bootleg pants.

**Boys** - Boys Gaberdine pants with long sleeve blue polo shirt (with school logo), grey striped school socks, black shoes, zip jacket and school hat.

**Sport** - Gold polo shirt (with school logo) and black bike pants with red and gold side stripes (for girls)/ black shorts with red and gold stripes (for boys). Sport socks, joggers, zip jacket (as required) and school hat. If, however your child feels the cold, they are permitted to wear black tracksuit pants with their gold polo shirt. The Sports Uniform is worn every Friday.

**Hats** - All children must wear a school hat. Caps are not part of the School Uniform. Oatley West follows guidelines set by the Department of Education in respect to Safe Sun practices. If your child does not wear a hat, they will be instructed to go to a shaded area.

**Shoes** - Boys and Girls are to wear black shoes Monday to Thursday. Joggers are to be worn for sport on Friday.

All uniform requirements are outlined in the School Website and P & C Website.

**Uniform Orders:** If you are unable to get to the Uniform Shop on Thursday or do not wish to wait in a sometimes very long line, an order form can be completed and dropped in to the school office. Please note the **preferred payment method for orders is by Credit Card or Cheque** as we cannot be held accountable for lost cash/orders. All orders will be delivered to your child’s classroom on Thursday when the shop is open.

**Scholastic Bookclub**

Orders and payment for Scholastic Bookclub are now **ONLY** to be made online using the scholastic LOOP facility. Paper order forms will no longer be accepted. Please note Oatley West has been set up under two names:

**Years K – 2** Oatley West Infants School  
**Years 3 - 6** Oatley West Public School

To ensure you receive your order correctly please make the correct selection. All you need to do is go to the below link and follow the prompts.


Simply order and pay online and your child’s book(s) will be delivered to them once received by our coordinators.
Hi our names are Lauren and Chantelle. We are proud members of the Green Gazette. On Monday we interviewed our gardening expert, as well as club teacher, Mr Burr. We learnt a lot about the garden from the interview. Here are the Questions we asked him, and the answers we received:

Q1. When did you first plant the seeds for this year?

A1. We haven’t planted yet. We will need the soil removed from 3 of the garden beds. The beds have a weed infestation of tubers. We will start planting the Autumn crops at the beginning of Term 2.

Q2. How long have you been running the gardening club for?

A2. I started running the club in about 2013 when there was no teacher running it.

Q3. Do you use little animals/insects/worms to help your garden? If so, what are they and how do they help?

A3. In Term 2 we will start the worm farm again and we have brought compost bins to use. This will all happen in Term 2.

Q4. What type of veggies do you grow?

A4. We grow tomatoes, capsicums, eggplant, basil, rocket, cumbers, passionfruit and radishes

Q5. Why did you start the Gardening Club?

A5. I am interested in sustainability and kids, especially at this school, are too.

Q6. What pests do you get and how do you get them away?

A6. Stinkbugs and Curlgrubs. We only use organic methods to get rid of them

Q7. Are the gardening club committed to their job?

A7. Yes 100%. We are working on raising the garden profile by telling people what’s going on.

Q8. What do you use to keep birds away?

A8. We haven’t had too many problems if we did we would use a net.

Q9. Do you fertilize your plants?

A9. We are making our own compost to use

Q10. Do you use chemicals to get rid of weeds?

A10. No, not a single ounce of chemicals. Everything is organic and we are making it a no dig garden

By Lauren and Chantelle
Why Chess?

- Create Brighter Thinkers
- Improve Student Focus
- Achieve Academic Success

**Educational Benefits of Chess:**

- Improves concentration and focus
- Develops logical thinking and problem solving skills
- Enhances memory
- Encourages creative and lateral thinking
- Promotes discipline
- Accelerates emotional development
- Expands visualisation and spatial awareness
- Demonstrates actions and consequences
- Rewards correct decision making
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides opportunities to make new friends from diverse backgrounds

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**Oatley West Public School Chess Classes, 2015**

[**Mondays 1:20PM - 2:10PM in Mrs Laurence’s classroom**]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Cost:</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>27th Apr - 22nd Jun*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>$67.50</td>
<td>20th Jul - 14th Sep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>$67.50</td>
<td>12th Oct - 7th Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No chess on 8th Jun (Public Holiday)*

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**TO ENROL:**

Please collect a form from Mrs Laurence.

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Sydney Academy of Chess Pty Ltd
Sydney Chess Centre, Level 1, 30A George Street Burwood, NSW
P: 9745 1170 F: 9745 1176 PO Box 1325, Burwood, NSW 1805
E: info@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au W: sydneyacademyofchess.com.au
Oatley West Public School Chess Classes – 2015

Classes will take place on Mondays from 1:20PM – 2:10PM in Mrs Laurence’s classroom.

To enrol, please tick the appropriate boxes below:

**OPTIONAL EXTRAS**

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>$22</td>
<td>[Beginner / Rookie]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workbook 2</td>
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<td>Workbooks 1&amp;2</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>[SPECIAL OFFER]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chess clock</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>[DGT Easy Gametimer]</td>
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<td>Chess set</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td>[Roll-up chess board + pieces]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Book</td>
<td>$33</td>
<td>[Exploration in Chess Beauty]</td>
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(workbooks and chess extras must be purchased separately)

(Cheques are to be made payable to Oatley West Public School.)

If your payment is not received by the day of the first lesson, your child cannot take part in the class. There will be no refunds for students who miss classes during the term.

**Total amount paid: $________________**

**Grading of Students**

To give our chess coach an idea of the skill level of the group, please indicate your child’s approximate playing ability in the boxes below. If numbers are sufficient, students will be divided into groups according to their level. If you are unsure, here is a brief explanation of each level.

**Beginner**: Children who can’t play or only know a few of the rules of chess

**Rookie**: Children who know the rules of chess, movements, special rules, check, checkmate, stalemate and can play a game of chess

**Intermediate**: Children who understand opening principles, how to finish off the game, positional elements and tactics, and compete in tournaments.

☐ Beginner Level     ☐ Rookie Level     ☐ Intermediate Level

If you are interested in your child taking part in this activity, please fill in this form and return it to the school office, along with payment for the appropriate term. Please ensure that you place the permission slip and payment inside a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class clearly written on the front.

**Student’s Name: ______________________________ Date of Birth: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _**

**Class: __________ Parent’s Name: ______________________________**

**Contact Numbers: (Home) ____________ (Work) ____________ (Mobile) ____________**

**Email: ______________________________**

**Relevant medical conditions / allergies: __________________________________________________**

**Signed: _____________________________________________ Date: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _**