I was very pleased to see so many parents present at the Cyber Lady presentation last Tuesday evening. There were approximately 95 parents and including teachers around 100 people for this very informative talk. I have had many parents thank me for the opportunity to hear about this information and request that a similar session be presented to our students.

One query has been raised about the issuing of email accounts by the Department of Education and Community for all NSW school students. This has been the practice for over 29 years. I remember the introduction of an email service called FredMail to students when I was at Revesby Public School back in 1986. Email accounts have commonly been acknowledged by the parent ticking a box on the enrolment form when the child entered Kindergarten. The parent query has prompted me to investigate our practice here at OWPS. It seems between departmental changes of enrolment forms that there was a period when the acknowledgement of parents was not included on a new form. It has since been reinstated on a new form. During this period a note was sent home for parents to sign, similar to the covering note to walk to Oatley Park Oval and Permission to Publish note. This note was used for our office staff to record on the electronic enrolment form on the department’s system.

I will be sending home a Personal information and declaration of accuracy form as an update today to ensure that all our information is current and correct. This form is Page 13 of the most current department enrolment form.

Please note that the email account your child is issued with by the department is filtered by Mail Marshall and monitored when in use both at school and outside of school as the emails are directly linked via the department servers.
A copy of all emails sent and received by students is kept by the DEC.

Department syllabi have the use of email as a form of composing (writing) included. This has been strengthened as we implement the New National Syllabus especially in the English area.

Students without your consent to use online services will not be able to access the department servers and therefore will be unable to complete programs that involve research and other curriculum areas. This is why I am so keen on us becoming an eSafety school so that our children can negotiate this platform, and social media as experts, aware of what they are doing and how to get the best experience out of their learning. Please return the form to school as soon as possible.

**St George Performing Arts Festival (SPAF)**

Junior and Senior Choir teachers met last week to rehearse with the music and lyrics for choirs to commence towards the upcoming festival. The songs chosen are challenging but the music will definitely be well received by the choir students. Ms Koutradimos will be heading up Stage 2 Choral Concert. Ms Morgan and Ms O’Reilly will be training Stage 3 Choral Concert this year. This year SPAF have introduced a S1 Choir (Y2) to perform as an item on the Wednesday night performance. Ms Manuel will be training this choir. This will give many more children a chance to perform and allow for the middle and senior choirs to attempt more difficult part and harmony music. This year we will have two dance groups a Junior Girls and Senior Girls group working with Mrs Meyers.

We are looking forward to a great festival again this year at Hurstville.

Many thanks to all our families for the prompt payment of the term one fees notice. Sports fees will be arriving soon and prompt payment of these will be appreciated as well. As with the term note if you have more than one child with sports fees one payment envelope is acceptable.

Please note:
Office hours are from 8.15 to 3.25 daily.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

*Change your attitude*

Each day may not be a good one, but there’s something good in every day. The difference is usually our attitude.

Look for the positive. You’ll find that the positives will shine through. They will act as signposts to navigate through the dark times.

From Now Is the Time (170 ways to seize the moment)

Patrick Lindsay

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.
Anzac Day Re-enactment Show

This Thursday all students in Years 2 – 6 who have paid for the ANZAC incursion will experience this great show in the hall from 11:30am – 1pm. The re-enactment show was planned to commemorate the Gallipoli Centenary. The ANZAC story event involves special lighting, fogs, explosions and special effects and is only appropriate for students in Years 2 -6. Please ensure you have paid for this wonderful show before Thursday.

Mrs. Smits

Ethics Class for Kindergarten
Ethics class for Kindergarten will commence in Term 2. Non-scripture students will receive a letter asking if you wish to choose a religious instruction or ethics class. All changes need to be in writing or return the permission slip by Monday 23 March to the office.

Thank you.

Mrs Neralie Chappell – Deputy Principal

Teddy Bear’s Picnic
REMINDER: The Oatley West Public School Teddy Bear’s Picnic is TOMORROW.

Hosted by the SRC to celebrate coming back to school and to raise money for Bandage Bear Day.

Bring a picnic blanket and breakfast to eat on the astroturf. Students will receive their sausage sizzle token (purple voucher) at school today. Coffee and merchandise will be available to purchase. Merchandise prices range between $2-$5 and all proceeds raised go to the Sydney Children’s Hospital.

Parents, friends, grandparents and especially teddy bears are all welcome!

Come down for a relaxing morning to get to know the Oatley West community!

Wellbeing
At the Teddy Bear’s Picnic the Wellbeing (KidsMatter) Team will be holding a stall. Come and say hello and find out more about what the wellbeing team does at Oatley West PS. Some free mental health brochures will also be available - get them while they’re hot!

KidsMatter have great resources to support Parents and communities. http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families

They also have a Facebook page you can like and follow. https://www.facebook.com/KidsMatterForFamilies

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 Walker

Clean Up Australia Day 2015

As Mr Nash stated last week, a hardy group braved the elements on Sunday, 1st February, to be part of the 25th anniversary of Clean-Up Australia Day.

We started off in 35⁰ heat and finished in pouring rain. This did not deter us from cleaning up around the outskirts of our school. We realised the rubbish in the playground is swept out through our fences. Hopefully, we prevented a lot of rubbish going down drains and being deposited in Lime Kiln Bay.

I thank the Putra family, the Malone family, the York family, the Han family and Ms Hart.

Keep on the alert for anything you can do for the environment to make it a more enjoyable space.

Ms J. Knott

Year 6 Shirts
Thank you to all parents for their prompt payment for the Year 6 Shirt. We will place the order this week in order to get them as soon as possible.

Thanks again, Miss Ross.
Sport Reports

Girls Basketball Round 3

Last Friday our girls played Lugarno here at school. Both teams put up great defense and we won one and lost one!

Juniors won 13-6 with Lauren top scoring with 8 points, Marissa and Chantelle 2 points each and Kate 1 point.

Seniors lost 39-14 with top scorers Maya and Vicki each with 4 points, Jenica, Eliza and Paris scored 2 points each.

This Friday we have a bye.

Many thanks to Gretel Bush who refereed the games and to the parents who came along to support the girls.

Anne Laurence

Boys PSSA T-ball and Softball

The boys T-ball and Softball teams have had a great start to the season. The powerful hitting by Scott and Cameron, combined with the star fielding of Luke and Lachlan has allowed the juniors to remain undefeated in their first three games.

Unfortunately, the seniors are yet to win a game. However, the classic catches by cricketer Blake, the bullet fast pitching of Alexander and the indestructible fielding of Eric at first base has helped the team to develop their confidence and improve each game.

Many thanks to all the supporters who come to cheer the boys on and a massive thank you to super coach Narelle who has helped train these superstars.

Miss Ross

Garden Club

After a massive response to Garden Club, the ballot for membership was finally drawn on the weekend. There were over 60 applications for only 30 positions! The list of children who secured a place is up on the noticeboard outside 3W and 4K classrooms. A second intake will occur in semester 2. Thanks to all students who applied for membership.

Mr Burr
Garden Club Co-ordinator

Community News

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.

School Club

School Club would like to acknowledge and thank all past and present members and volunteers. In the last few years dedicated volunteers have undertaken fundraising initiatives like cake days, Mother & Father day stalls, walk-a-thons, step-a-thons, math-a-thons, Tea towels and the School Cookbook (to name just a few). When you support School Club Fundraising initiatives the money goes back to the school and to your children.

In the past School Club funds have been used for supporting Kindergarten Orientation, providing the kids Ice Blocks for the end of year picnic, purchasing the Class Awards, providing contact to the library for covering books, purchasing the Sports Ribbons, Support of the Multi-lit program, a contribution towards the Year 6 Farewell, and most recently ALL the artwork on the ground throughout the school. School Club also gives each class teacher funds to buy stickers and in previous years purchased the books your children bring home as their home readers.

We thank you for your continued support of School Club initiatives and welcome any parents to join or volunteer at any of the school club events. We meet on Cake Days either at school or a local café.

Kind Regards,
Jacqui Short
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 shirt (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.
You are invited to
The Oatley West Public School

Teddy Bear’s Picnic

Tuesday, 10th March 2015
8.00-9.15am

Hosted by the SRC to celebrate coming back to school and to raise money for Bandage Bear Day. Bring a picnic blanket and breakfast to eat on the astroturf. Coffee will be available for purchase. Sausage sizzle orders have closed. Students will receive a purple voucher today for sausage sizzle stand.

Clip-on Bandage bears ($5), pens ($3) and pins ($2) will all be available. All proceeds go towards Sydney Children’s Hospital. Parents, friends, grandparents and especially teddy bears are all welcome!

Come down for a relaxing morning to get to know the Oatley West community!
FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier and happier!

Do you have children 7 to 13 years old?
The Go4Fun Program is an established healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self esteem and confidence in children above their ideal weight.

What happens in the Go4Fun Program?
The program runs over one school term (10 weeks). Sessions include games and activities for kids, demonstrations and tips on healthy foods, supermarket tour, swimming, Zumba and rewards for all eligible participants.

How can I join the program?
To register for the program phone 9382 8641 or visit www.go4fun.com.au
Linda Trotter (local Go4Fun Coordinator)
Starting Term 2, 2015 at Rockdale PCYC on Wednesday 22nd April 4:00pm – 6:00pm
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: OWPSchoolbanking@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: ________________________________
Date: 7th til 10th April  
Time: 9:30am - 12 noon  
Age group: Kinder to Year 6  
Venue: Mortdale-Oatley Baptist Church.  
1-5 Woronora Parade Oatley  
Cost: Free

This Easter MOBC presents:  
Holiday Bible Club:  

Around the World in 4 Days

Please fill out a separate registration for each child.  

Child’s Name: ...........................................................................................................  
Date of Birth: ........../........../.........  Male/Female (please circle)  
Current School: .........................................  Current School Year:.......  
Home Address: ........................................................................................................  
Mother/Father Names: ........................................../...................................  
Daytime Contact No: ..................................................................................................  
Email: .......................................................................................................................  

Health Details  
Allergies: ...........................................................................................................  
Dietary Restrictions: ...............................................................................................  
Other Medical Conditions/Medications: ..............................................................  

EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON  
(other than parents—however we would attempt to contact parents first)  
Name: ...................................................................................................................  
Contact No: ............................................................................................................  

My child will be attending on the following days:  
Please circle the appropriate day(s)  
Tues Wed Thurs Fri

Signed: .......................................................... (Parent/Guardian)  

Your child may be photographed at Holiday Bible Club. Please indicate if you would not like your child’s photograph to be taken.