ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS
A tribute to the 100 year centenary of the landing at Gallipoli in WW1 was held at school last Wednesday. Amidst the heavy rain, thunder and lightning, all classes made their way to the hall for a moving ceremony conducted by the Captains and Prefects. We were privileged to have Mr. Daryl Cox, Mr Bruce Wilkinson and Mr Barry Wilkinson at our ceremony to conduct the Catafalque Party as a symbolic sign of respect for those who have fallen. The latter Mr. Wilkinson is the Grandfather of Erin in Y2. We appreciate these three men who drove from Newcastle and the Central Coast through last week’s storms to be with us. Hopefully we can have them back again next year.

PRINCIPAL NASH’S CORNER

They shall grow not old
As we that are left grow old
Aye shall not weary them
Not the years condemn
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning
We will remember them
Lest we forget
Following the service each class SRC Representative placed a rose on the cross of the Unknown Soldier in remembrance. We usually do this at the lone pine memorial in Oatley Park but due to the weather we had to remain indoors in the hall. Nevertheless, this part of the ceremony still maintained its high sense of dignity and observance of solemnness. The roses and cross will remain in the foyer for the next week as an observance of the 100 years commemorations.

On Sunday our Junior Choir joined in the celebrations at the concert conducted by the combined sub-branches of the local RSL. It was great to hear all of our local schools perform but especially Oatley West students performing Waltzing Matilda, Tipperary and I Am Australian which will form a special bracket as a tribute to the WW1 centenary at the upcoming St George Music Festival. I am a bit biased but the choir performed beautifully and they all made me a very proud principal. Unfortunately the last three or so performances were washed out due to the large storm that passed by late in the afternoon.

Many thanks to all of our parents, students and teachers that were present at the service and concert. Thanks to Ms Morgan and Ms O’Reilly for their input into the Junior Choir this year and for organising the Anzac Day performance.
STORMY WEATHER

We returned to some really rough weather last week and hopefully all will clear this week after the storm on Sunday. We were very lucky considering the force of the rain and strength of the wind and the amount of trees we have in the playground. We did have a rather large tree come down just scraping the side of C Block and a large tree down in the Caterpillar playground.

Both Kindergarten classes were kept out of these rooms until Friday until we were sure that the high winds had gone and that no further damage was to occur. Hopefully the debris should be cleared up some time this week. The department has a huge backlog and completing jobs in order of urgency. I will monitor our trees closely as the weather clears.

Just a reminder that I am still asking for any photos or memorabilia of the school. I have had two family albums offered for scanning so that we can continue collecting and collating school archives.
Dear Parents,

Growth potential is in every individual, but each child develops in his own unique way. He brings to his first educational experience his individual background, needs, capacities and interests.

The kindergarten year emphasizes educational experiences that promote group living and develop individual potentials – experiences that will result in more effective, more satisfying and more responsible living.

In the Infants' Department assessment is made not by comparison with others but in relation to each pupil's own ability and previous progress. Therefore herit's scale relates to each child's progress as an individual rather than his position in class.

J. Nyles, Mistress.

Mandarin Stars Language Club at Oatley West Public School! From 21st Apr to 23rd June (inclusive) Tuesday after school as follows:

3.30pm to 4.30pm: Kindergarten to Year 2
4.30pm to 5.30pm: Year 3 to Year 6

$17/one-hour Class

Re-enrol for Term 2 or book a FREE TRIAL lesson for your child at iris@mandarinstars.com.au
For more details about Mandarin Stars, their programs and teachers, please visit www.mandarinstars.com.au

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Sometimes people try to expose what's wrong with you, because they can't handle what's right about you.

Paul Nash

Our Children, Our Community, Our Future.
SPORTS REPORT

Cross Country Carnival

Our annual Cross Country carnival will be held tomorrow, 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.

Transport to and from the park will be by bus. Students are required to be at school no later than 8.45am for a 9:00 am departure. Buses will return to school by approximately lunchtime.

All students are expected to wear school sports uniform, rubber soled footwear suitable for running, bring plenty of water, recess, sun cream and a hat. A rug/mat to sit on would also be beneficial. Children who need puffers or have medical requirements must bring these supplies with them to the park.

Anne Laurence - Sports Coordinator

Super Rugby Waratahs v Sharks

Our school has been selected to participate in a school march on the field at Allianz Stadium before a Super Rugby match on Saturday 16th May. Students from the school rugby league teams will have the opportunity to represent and promote our school and our involvement in sport.

Please ensure permission notes are returned by the end of this week. If you do not wish to participate in this, could you please inform Miss Ross as soon as possible.

Thank you
Miss Ross

Brad MacKay and Lance Thompson Rugby League Gala Day

Thank you for all the cooperation in the cancellation of the rugby league gala day and training days. The competition has been rescheduled for Monday 25th May (Week 6).

A new permission note will be distributed this week. A reminder that students must have a mouthguard in order to play in the competition

Thank you
Miss Ross

Year 6 Shirts

I have been in contact with the company organising the year 6 shirts. They are expected to arrive around mid May. Therefore, there are only a couple more weeks of trying to fit into those outgrown shirts! Thank you for your cooperation.

Miss Ross

Environment Club News

ENVIRONMENT CLUB UPDATE

During the wild weather last week we were unable to meet on Monday. Thursday and Friday saw Environment Club members working hard, removing debris from the garden, re-mulching spots that had been washed away and planting new Autumn Crops that had been germinated during the holidays. The Australian Organic Schools program will resume this week. Cross your fingers for sunny days!

Mr Burr

Library News

Parent Helpers Needed in the Library!

Mrs Morris would love some help shelving the Library books and Resources on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

20 minutes of your time is all that’s needed. From 3.30pm until 3.50pm!
This would be a wonderful help for our School Library and an opportunity for you to learn about our collection. Please feel welcome to bring younger members of your family along as well as your school aged children. There are plenty of activities to keep them busy while we shelve!

A Working with Children Check approval number is needed and a sign on book will be in the Library.

Please pop in and see me on a Wednesday or Friday or send in a note with your children, with your name and Working with Children’s number or just turn up on the first session.

Shelving sessions will begin Week 3 on Wednesday 6th May

Thanks Mrs V Morris and Mrs R Fitzpatrick

Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge runs from March 2nd until 21st August (11.59 pm)

Years K-2 will complete the Challenge of 30 books: 20 PRC and 5 free choice books through Library borrowing, books read to them in the Library and by their classroom teacher, as well as PRC books available in their classes. There are Reading Logs available in the Library if you would like your child to complete a second list.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge permission form is attached to this newsletter.

Thank you
Mrs V. Morris and Mrs R. Fitzpatrick

This week Oatley West Public School will be launching the Jump Rope for Heart program, culminating with a ‘Jump Off Day’ on Wednesday 3rd June. Students can collect donations which will help the Heart Foundation continue their important work, to fund lifesaving research and educational programs.

Sponsorship details can be recorded online or on the sponsorship form which will be sent home with students this week. There are also some great thank you prizes given, depending on the amount raised by each student.

We hope that everyone can be involved and support this great cause.

Jump Rope for Heart Team
(Miss Farah, Miss Ross, Mrs Colbert and Mrs Ross)

School Club

Order 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.

School Club

This Wednesday the 29th of April is cake day with 2L & 5L kindly requested to provide cakes. Don’t forget your 50c.

With thanks from School Club.

Mother’s Day Stall

For those of you who missed last week’s newsletter: School Club will be holding the annual Mother’s Day stall on May 6th. Volunteers to package gifts and man the stall in the school hall would be greatly appreciated from 10am on that day. We will open the stall as soon as all the gifts are packaged. Gifts must be prepaid and ordered via the order form at the end of the Newsletter. As well as mother’s day gifts, this year a limited number of Grandmother’s gifts are also available – there are 2 to choose from for “Nanna” or “Grandma” please complete your order form and return to the School Club box in the office ASAP. Cash & Cheque orders will be accepted until Tuesday the 5th, if you want to pay by EFT please do so by Monday the 4th of May and write your receipt number on your order form. School Club thanks you for supporting this event.
NSW Premiers’s Reading Challenge 2015

Points to remember

The Premier’s Reading Challenge runs from March 2nd until 21st August (11.59 pm)

Years K-2 will complete the Challenge of 30 books: 20 PRC and 5 free choice books through Library borrowing, books read to them in the Library and by their classroom teacher, as well as PRC books available in their classes. There are Reading Logs available in the Library if you would like your child to complete a second list.

Years 3-6 will read 20 books: 15 PRC ones and 5 free choice books. There are Reading Logs available in the Library to complete or they can add their books online at https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html. The students logon using the same username and password they use at school. A Reading Log can be completed at school too, in their Library Lessons if they prefer.

All students who complete the challenge and have returned their Permission note (see attached if you need one) will receive a PRC certificate in December.

There are Booklists, rules and tips all available on the PRC 2015 website as well.

If you would prefer not to add the entries online please hand a completed Reading log into the Library and we will enter it for you.

Thanks, good luck and have fun reading!

Mrs V Morris and Mrs R Fitzpatrick
Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we officially launch the 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC 2015) at Oatley West Public School. The 2015 PRC will continue until 21st August (11.59 pm) 2015.

This letter has a permission note attached which needs to be completed and returned to Mrs Morris and Mrs Fitzpatrick in the library as soon as possible. More details to follow in the Newsletter.

Mrs V Morris and Mrs R Fitzpatrick

Permission Note for the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) 2015

I give permission for my child __________________________ in class to participate in the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015.

I agree to have my child’s name appear in the school newsletter. YES / NO

I agree to have my child’s name published on the PRC website YES / NO

(If you do not want your child’s name appearing on the PRC website, your child can still complete the PRC but will not receive a Premier’s Certificate.)

Signed __________________________ Date ______________

(Parent / Caregiver)

* Privacy Information: Please be aware that all students who successfully complete a validated online reading record qualify for a PRC certificate and will appear in the PRC Honour Roll, which will be published online. The certificate shows the student’s name and school. Only the student’s name will appear in the Honour Roll with no other identifying factors.
It’s time to let Mum know just how much you appreciate her!

On Wednesday the 6th of May, School Club will be holding the annual OWPS Mother’s day stall. This is a much beloved event for the children & an opportunity for them to choose their own special gift for Mum.

Gifts are $15 each with a RRP of considerably more and come in a beautiful gift bag.

Gifts MUST be ordered & pre-paid (by cash, cheque or EFT) please complete the below order form and return it to the School Club mail box in the office NO LATER THAN Tuesday May 5th.

A limited number of Grandmother’s gifts are also available this year: with 2 to choose from: $15 each. We are also delighted to offer a Mother’s day special on the school cookbook for $20 this book is a great gift for anyone, not just Mum. This full colour professionally printed book is filled with pictures of the school and the kids and is a great memento of Oatley West Public School: a copy is available to view in the school office.

Volunteers are always welcome & very much appreciated from 10am on the 6th of May.

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ No of Gifts: ______

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ No of Gifts: ______

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ No of Gifts: ______

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ No of Gifts: ______

Cookbooks @ $20 each. No of books: ____________

Grandmother gifts: $15 each No of Gifts: __________

Please make cheques payable to OWPS School Club, if paying by EFT please reference your child’s name and pay by May 4th.

School Club acknowledges that this is a price rise (the first increase in 6 years) however please know that the quality of the gifts has also improved and the wholesale cost of gifts has increased, which has necessitated the rise.

We appreciate your continued support of this important fundraising event.