The P&C held their meeting on Tuesday 5th May @ 2pm. The change in time allowed for a different option for parents to attend the meeting but also to allow students to present ideas about initiatives they would like to occur in the school. From all accounts, the SRC Seniors students demonstrated an impressive presentation and look forward to hearing the results from the P&C. At next month’s meeting, the teachers have an opportunity to present initiatives they would like to introduce or continue. This is a great opportunity for parents, students and staff to work together and enhance learning at Oatley West Public School.

BEAR PROGRAM
A great opportunity exists for parents or caregivers to assist with reading. This program runs for 10 weeks with positive results. More information is located in this newsletter.
OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT FOR 2016

A reminder to parents of students seeking Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2016 must submit their application by 15 May 2015. No late applications will be accepted. The application website is at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Any enquiries regarding opportunity class entry to the High Performing Students Unit on telephone 1300 880 367

NAPLAN

As you would be aware, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Later this year, parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

You may have seen the following letter on social media in the last few days. It was written by some Year 3 teachers at a NSW school to their own students to encourage them to do their best and not worry about the perceived stresses of NAPLAN. I have included some of the letter below and addressed it to our wonderful students.

If you have a child sitting the NAPLAN tests this week, please take the time to read this letter to them. Please encourage them to smile, not to worry and to try their best this week.

To our dearest students from Year 3 and Year 5 at Oatley West Public School,

This week you will sit your NAPLAN tests. Before you take these tests there is something very important for you to know.

These tests do not assess all of what makes each of you exceptional and unique.

The people who score these tests don’t know that some of you love to sing, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use a computer program. They have not seen the way that some of you can dance with grace or speak confidently to a large group. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you participate in sports, help your Mum and Dad or look after your little brother, sisters or cousins. They do not know that you are caring, thoughtful and that every day you do your best. That is because these attributes cannot be tested.

The scores you get from the NAPLAN tests will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can’t tell you that you have improved on something that you once found difficult. They can’t tell you that you brighten up your teacher’s day. They can’t tell you how amazingly special you are.

So come to school this week ready to do your best in the NAPLAN tests and remember there is no one way to “test” all of the wonderful things that make you, YOU!

Your teachers ☺

Good luck to all of the Oatley West students sitting NAPLAN this week. We are immensely proud of the fine young citizens that you are growing up to be and know that you will do your best.

Mrs Ross
Assistant Principal Stage 1 and Stage 2

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it.
Mother Teresa

Neralie Chappell
On the 4\textsuperscript{th} of May Stage 2 went on an excursion to the Blue Mountains.

It took two hours to get there.

First we got our recess and ate at Katoomba Aboriginal Centre. We went to Echo Point but didn’t see the Three Sisters because of the fog.

We then went back on the bus and went to Scenic World where we would go on the Cableway.

Fortunately the fog had cleared when we were on the Cableway and we saw the Three Sisters.

We went in the Rainforest and saw lots of sculptures and some real coal.

After that we went backwards on the Scenic Railway, which was really scary.

We went on the Skyway and saw a waterfall and the beautiful Blue Mountains National Park. Finally we had lunch and went to the souvenir shop.

It was then time to get back on the bus for another two hour drive.

I had a lot of fun!

by Cooper 3R

**SPORTS REPORT**

**Girls Basketball Round 9**

Last Friday was the last game of the season and we played Hurstville South here at school.

Both of our teams fought hard with some great defensive play and won both games. It was without doubt our best display of teamwork for the season!

The Juniors score was 32-2 with top point scorer Chantelle on 8 points, Marissa, Emma, Leah, Myranda and Lauren each scored 4 points while Sophia and Kate scored 2 points each.

The Seniors score was a very close 18-16. Vicki top scored with 10 points, Antonia 6 points and Paris 2 points.

The Junior team have qualified for the finals to be held this Friday (15\textsuperscript{th} May) at Hurstville Aquatic Centre. A note will be sent home once I receive information about the day. There will also be details of our own presentation to be held next Monday (18\textsuperscript{th} May) at 3.30pm in my room.

Our girls have had a great season and special thanks go to Nik, for all his support in coaching the girls and to Gretel Bush for refereeing each week. Thanks also to all the parents who have supported us this season.

Anne Laurence

**PSSA T-Ball and Softball**

Congratulations to the junior T-Ball team who have made it into the finals for PSSA this Friday. We have had a great season and look forward to finals day. Thank you to all the supporters who continually attend and cheer on the boys.

Unfortunately the senior team did not make the finals. The boys have had a wonderful season and have learnt many new skills. Well done to all the boys on their great sportsmanship displayed throughout the season and their continual improvement. A note will be sent home this week regarding the finals and payment required.

Miss Ross
Rugby Union Waratahs v Sharks
This Saturday 16th May, the rugby league students will be attending the Waratahs v Sharks game at Allianz Stadium. We will be marching on the field before the game to promote our school and will then watch the Super Rugby game in the stands.

If your child is attending, please ensure they are at the designated meeting place (a note will be distributed this week) by 5.00pm prompt. They must be in full school sports uniform and should bring extra clothing for warmth. If you have any questions please feel free to speak to Miss Ross. Thank you.

National Trampolining Championships
We have another national representative at our school. Luke W. will be representing NSW at the national trampolining championships in Melbourne. He was very successful at the state titles, winning the double mini tramp & synchronised tramp events and coming second in the trampoline. This is his second year of reaching this level and we wish him all the best in Melbourne.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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 Directory
So far only 9 families have added their details to the School Directory spreadsheet for entry into the School Directory pdf and unfortunately 9 entries a directory does not make. If you want your families details listed in the directory you need to log in to the school club gmail and add your details to the spreadsheet before May 15.
Go to gmail.com and login with email: owpsschoolclub@gmail.com.au pword is: oatleywest
To find the spreadsheet go to the apps section of this mailbox - click the symbol in the top right hand corner that has 9 small boxes.
Select Drive
In Drive you will find a spreadsheet called: School Directory 2015
Enter your details in all the rows - leave blank any cells that do not apply to you.
You will be emailed a copy of the school directory as a pdf.

Mothers Day Thank You
School Club would like to thank all the wonderful parent volunteers & members who turned out to help for the Mother’s Day stall, our biggest turn out yet! Thank you so much to Clem, Leonie, Megan, Sally, Linda, Mitchell, Jason, Rowena, Katarina, Kelly, Melina, Karen, Natalie, Sharon, Rebecca, Janet, Mandy, Belinda, George, Rosie, Kim, Melissa, Angel, Wendy, Kim, Sue & Martin. (sorry if we have missed anyone, please forgive us and thank you!)
A very special thank you to Belinda for all her hard work collecting and organising all the orders, the stall would not be the success it is without all your hard work & dedication.
We sincerely hope all the Mother’s had a wonderful Mother’s day and that you liked your gifts.

School Club

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.

Thank You – Many thanks to our wonderful parent volunteers, Rowena Shek, Belinda Lien and Laura Agostino who have given up their time to assist at the Uniform Shop over the past few weeks. It has been particularly busy in the lead up to winter and your help was greatly appreciated.

Winter Uniform: All children should now be wearing the Winter Uniform. The winter uniform consists of the following:

Girls - Winter Tunic worn with long sleeve blue polo, grey tights, zip jacket and black shoes.
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 Gabardine pants with a long sleeve blue polo shirt, grey socks, zip jacket and black shoes.

**Sport** - Gold polo shirt and black bike pants with side stripes (for girls)/ black shorts with side stripes (for boys). However, if your child feels the cold, they are permitted to wear black tracksuit pants with their gold polo shirt.

**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. Black or white Joggers are to be worn for sport on Friday.

**Uniform Orders:** If you are unable to get to the Uniform Shop, an order form can be completed and dropped in to the school office. All orders will be delivered to your child’s classroom on Thursday when the shop is open.

**Parent Volunteers:** Uniform Shop is run by volunteers. If you have an hour to spare weekly, fortnightly, monthly or even just once or twice a Term, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sia Coelho on scoelho@iinet.net.au
Dear Parents,

We are seeking any parent helpers who can assist with the following exciting reading project!! Mrs Chappel has run this program in other schools and it was highly successful.

Description: This 10 week program is aimed at accelerating the reading skills of students (mainly in Year 1) who would benefit from additional reading support. The school provides all training and materials to support this wonderful program.

This project involves:

- a two hour parent training session
- parents or carers committing to 10 weeks of the program. Each lesson takes ½ hour and students need at least 3 lessons a week.

If you are interested in volunteering some time, even just half an hour per week to be a part of this B.E.A.R. tutor program, please return the slip below to Mrs Colbert or Mrs Chappell by Tuesday May 26.

We will be offering training on Thursday May 28 at 9:30pm. This session will take approximately 1½ hours and we will meet at the office to show you where we are working.

We will be making up a timetable to commence immediately after this session. We ask you to come with the times you are available to assist with this program to the training session.

Please contact Mrs Colbert or Mrs Chappell for further information.

I am interested in becoming a B.E.A.R. Tutor.

Parent Name: ________________________________

Contact Number: ________________________________

My child is: ___________________________ in class: ____________

Thank you,
Mrs Colbert and Mrs Chappell
Oatley West Public School B.E.A.R. Facilitators
PENSHURST GIRLS UNION
(an association of ex-students and ex-staff of
Penshurst Girls High School)
and
GEORGES RIVER COLLEGE
PENSHURST GIRLS CAMPUS

take pleasure in inviting
past students and past staff to our

60th Anniversary

Friday 11 September 2015
SCHOOL OPEN DAY
at 2 Austral Street, Penshurst from 10am to 2pm
and/or
Saturday 12 September 2015
ANNIVERSARY DINNER
at Revesby Worker’s Club - Whitlam Theatre
2B Brett Street, Revesby
from 6.30pm for a 7pm start

RSVP via trybooking www.trybooking.com/GKRP
before 28 August 2015
Contact: Elaine Bricknell (02) 9580 3141