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

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

Dates for the Diary

Thu 11 Feb – School Club first Meeting at 9:30am outside Canteen – Kindy Parents Welcome
Mon 15 Feb - Scholastic Book Club Due
Wed 17 Feb - School Photos

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL CHAPPELL’S CORNER

NEW CLASSES
The students and staff have settled in quickly to their new classes and our year is well underway.

CHINESE NEW YEAR
Happy New Year to all our families that celebrate Chinese New Year today. It is the year of the monkey.

PARENTS ACCESS TO CLASSROOMS
Just a reminder that classrooms are the ‘homes’ of teachers. Please be respectful of their space and only enter at appropriate times. Appointments can be arranged out of teaching hours as teachers first priority are students learning during teaching time.

SCHOOL GATES
School gates are to remain closed in the mornings and during the school day for the safety of our students. All gates except the gate closest to the admin building are locked from approx. 9:30am - 2:30pm. Please assist us by closing the gate behind you. We are mindful of our new student becoming familiar with school routines.

CLOTHING DRIVE
We were one of the top 10 donor schools for Stewart House and The Smith Family Clothing Appeal for 2015. As a result, we received a certificate and Monsters vs Aliens Book that can be found in the library.
COACHES AND TUTORS
As we are aware many of our students are coached and tutored outside of school for a variety of reasons. We would recommend for your child’s safety that you witness they have a current Working with Children’s Check.

TEXTBOOKS THIS THURSDAY
Textbook payments and distribution will be this Thursday 11 February. Parents
Soundwaves is an online textbook.

2016 SCHOOL LEADERS
We welcome our school leaders for 2016 and look forward to their contributions to the school community.

HEALTH CARE PLANS
Each year we need to update children’s health care plans. Last week any child we have anaphylaxis or asthma plans were sent a note asking for an updated plan. If you cannot locate this form or your child now has the need to have one of these plans, could you please drop into the office or call to collect a form.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller
Neralie Chappell

Online Payments for School Fees
Did you know that you can make payments to Oatley West Public School online?
The school has an online payment portal linked to the school’s website to make it easier and safer for you to pay for school related expenses. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

What expenses can be paid online?
- Voluntary School Contributions
- Subject Contributions
- Excursions
- Sport
- Creative and Practical Arts
- Books

If you would like more information about this payment option please look on the Oatley West Public School website oatleywest-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. Click on the “Parent Information Tab”, where you will find information about this service. To make a payment click on “Make a Payment” and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.

School Photo Day – Wednesday 17th February

School photo envelopes will be sent home this week. These envelopes are to be completed and brought to school with the student on photo day,

WEDNESDAY 17th FEBRUARY

Please do not send photo envelopes prior to that date as they are processed directly through the photographer and not the school. Each child needs to bring a photo envelope on the day even if payment is in a sibling’s envelope. If you wish to pay online, go to photography website

www.theschoolphotographer.com.au

and follow the prompts. The completed photo envelope, including receipt number, will still be needed to come to school on photo day.

If you wish to have a photo taken of siblings together please collect a special envelope from the office.

Don’t forget to wear your school uniform and a smile.
Stage 3 Camp

Thank you to all the students who returned their Stage 3 Camp Attendance Note. We are all very excited for our adventure to The Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. Reminding you the dates are Monday 16th May 2016 to Wednesday 18th May 2016 (Week 4, Term 2), which will be the week after NAPLAN. Further notes will be distributed to students in the next coming weeks and payment will be included in the Term 1 note. Mrs Koutrodimos and Miss Ross

Friday Sport – Season 1 2016

A new season of sport will begin at Oatley West next Friday 19th February, 2016 (Week 4). Students were informed of sport choices available last week and trials/team selections will be taking place leading up to the start of the season.

Please Note: Sport this year will be in the morning session 9.35am-12noon.

PSSA sports available this season are Boys Oztag (Miss Ross), Girls Cricket (Mrs Koutrodimos), Girls Basketball (Mrs Gooding) and Boys TBall/Softball (Mrs Shaw). Students will take part in trials for their chosen sport and teams will be finalised as soon as possible. PSSA sport usually costs about $7 per week for bus fares.

If your child misses out on a PSSA team or doesn’t want to be involved, the following sport options are also available.

Tennis – students are coached at the local tennis courts at Peakhurst by qualified instructors. The cost will be approximately $14 per week for a 10 week period. This includes a coaching fee and bus fare. We can take up to two groups of 30 students if there is high demand for this sport. Mrs Laurence will be organising tennis this season.

School Sport- This option is free of charge as students will stay at school and participate in a variety of sports and health programs. Unfortunately there will be no yoga group this season as the hall is unavailable.

Please discuss with your child (especially Year 3 students, who are doing this for the first time), the different options and what you will allow them to participate in based on costs. Notes for particular sports will be sent out by the teachers involved once teams are chosen and students sign up for tennis. Invoices will be issued later in the term.

Please see me or any of the teachers mentioned if you have any questions.

Anne Laurence

Chess Club 2016

CHESS CLUB 2016

Chess Club will resume on Monday 15th February (Week 4) at lunchtimes in Mrs Laurence’s room. The chess club is run by the Sydney Academy of Chess who provides weekly tutoring to students at all different levels of ability in chess. The club is run on a term by term basis but some parents prefer to pay for the whole year upfront. There is also the opportunity to purchase workbooks at different levels while chess clocks and chess sets are also available. The cost for Term 1 is $56.

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, 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.

Forms will be given out to interested students and there is one in this newsletter. I will need them back no later than this Friday 12th February (Week 3) in order to organise tutors. Apologies for the short notice this year but the notes were late in
Please ensure you indicate on the form the **skill level of your child**.

**Please note:** New Kindergarten students **will not** be able to join the Chess Club until Term 2 to allow them time to settle into school and routines.

Please return forms and money to the front office or to the box in my room before the due date.

Anne Laurence

**Garden Club**

There is a community working bee planned for this Saturday 13\(^{th}\) February from 10am-12pm. We will be getting the garden prepared for learning in 2016. At 12pm there will be a complimentary BBQ. A note for the working bee is attached to this newsletter, alternatively Mr Burr will have copies. Hope to see you there!

**School Club**

Dear Parents & Care Givers of Oatley West Students,

School Club will be having their first meeting of the year and Welcome to Kindy Parents Morning Tea on Thursday 11 Feb just after school drop off at 9:30am, we will meet outside the Canteen for easy access to coffee!

We encourage anyone who would like to be involved in School Club to attend, there’s no ongoing commitment required, we happily accept help when it is available and welcome parents with young children to bring them along.

School Club only meets periodically throughout the year to plan fundraising events and notices will be placed in the Newsletter the Monday prior. We also have a Facebook group which we would encourage all new members to join to keep abreast of current events.

In the past few years, School Club has made significant donations to the school which have been used to establish the home reading scheme, paint all the great artwork around the school and purchase iPads. To keep up this great work we need new members, with new ideas to get involved. We look forward to seeing you there!

School Club

**Greek Afternoon School**

Greek School Enrolments for more information please call: 0432 291 226 (Katerina).

**Port Hacking High School**

Important Dates:

Extension Class Test:

**Year 7 2017** will be held on: Tuesday 15\(^{th}\) March 2016.

Applications close 12 February 2016.

Late Applications accepted until midday 9 March 2016 additional fee applies.

Applications available from our office or online at Port Hacking School website
Organic Diggers Working Bee - Saturday 13th February 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,
A community Working Bee will be taking place on Saturday 13th February in our school garden patch.
We will be working on removing grasses and weeds in addition to doing a general tidy-up of the garden area. If possible, tools and wheelbarrows brought from home will be greatly appreciated.
Additionally, we will prepare sites for new garden beds to be installed.
The day will conclude with a complimentary barbeque from 12pm-1pm.
We will begin at 10am and leave school grounds at 1pm. Due to the fact that we must comply with Duty of Care legislation, all adults attending must have a current Working with Children Check.

No adults are permitted on site without a current WWCC. There is no cost involved for the WWCC for volunteer applicants.

If you intend to participate, please return the slip below to Mr Burr by Friday 12th February.

Many thanks
L Burr & S Aekins
Organic Diggers Co-ordinators

________________________________________

Organic Diggers Working Bee

Mr. Burr,
I / we (names)______________________________________ intend on participating in the Organic Diggers Working Bee on Saturday 13th February.
My child(ren)______________________________________from class(es)_____.
There will be_____children attending with us.

DUTY OF CARE
☐ I / we are already on the school system.
☐ I / we have a current Working with Children Check(s).
Clearance Number(s): #________________________

Signed:__________________________ Date:____________________

Oatley West Public School   Learning to Live - Living to Learn
Respect - Fairness - Participation - Caring - Responsibility - Excellence - Cooperation - Integrity
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

Combines learning with fun!

Oatley West Public School Chess Classes, 2016
[Mondays 1:20PM - 2:10PM in the Mrs Laurence’s classroom]

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Cost</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>$56</td>
<td>15th Feb - 4th Apr*</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$64</td>
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<td>25th Jul - 19th Sep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>$64</td>
<td>17th Oct - 5th Dec</td>
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*No chess on 28th Mar and 13th Jun (Public Holiday)

TO ENROL:
Please collect a form from the school office.

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 – 2016

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

To enrol, please tick the appropriate boxes below:

Optional Extras (prices include delivery)

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*No chess on 13th Jun (Public Holiday)

Workbook 1 – Cost: $28  [Beginner / Rookie]
Workbook 2 – Cost: $28  [Intermediate]
Workbooks 1&2 – Cost: $42  [SPECIAL OFFER]
Chess clock – Cost: $75  [DGT Easy Gametimer]
Chess set – Cost: $30  [Roll-up chess board + pieces]
Advanced Book – Cost: $39  [Exploration in Chess Beauty]

Delivery Information

Name: __________________________________________
Postal address: __________________________________
Suburb: _________________________________________
State: ___________    Postcode: ___________

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Chess set – Cost: $30  [Roll-up chess board + pieces]
Advanced Book – Cost: $39  [Exploration in Chess Beauty]

*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: $______________

Student’s Name: __________________________________________
Date of Birth: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _

Class: __________ Parent’s Name: ____________________________

Contact Numbers: (Home) ___________ (Work) ___________ (Mobile) ___________

Email: ____________________________________________________

Relevant medical conditions / allergies: ________________________________

Signed: __________________________________________Date: _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _

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.
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 17th February 2016 at 8:30am**

**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: Jason Low 0402 812 525
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 will enjoy meeting and working with other parents volunteers. All the children and their families would greatly appreciate your contributions.

___________________________________________________________________________

Yes, I would like to help with School Banking!

Name: ______________________ Child’s name and class ______________________

Phone: ______________________ Or Email: ________________________________