NEWSLETTER 12 – Week ending 1st May, 2015

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

NEXT WEEK

Thursday 30th

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Bike education Week – please send your child’s bike in
ART Seniors

Monday 4th

Tuesday 5th

Bike Education

Wednesday 6th

Bike Education

ART Juniors

Thursday 7th

Bike Education

Friday 8th

Bike Education

Monday 11th

Library/Science

Tuesday 12th

NAPLAN – Language & writing Yr. 3 & 5

Wednesday 13th

NAPLAN – Reading Yr. 3 & 5

Thursday 14th

NAPLAN – Numeracy Yr. 3 & 5

Photo envelopes due back

Monday 18th

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Cluster Day - Whorouly Parent Info Night – Resilience held at Wang HS for all parents

Tuesday 21st

PUPIL FREE DAYS / PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Friday 5th June

Report Writing Day

Monday 8th June

Queens Birthday

Monday 3rd August

Cluster PD - Pupil Free

Monday 2nd Nov

Report Writing Day

Tuesday 3rd Nov

Melbourne Cup Day

Happy birthday to anyone having a birthday this week. There are no OPS students birthdays this week!

CONGRATULATIONS

PORTER FAMILY

We have just received news and would like to congratulate Mr Porter and his wife Greta on the safe arrival of a beautiful baby girl, PENNY JANE PORTER. We send all our best wishes and bet Lyla is a very excited big sister!

Mr Campbell will be covering Mr Porter’s class with the helping hand of Rosie over the next two weeks.

Mr Campbell will send home more details with the Year 2 and 3 students.

PRINCIPALS DAY

May 1st is Principal’s Day but we thought we would get in early and say a huge thank you to Mr Campbell for making Oxley PS the amazing school that it is. Our school captains Letitia and Rori gave a great speech and the kids shared some lovely words and ate some yummy brownies and thanks to Nadia the staff had a lovely morning tea. The following words sum up how wonderful our principal is:

*We’ve written a speech about how awesome our principal Mr Campbell is. Mr Campbell puts in so much effort to keep our school running smoothly. After we all go home at night he is still here working late getting things ready for the next day. So we would just like to say thank you for putting in all this time for us to make this school INCREDIBLE! Leticia & Rori

*Mr Campbell you are the best principal and teacher that Oxley has ever had. You are always there to help and support students. Oxley is glad to have you because you organise all our activities. Thank you Lee

*Mr Campbell is a very nice person. He helps people when they are hurt and when they need someone to talk to. He is a great principal. Stevie

*Mr Campbell is a great teacher and he does fun things and he is funny. Thanks, Callem
*Mr Campbell is a funny person. He is also a good boy and a good principal. You are awesome, Eamon*

*Mr Campbell helps us write. He helps us learn in a fun way. He makes the school days fun. Thanks Shelby.*

*Thank you Mr Campbell for always making me laugh. Charley*

*Mr Campbell is an amazing teacher and principal. He teaches us lots of fun things and he comes in and does maths with us every Thursday which we really enjoy. He looks after our school and has taught us all our school values. Thank you from Addisyn*

*Mr Campbell helps people. He goes around the school and sorts out things. He is a fun teacher. You’re cool! Jack*

*Mr Campbell lets us play fun maths games. Also he is exciting to do things with. Thanks so much, Sienna*

*Mr Campbell is the best because he makes fun things and good excursions. Thanks, Will*

*Mr Campbell is helpful. Thanks, Alannah*

*Mr Campbell is an awesome principal. Thank you, Lily*

*Mr Campbell organises fun days and camps. From Julia*

*Mr Campbell has beautiful red hair. From Baden*

**ANZAC Day**

Well done to all our students who participated in the ANZAC Day ceremony. You all did a terrific job and we were all incredibly proud of your involvement. It is an incredibly important part of Australia’s history and we are extremely fortunate that the students have an opportunity to participate in these community days thanks to the residence society.

**Annual Report**

Tonight at the School Council meeting there are a number of matters noted down to cover and one of these is our Annual Report for the 2014 school year. I thought that I would share the wellbeing section of this report in the newsletter and if you’re interested in reading the entire document then a copy can be found on the Oxley Primary School app or a hard copy can be collected from the office.

Oxley's students are happy students and feel that they are part of what happens at school which is strongly backed up by the attitudes to school data. This data is of a similar level when compared to the schools of like socio-economic and proportion of non-English speaking families.

The whole school approach to both attendance and developing student attitudes means that all students are engaged with all facets of the school curricular and develop effective working relationships with their teachers. I believe that this is a real strength of the school and the teachers are to be congratulated for this.
For students to be connected to the school the process starts in the foundation years and we work extremely hard on making sure that the preps have a smooth transition. We have a clear set of school values and set extremely high expectations that all students achieve these. Our year 6 leaders play a major part in running each weeks assembly and discussing issues around the school as well as rewarding positive behaviour.

Our major piece of work in 2014 in regards to the students wellbeing was a professional development opportunity for our staff with Hugh van Cuylenburg followed by a parent session. The key elements from Hugh’s presentation for me were;

- The importance of explicitly teaching our children/students about Mindfulness (being mindful of how we act), Empathy (being empathic towards others) and Gratitude (being grateful for what we have). Hugh talked a lot about positive psychology and making sure that we train ourselves to look for the positives in different situations and to also put daily events in to perspective.

- To encourage our children/students to live in the now. To slow down and appreciate and notice what is going on around them, and yes, this does often mean putting down the iPod/iPad.

- When we as children/adults get so worked up about something, we have an Amygdala Hijack which basically effects our frontal lobe and the manner in which we are thinking. He explained that exercise or a drink of water actually allows your body to clear your mind thus enabling you to think clearer once again.

- There are three things that we can do to instantly change our mood. Music, exercise and laughter will all change our mood.

Actions that we put into place in 2014 due to the work that we completed with Hugh included;

- The year 2, 3 and 4 students have been completing relaxation techniques directly after lunch through the Smiling Mind app.

- The students using the Emoticons to talk about the feeling that the face is associated with and then linking this feeling to a situation of when they have felt like that.

- A wish wall display where the students wish something for the world.

- Our affirmations board made up of where students stopped to notice the little things that people do to make this world a better place.

- A common language across the school of talking about empathy, mindfulness and gratitude.

Our AIP outlines the following key area of focus for Oxley Primary in 2015 based around Student Engagement;

- embedding the school values into each room at the school as well as in the playground which is supported by a student engagement and wellbeing policy,

- continuation of the affirmations board and the teaching of empathy, mindfulness and gratitude,

- a focus on student voice within the school and teacher feedback,

- surveys to be completed during term 1 and term 4 in regards to the three areas of classroom behaviour, connectedness to peers and student safety.

Bike Education Week

From Tuesday 5th – 8th May (next week) the bike education trailer will be here for the week and the students are asked to bring in their own bikes. This is one of the best weeks of the year at Oxley Primary School and an incredibly important week for our students as many of them are already currently riding the
bike paths around Oxley or will be in the future. Please bring your child’s bike in on Monday and we will store them in the shed for the week. The bikes need to be checked at home before they come to school, making sure that both the front and back brakes are working. Please also make sure that your child has their own helmet and that this fits them correctly.

RESILIENCE EVENING FOR PARENTS
Thursday 21st May
7.00 pm – 8:30 pm
Wangaratta High School
Please bring something to share for supper.
It would be great if everyone could send along at least one parent representative to this evening as all of the parents who went last year all spoke highly of the night. There were many parents who learnt something new however there were also many parents who walked away just feeling positive about the strategies that they are already using with their children.
Below is some feedback that Hugh has received from other workshops he has completed.
Parents
"Just wanted to let you know how inspirational and amazing the session was last night. It was such an eye opener and really made me stop and think about what really matters. I will definitely try and adopt this approach at home as I am sure it will make us grateful for the things we have and make us really think about the things that matter rather than stress about insignificant things."
Karen, parent,
Boroondara Park Primary School
Teachers
“It was really refreshing to hear some ‘real’ and ‘powerful’ stories to gain some perspective in our work on student engagement. As well as sharing a smile and a laugh together, Hugh led our staff to another level of thinking in regards to personal, team and student engagement strategies, ones that we will be embedding in our work”
Richard H Crawshaw
Team Leader
Travancore School Parkville Campus
Universities
"There are no other programs out there teaching Positive Psychology in school like this one."
Associate Professor Lea Waters Scholes,  
Director Mater in School Leadership
Melbourne University
Step Back Think
The people at The Resilience Project designed and facilitated our anti-violence program which has been rolled out Victoria wide. They have reached over 2000 students and have had extraordinary results. By drawing on the latest research around behaviour change and using a dynamic and engaging presentation style, they have ensured that their program is a must for schools wanting to address anti-social behaviour."
Sophie Rowe- CEO Step Back Think
Jeremy Campbell – Principal
Oxley Primary School is committed to Nurturing confident, lifelong learners, in a friendly rural community.

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME?
This morning we discussed the need we have for some regular helpers. Our reading parents contribute so much to the students learning and there are lots of ideas that we have and would like to start running with but we need YOU. If you are able to volunteer any time during school hours it would be great to hear from you. Some of the ideas include preparing maths boxes, contacting books, help with organising fundraisers, kitchen duty, etc. Please see Jaye or Nadia if you are interested.
SQUASH AT MILAWA

The Squash Squad is a group of keen squash players who get together to help other keen squash players get better fast. Everybody is expected to help, and everybody will improve their squash. Ability is optional, enthusiasm is required.

The Squash Squad starts at 3:45pm each Friday at the Milawa Squash Courts and involves a full range of Squash stuff. Learning how to hold a racquet, how to hit the ball, where to hit the ball, how to score and how to fool the other player.

Squash Squad for beginners runs for the first hour. Beginners will be assisted by stronger members of the Squad until they can play and score a 3 game squash match. Beginners must be collected before 5pm.

Squash Squad runs for the second hour. There will be a variety of coaching and match play for those that have helped with the beginners. The aim is to move keen players up the Squash Ladder at www.milawasquash.org/ladder. The courts will be closed at 6pm.

The Squash Squad will be supervised by John Brown as a volunteer and everybody is expected to pitch in:

- **Beginners**: try hard, have fun, stay inside the building
- **Squad**: help with beginners (eye-wear, racquets, coaching), help with courts (rubbish, sweeping), play hard, play fair, play safe, stay inside the building.
- **Parents**: Collect beginners by 5pm and challengers by 6pm, help supervise, ensure children have completed tasks before leaving.

Contact John on 0457 758 601 or john@milawasquash.org.

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**IMPORTANT**

- Children must stay inside the Milawa Squash Courts
- Each child must return a completed Medical / Ambulance Indemnity Form
- Children must wear protective eye-wear on court.
- Fees are $40 per child
- Squash Squad starts Friday 8th May 2015
STITCHED UP TEXTILE FESTIVAL
Dilly Bag Challenge

If you are feeling a little crafty in this cold and wet weather why not make yourself a dilly bag. A *dilly bag* is a traditional *Australian Aboriginal* bag, generally woven from the fibres of plant species of the *Pandanus genus*. It is used for a variety of food transportation and preparation purposes. *Dilly* comes from the *Jagara* word *dili*, which refers to both the bag and the plants from which it is made.[1]

The dilly bag, otherwise known as *yakou*, *yibali* or *but but bag*, is a bag worn around the neck to hold food like berries, meat, fish etc. The Dilly bag is normally woven out of vines or tough dried grasses and sometimes had feather or animal fur inside the bag to stop small pieces of food falling through holes in the weave. Mainly used by women to gather food but can be used by men to help carry some tools for hunting.

Another use for the dilly bag (also named Mukurtu) was as a holder for personal or tribal artifacts. The "Dilly bag" term is also used to describe bags used by non-aboriginal Australians, for example a smaller food bag carried by *swagmen* along with their swags.[2] The term is also used by Australians to describe similar bags for other purposes.

You can make your bag out of any textile ie. Cotton, wool, linen, silk, man-made fibre, wool but must only contain 25% metal, glass or embellishments.

5-12 year olds are invited to participate and your dilly bag must have a purpose. For more details see Jaye. There is a $2 entry fee and bags will form part of an exhibition in the upcoming Stitched Up Festival being held in Wangaratta July 4-12, 2015. 1st Prize - $30 Voucher at the ACS Mill Shop and 2nd prize - $20 Voucher at the ACS Mill Shop. Everyone get STITCHING!

Pangerang Community House

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

WHEN & WHERE:
Tuesday - Pangerang Community House, 38 Ovens Street, Wangaratta
Wednesday - West End Rotunda (off Lowe Crt), Wangaratta

TIME: 8.00am - 8.30am

We will be providing a FREE community breakfast two mornings a week to anyone who would like to come along. PHONE 0357213813 FOR MORE INFORMATION
Fun for Mum – Mother’s Day!

11am - 6pm: Sunday 10th May 2015

Complimentary Unlimited Rides for all mums - Yay!

What better way to show Mum that you love her this Mother’s Day than to take her down to Melbourne’s Luna Park for a day of fun and laughter with the whole family!

Find Out More...

ENTRY INTO LUNA PARK IS FREE!
BUY RIDE TICKETS AT THE TICKET BOX OR ONLINE