Welcome back to school for what is shaping up to be one of the busiest terms ever at Oberon High School. Our Year 12 students have commenced their Higher School Certificate Examinations which run until Wednesday 4th November 2015. It has been very pleasing to see many of our Year 12 students at school each day accessing assistance from teachers and putting in the time required to succeed at HSC level. The HSC supervisors have reported that our students are using every second of their available time this year with no students leaving examinations early. I must commend my committed teaching staff who also gave up some of their holiday time supporting Year 12 throughout the break. Feedback from our students was very positive about the two English papers this year; we look forward to some outstanding HSC results.

Year 11 students have commenced their HSC courses and will receive a HSC Assessment Schedule booklet by the end of Week 4 which will outline all their HSC tasks for the next twelve months. This will assist our students in planning effectively and balancing their school and personal work commitments.

As students will change classes and be starting new electives from the 9th of November 2015, fee invoices for new courses will be posted home earlier than usual. If you have any concerns about our fee structure or payment, please contact Ken Barwick (0418 629 198) or Craig Luccarda (02 6336 1606).

Meet Masey Taggart, a Year 9 student who has only been at Oberon High since the beginning of this year and has already made her mark on the sporting field.

Masey’s subject electives are Visual Arts, Food Technology and PASS but not surprisingly, her favourite subject is PDHPE.

Moving from a smaller school to Oberon High, she sees that there are more opportunities for her to study a variety of subjects and really appreciates that she can participate in many different sports.

Masey played a key role in Oberon’s win in both rounds of this year’s Rural Cup, participating in many of the senior and junior team sports.

Masey qualified in 100m, 200m, 400m and discus at Western Region and went on to represent her region in discus at state.

Outside of school Masey is involved with this year’s grand final winning Oberon netball team and plays soccer with the Oberon women’s team. She loves playing basketball and touch and enjoys watching football.

At this stage Masey hasn’t decided on a career after school, however she knows she would prefer to live in the country rather than the city.

An excellent all-round sportsperson, Masey is a credit to her school.
Scholarships for 2016

Each year Oberon High School offers students the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to assist with education expenses. We are fortunate to receive generous funding from our community and businesses to fund these scholarships.

Following previous consultation with our sponsor’s scholarships will be awarded as follows:

- 4 x $100 scholarships (Stage 3 Year 7 – 2016)
- 2 x $100 scholarships (Stage 4 Year 8 – 2016)
- 4 x $120 scholarships (Stage 5 Years 9 & 10 – 2016)
- 4 x $150 scholarships (Stage 6 Years 11 & 12 – 2016)

The Stage 3 scholarship is for an incoming Year 6 student from each of our partner schools. These are selected according to the same criteria as the high school students but is coordinated by the host primary school and presented at the end of the year at a function determined by that school.

Scholarships will be held in trust for use against school expenses, such as excursions, uniforms, fees and materials required for courses. Applications will be submitted to a panel of Principal/Deputy Principal, P&C representative, and one or two sponsors as available. Students will be interviewed by the panel at a date to be determined. This year students are asked to submit their applications to the front office by Monday, 2nd November 2015.

P&C Bingo Bonanza

The Oberon High School P&C are in the process of organising their second major fund raising event for 2015.

The P&C continue their ongoing support of our school’s BYOD laptop program by subsidizing the cost of student laptops.

It would be great if students and their families could support our hard working P&C by attending the Halloween Bingo Bonanza. To book a table and purchase tickets, simply visit the front office of Oberon High School where further information can be obtained.

The Halloween Bingo Bonanza will be held on Friday 30th October 2015 at the Oberon RSL Club. Ten rounds of bingo with prizes for only $10.00. Doors open at 5.30pm with the restaurant available for dinner and bingo commences at 7.00pm.

The night is open to both students and their extended families. Make a night of it and support your school’s P&C in the process.

You may even win some great prizes.
Oberon High School will be conducting a Senior College transition program for students during Term 4. This program is designed to make the transition of students into senior school as smooth as possible. Even though we are changing to a new system (Compressed Curriculum) and commencing earlier than normal on November 9th, this transition program is designed to cover important material that would be relevant to any senior student.

We have scheduled a range of transition seminars to fully inform all students and arm them with the knowledge to help them complete senior school successfully. These will occur each Wednesday from Week 6 to Week 9 of this term. Attendance on these transition days is compulsory. Along with the introduction of career planning interviews we see this as positive step in preparing our students more fully. The information passed on and activities participated in will be important and we expect full student participation to maximise the benefit of the day.

All My Own Work is a compulsory course for all senior students and is designed to highlight the idea of fairness and integrity in the completion of assessment tasks. When students are caught cheating or plagiarising in assessment tasks and this impacts greatly on the integrity of assessment programs within our school this must be registered with the Board of Studies on a malpractice register; hence, this course is important for students to complete seriously. Students who are moving across from St Joseph’s and those have not completed All My Own Work during careers lessons can complete it during the Wednesday transition sessions.

Cross-Roads is a compulsory PDHPE course which all students in Year 11 and/or Year 12 must complete. It is designed to help senior students address issues of health, safety and wellbeing at a time when they face significant changes and challenges in their lives. Crossroads aims to prepare and support these students as they encounter situations related to identity, independence and their changing responsibilities. Crossroads aims to build students’ sense of empowerment and respect for themselves and others.

Information can be found at: http://www.learning.schools.nsw.edu.au/crossroads/

Mr. Mark Armstrong will be giving students technology support on these Wednesday’s to ensure each student with a device can operates effectively on our school network.

There will be a parent/carer information session starting at 5.30pm in the library on 3rd November 2015. We believe that much of the information discussed with students during transition will be valuable for parents/carers. In particular assessment tasks, work placement for VET courses, major works for practical subjects and specific course requirements are all areas that parents/carers need an understanding to best help their child complete senior school successfully.

Our new Senior College Transition Program has been designed by our Deputy Principal – Mr. Craig Luccarda. I must commend Mr. Luccarda on this extremely beneficial and supportive program which follows on from his career planning meetings late last term. Well done Mr. Luccarda!
Updated Bell Times and Period Lengths for 2016

At the recent executive meeting we discussed a slight change to the bell times for Monday 1 to make all periods during the day the same length. All Monday 1 periods are now 48 minutes each and all other days are 53 minutes.

A student survey revealed a longer early morning break would be more suitable as it divided the day up evenly with two periods – break – two periods – break – two periods. There will be two 30 minute breaks for students each day. Assembly will only occur once per fortnight on Monday 1.

The changes were happily accepted by students, staff and the community. We will endeavour to make our assemblies open to the community as often as possible to celebrate student successes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periods</th>
<th>Monday 1 6 x 48 min</th>
<th>Periods</th>
<th>Day 2 to 10 6 x 53 min</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.48am</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.53am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>10.36am</td>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>10.46am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>11.06am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>11.36am</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>11.16am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>12.24pm</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>12.09pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>1.12pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>1.02pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>1.42pm</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>1.32pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>2.25pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Day</td>
<td>3.18pm</td>
<td>End of Day</td>
<td>3.18pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Emergency Evacuation Procedures – *Continuous ringing of bells*

It is necessary to have an orderly plan of action in case of an emergency – such as a fire or an explosion – so that everyone in the school will know how to evacuate as quickly as possible, without panic or injury.

It is most important that the WHOLE school be evacuated. This includes ALL the students, visitors and parents who may be in the school at the time.

The alarm will be a continual ringing of the normal school bell. If the electric bell is inoperative, a hand bell will be rung continuously.

**Evacuation Procedure**

Students must obey the directions given by class teachers, who will instruct them to do the following:

a) Stop work immediately
b) Close all windows and switch off all power points and gas taps
c) Leave the room **with your bags** and walk calmly to the nearest emergency exit
d) Students should walk to the basketball courts; leave their bags in year group areas then walk to the tennis centre
2016 Curriculum Lines for Year 11 Compressed Curriculum

The 2016 curriculum structure has been set after Year 10 students were surveyed about which subjects they wanted next year. The table below are the 2016 subject lines for Year 11 and Year 12 students. All students in Year 11 receive 3 of their original choices in the college structure for 2016. They will do their remaining three courses in the second cycle of our new college structure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Line 1A</th>
<th>Line 1B</th>
<th>Line 2A</th>
<th>Line 2B</th>
<th>Line 3A</th>
<th>Line 3B</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community &amp; Family Studies</td>
<td>Modern History</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>Studies</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>SLR</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Applied Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>Society &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Metals &amp; Engineering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PD/Health/PE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>English Advanced</td>
<td>General Mathematics</td>
<td>PD/Health/PE</td>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
<td>Timber</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English Standard</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Timber</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Metals &amp; Engineering</td>
<td></td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>Senior Science</td>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Music 1</td>
<td>Music 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jesus Racing Team Visit

On Tuesday 6th October, Andrew ‘Fishtail’ Fisher of the Jesus Racing Team, who was in Bathurst for Race Week, visited to school to present a Life Choices program.

The program challenges young people to think through the consequences of their decisions around important life choices such as smoking, drinking, drugs, road safety, sex and spirituality.

After the presentation, students and staff crowded round to get a close look at the Jesus Racing Team ute, and secure an autograph from the champion driver.

This opportunity for the students was organised by Dan Henby, the school chaplain.

RIGHT Andrew “Fishtail” Fisher, driver with the Jesus Racing Team, signing autographs for the students after the presentation
Traffic Consultation
In the last newsletter mention was made that the school was involved with the Oberon traffic consultation being run by GTA Consultants. One of the decisions made at the meeting was that GTA Consultants would undertake an Oberon Active Transport Study.

GTA Consultants have put together a survey regarding destinations community members would like linked and deterrents. It is hoped that as many people in and around Oberon as possible will completed the survey, that only takes a few minutes. Please click on the link to complete the survey and have your say in the future transport plans for Oberon. Surveys should be completed by 29 October 2015.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OberonStudy

Drama - news from the HSIE/English Faculty
In English this term, students in Years 7 through 10 are studying Drama.

Year 7 & 8 are doing small plays and nonsense plays, having fun with “Dotty Potty’s Grand Adventure” and “The Godmother Game”. As well as performing, reading lines and understanding production techniques, they have the opportunity to learn backstage roles.

Year 9 & 10 are studying the theatre of the absurd, specifically the obscure classic “Waiting for Godot”. (Does anyone really know who Godot is?)

Year 11 have started on their HSC English and are busily unpacking the concept of “Discovery”. To assist in their study, Standard and Advanced English classes will be attending a “Discovery Day” in Sydney on 23rd October where they will learn more about this area of study.

This year’s HSC students have completed their English exams and overall were pleased with their efforts with the papers. While the papers were described by the teachers as “fair and accessible”, the students are glad to have completed them. We now wait anxiously for the results.

Year 6 into 7 Transition
As the Year Advisor for Year 7 in 2016 Ms Amber Hibbert has been coordinating the transition program for Year 6 students from our feeder schools. Last Tuesday year 6 students visited the school so they could “get their bearings”, meet some of the teachers and get to know Ms Hibbert.

There will be more of these days before the end of term. Judging by the faces in this photo, the students are enthusiastic about starting high school next year.

ABOVE: Ms Hibbert and some of the keen Year 6 students

Did you know that the MitCon provide private and group instrumental music lessons at this school during school hours? If you would like to enrol please call the MitCon office in 6331 6622. Gustav Szleski is currently offering lessons in violin/cello.
Can You Help?

Our canteen offers healthy food choices to the students and staff and relies on the support of generous volunteers who give time to assist canteen manager, Veronica Kelly. Recently the number of volunteers has dropped off and Veronica is now desperate for help. If you can assist in the canteen for just a short time, as little as one day a month, please contact Veronica at the school between 10am and 2.00pm on 6336 1606.

Mark the day on the calendar “Friday 30th October”
Prepare for fun and great prizes.
Get out the ‘Bingo dotter’. Dust off your best costume
Halloween Bingo Bonanza is on its way!

This is the Oberon High School P&C Association’s second major fundraiser for the year. The aim is to have a great social night and make a few dollars on the way. Our bingo caller for the night is Oberon High’s Principal, Ken Barwick and the favourite snack ‘fresh cooked popcorn’ will also be making an appearance.

Doors open at 5:30pm so bring the family, have a meal and make a night of it. Bingo starts at 7pm. There will be 10 rounds of bingo and lots of extra ways to win prizes and have fun including a raffles, heads’n’tails, coin slide, best costume, lucky door prize, and extra draw for pre-purchased tickets.

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Tickets can be purchased from the school, so be sure to get in early for your chance to win the extra lucky door prize. Tickets will also be available at the door. Bingo markers and extra games can be purchased on the night.

generosity from local businesses
Keep your eye open for ticket sellers in the main street over the next couple of weeks. If you would like to make a donation please drop it into the school or phone 6336 1606 or 0419 445 767 for more information.

In other P&C news, minutes from our last meeting will soon be available to view from the skoolbag app.

We are going to be at the next Oberon Farmers Markets selling popcorn fairy floss and drinks on Saturday the 7th November. If anyone is able to help at the Farmers Markets, even for half an hour, please contact Gayle on 0419 445 767.

Our current raffle will be drawn at Halloween Bingo Bonanza and tickets are available from the front office. The P&C committee appreciates any people who can sell some raffle tickets for us.

We would also like a few helpers on our bingo night. If you are able to spare some time, help will only be needed from 5:30 to 7pm so you can still take part in the bingo. Even 15 mins helps, so please contact Gayle 0419 445 767.

Meetings - Thursday 12th November 5pm at the school. December’s meeting is our Christmas celebration at a venue to be decided starting at 5pm on Thursday 10th December. All are welcome to join us (pay for your own drinks and meal).

Finally a big thank you to all those who support the P&C whether it’s selling or buying tickets, donating time or goods and prizes, or attending functions.

THANKS.

The benefits all go back to the students in a variety of ways.

Gayle Voerman
President
0419 445 767