Thank You

- to Trish Fox for thinking of the music department and donating a drumkit.
- to the community for supporting the P&C with generous donations to fundraising initiatives
- to the RFS volunteer instructors running the RFS Cadet program
- to the community in supporting Performing Arts at Oberon High School.

Notes from the Principal

Term 4 is disappearing very quickly as our school prepares to roll over into 2016 courses for all students at the beginning of Week 6 – Monday 9th November 2015. It is an extremely exciting time for all our students who are keen to commence their new timetable and graduate into the next year group. Students will receive their new timetables during Week 5 where they will be reminded about the importance of the last five weeks of school in their chosen courses.

Our Year 10 students who will be moving into the first phase of the new compressed college structure will start their three chosen courses for twice as many periods. These students will have completed a full term of school work in just five weeks. I would like to wish all students and staff the best as we all aim to work hard in the final weeks of the calendar year.

Our Year 12 students have impressed the HSC examination supervisors. All reports are that they have worked tremendously hard in all examinations and they have been frantically writing until the supervisors have requested pens down. Students have been happy with the examinations papers and students have not left examinations early, a very positive sign as we look forward to results in mid-December.

As our students wrap up their HSC examinations, they will turn their full attention towards preparing for their Year 12 Graduation Ball which will be held at the Oberon RSL Club on Friday 20th November 2015.

Please, Can You Help?

Our canteen 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 needs 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.
Information about the Graduation Ball can be obtained from the school front office where parents can collect tickets. Year 12 students will need to return textbooks and all other school property before their Graduation Ball. These items can be dropped off at the front office and students will have then fulfilled their school obligations.

Year 11 students should have received an HSC Assessment Schedule booklet which outlines 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.

These assessment tasks are very important as they will form the basis of HSC assessment grades which will be submitted to the Board of Studies later next year. Good luck to all students in these assessment tasks and remember to ask for support and follow the HSC rules and procedures surrounding assessment tasks and submission of tasks.

Oberon High P&C thanks the community for bingo support!

The Oberon High School P&C are committed to supporting our school’s BYOD laptop program by subsidising the cost of student laptops.

It was great to see many students and their families supporting the Halloween Bingo Bonanza on Friday 30th November 2015 at the Oberon RSL Club. The funds raised on the night will be used to subsidise laptops for our incoming Year 6 students in 2016.

All students at Oberon High School will have then been provided the opportunity to purchase a fantastic educational resource at an amazing price. I would like to thank the P&C for their hard work with fund raising and their commitment to supporting teaching and learning.

The P&C association would like to thank the following businesses for their support - 2BS/B Rock, Oberon First National, Ray White Emms Mooney, Spark Electrical, Arrows Newsagency, Barkers Butchery, Green Fox, Mayfield Garden, Oberon Industrial & Farm Supplies, Oberon RSL, Rosedale Gifts, Ross Conifers, Tourist Hotel, Scenic World Katoomba, Captain Cook Cruises, 58 George, Dan Murphy’s, The Katoomba St Cafe, The Big Trout Motel, Reliance Credit Union and all of the generous community members who support our raffle.

NAPLAN results

Parents and carers of students who have a child(ren) in Year 7 and/or Year 9 would have received individual NAPLAN results for 2015 tests.

Please contact the school on 6336 1606 if you have any questions or concerns about your child’s results or wish to discuss aspects of the NAPLAN procedure.

Appointments are available with Rachel Sinclair, Learning Support Teacher throughout Term 4.

“questions or concerns about your child’s results”
Mickey Pye – the Toyota Star Maker album launch

All of Oberon were thrilled earlier this year when local musical talent and guitar teacher at our school Mickey Pye was named the 2015 Toyota Star Maker winner in Tamworth. Mickey has probably had the busiest year of his working life as he has travelled the world and all of Australia playing to big crowds and supporting other Australian country music stars.

Apart from this hectic work schedule Mickey has also been writing and recording tracks on his first album – Mickey Pye “Unleashed”. All of the Central West and Oberon residents will have the opportunity to attend the official album launch at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC) on Thursday 26th November 2015 at 7.00pm. Our school has received many inquiries about whether we will be organising an excursion for students to attend the launch as Mickey has positively influenced many throughout his journey.

Updated bell times and period lengths for 2016

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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<tr>
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<td>9.00am</td>
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<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.48am</td>
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<td>Recess</td>
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<td>Assembly</td>
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<td>Period 3</td>
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<td>Period 5</td>
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<td>Period 5</td>
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<td>Period 6</td>
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<td>End of Day</td>
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<td>3.18pm</td>
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(continued on page 4)
Student subject requirements for courses
As students receive their new school timetables, many parents have been asking about the subject specific requirement which are needed to successfully engage in all courses. Below is a breakdown of subject needs for each of the courses in each year group. If parents have any concerns or questions about the requirements, please contact Mr Craig Luccarda or Mr Ken Barwick on (02) 6336 1606.

Students in ALL stages
Students in all stages will need to purchase their own – Blue, Red and Black pens, Rulers, Lead Pencils, Eraser, Coloured Pencils, Textas, Scissors, Glue Stick, Safety glasses and solid enclosed shoes for practical subjects, Calculator (Can be purchased from the school office for $25). Teachers have requested that technology will be used for lessons. Chrome books/laptops are preferred if you are able to bring technology.

Stage 4 – Year 7 and 8
- English - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Mathematics - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), Scientific Calculator
- Science - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), A4 Display Book, USB,
- History/Geography - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Technology Mandatory - 2X A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Music/LOTE - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages)
- PD/H/PE - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Appropriate Footwear
- Sport - Sport Clothes, Appropriate Footwear
- Visual Arts - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), A4 Visual Arts Process Diary

Stage 5 – Year 9 and 10
- English - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Mathematics - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), Scientific Calculator
- Science - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), A4 Display Book, USB,
- History/Geography - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Child Studies - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Physical Activity and Sport Studies - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), Appropriate Footwear
- PD/H/PE - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Appropriate Footwear
- Sport - Sport Clothes, Appropriate Footwear
- Visual Arts - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), A4 Visual Arts Process Diary, USB/SD Card
- Drama - A4 Visual Arts Process Diary
- Work Education - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- Photography - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), A4 Visual Arts Process Diary, USB/SD Card
- Agriculture - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Enclosed Footwear, Hat
- Food Technology - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Enclosed Footwear, A4 Display Folder
- Wood - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), Enclosed Footwear, Safety Glasses
- Metals - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), Enclosed Footwear, Safety Glasses
- Music - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), Manuscript Workbook
Year 11 College Red Compressed Curriculum

- **English Extension** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- **English Advanced** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- **English Standard** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages)
- **Mathematics General** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), Scientific Calculator
- **Hospitality** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), A4 Display Book, Chef’s Uniform, Black Leather Shoes
- **PD/H/PE** - A4 Exercise Book (128 pages), A4 Display Folder
- **Industrial Technology** - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), Protective Footwear, Safety Glasses
- **Metals and Engineering** - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), Protective Footwear, Safety Glasses
- **Photography** - A4 Exercise Book (64 pages), A4 Visual Arts Process Diary, USB/SD Card
- **Music** - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Manuscript Workbook, A4 Visual Arts Diary
- **Primary Industries** - A4 Exercise Book (96 pages), Safety Glasses, Work Gloves, Hat, USB
- **Physics** - A4 Exercise Book (196 pages), Scientific Calculator, A4 Display Folder, USB, Geometry Set
- **Senior Science** - A4 Exercise Book (196 pages), Scientific Calculator, A4 Display Folder, USB

**Helping your child through adolescence!**

Young people can go through many different changes as they grow up. Raising sensitive issues and working to resolve problems that arise along the way can be challenging. It can often be hard as a parent to know the difference between normal behaviour, such as moodiness, irritability and withdrawal and an emerging mental health problem.

Mental health refers to a person’s emotional and social wellbeing. When someone’s mental health declines it can affect their feelings, thoughts and actions.

Parents are vital in helping to identify when a young person might have a mental health problem and encouraging early help seeking.

This can then affect their day to day life and participation in activities such as school, work and relationships. Mental health problems are common and are usually understandable reactions to personal and social issues. Mental health problems are usually not too severe or long lasting. If a young person develops a mental health problem it is important that they get help early. When mental health problems last for long periods of time and severely affect someone’s everyday life, it may be that the problem is becoming an illness.

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**Communicating with your child**

Promoting good mental health involves keeping the communication lines open. Here are some tips that can help:

- Be available without being intrusive or ‘pushy’;
- Show genuine interest in what your child is doing and encourage them to talk about it;
- Make talking about your day part of the family routine;
- Help your child to find the words to express their feelings – try asking them to describe it, ask about whether the feeling is more or less intense than it has been before, ask about where and how they feel it in their body;
- Pick your time – young people tend to talk more when they are busy doing other things or don’t have to look you in the eye (try driving in the car or washing dishes together);
- Let your child know that you love them. They may not always admit it, but this is likely to be very important to them.
“Discovery is about the human condition”

Karen Yager, English Teacher Association President’s, words rang out for our students at the Discovering Discovery Day held in Sydney Friday 23rd October. A day like this could only have been attended in fashion as our students jumped on a train at 6:30am (not to mention the drive to Mount Victoria train station before) to attend the informative day.

Discovery is the Area of Study for all Standard and Advanced English students in the HSC. The students study the concept and apply it to prescribed texts and texts of their choice, and at the end of the year sit the English Paper 1 examination based on this concept.

In particular, students learnt more about the concept and how it could be applied to finding additional texts. They also considered how to write creatively and prepare for the essay, all featured in the examination.

Thank you to the parents/carers who had the early start and late evening dropping off and picking up students. We appreciate the efforts you make to assist Oberon High School students achieve.

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“… valuable fire fighting and teamwork skills.”

Our RFS cadets

The RFS Cadet program was run again at Oberon High School this year.

The RFS provides this great program that gives high school students the opportunity to learn valuable fire fighting and teamwork skills and experience what it is like to be part of a volunteer organisation.

The culmination of the program for the six participating students was the final day of activities held at the Oberon Recreation Ground on 22nd October.

A number of schools from Oberon, Bathurst and beyond participated. Students were divided into teams and put the skills they had learned earlier in the year into practice in competition against each other and the clock.

At the end of the competition day students were presented with certificates in recognition of their achievements. Overall winner was Carenne School.

Thank you to the Year 11 (almost 12!) students who attended the day. Your behaviour was exceptional.

Yours Dramatically Musical,
Amber Hibbert

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Hopefully the RFS Cadet program will run again next year and more Oberon High students (and the wider Oberon community) will benefit.

Thanks to the local RFS volunteer instructors whose time and commitment is greatly appreciated.

Thanks also to Mr Phil Watkins and Mr Cameron Inwood who supervised our students during the program.
**Maths Faculty Report**
This week my report will be brief as we are in the middle of producing junior reports as well as changing to a new, dynamic structure of a compressed curriculum for the senior college.

Week six of this term sees us roll-over to a new teaching year, that will obviously continue next year.

I will take this opportunity to remind all students to be organised Monday, Week 6 (week B on the time-table) and possess a calculator for mathematics lessons.

Our preferred model is shown here but any scientific calculator with a fraction key will suffice.

Mr Leven finishes up mathematically at the end of week five. However, he still teaches other subjects, such as Science and PDHPE here at OHS. He has my sincere thanks for all of his efforts for year 9.

Week 6 sees the return of an extremely experienced and decorated Mathematics teacher. Mr Barwick will be teaching the new 10M1 class when we roll-over class lists. I am very excited by the mathematical extension and enrichment that I know these students will receive in this class.

NAPLAN results for year 7 and year 9 students, in Literacy and Numeracy, were posted a few weeks ago. Staff have analysed this information to see what topics were done well and also those that need further work. Mrs Kylie Hayden is currently at OHS working with selected students.

The Mathematics Examinations for this year’s HSC have now been completed. The General 2 students made positive comments about the questions they were asked this year, but the Advanced students thought that there were tricky questions in their paper.

Michael Jones
Head Teacher Mathematics

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**Whooping Cough Alert**
There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, amongst primary-school-aged children and a modest increase in high schools.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night. Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines.

A booster dose of vaccine is recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055.


Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to inform you that Oberon High School will be offering the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award to a limited number of students aged 14 years and over.

The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive, challenging and enjoyable things in their free time. The Award is widely recognised by educationalists and employers. Some of the benefits to young people include developing or discovering:

- A sense of achievement
- New skills and interests
- Self-confidence and self-reliance
- Leadership skills and abilities
- Exciting opportunities
- Experience of teamwork and decision making
- Enjoyment

The Award requires those taking part to complete 4 sections:

- Skill (learning a skill at least once a week)
- Physical (participating in a physical activity at least once a week)
- Volunteering (being involved in an activity that benefits others once a week)
- Expedition (completing a training and assessed 2 day hike with an overnight camp)

Involvement in the scheme is, of course voluntary. However participants, and their parents, should understand that success is dependent upon personal commitment to the completion of Award requirements. Participants who are unable to develop the necessary self-discipline to attend all meetings at school and to keep up to date with their activities and record-keeping will find it extremely difficult to complete their Award and are likely to drop out early.

A cost of $105.00 will be charged to all successful applicants. This covers registration and insurance for all activities undertaken for the Award at “Bronze” level. Participants are liable for the extra costs associated with any particular activity.

Many students at Oberon High School possess a wide variety of qualities, abilities, skills, resources and home support that would make them perfect candidates for the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. I am sure that over the next year we will create a fun, informative, active and encouraging learning environment which will stretch, challenge and equip those taking part.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any inquiries, or if you feel that you can assist in any way.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Leven
Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Co-ordinator

Ken Barwick
Principal
Mickey Pye

ALBUM LAUNCH

THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 7:00PM

BATHURST MEMORIAL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

DOORS OPEN 6:30PM

THE HOME TOWN LAUNCH

100% LOCAL SUPPORT LINE UP

Celebrating the Release of the 2015 Toyota Star Maker Album UNLEASHED

Featuring the #1 Single ‘When She’s Drinkin’’

Tickets

@ BMEC

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PH: (02) 6333 6161

ON SALE NOW

‘A crowd favourite on our 2015 tour’

-The McClymonts

‘He’s fantastic!’

-Beccy Cole

www.mickeypye.com.au

www.facebook.com/mickeypymusic

Oberon High School - educating the whole person for the whole of life
End 2015 on a musical! ‘Sophia’s Strings’ present renowned cellist, David Pereira in ‘A Fist Full of Firsts’. David is performing the two best-loved cello quintets, composed by Boccherini and Schubert, with violinists David Saffir and Anita Beuthien, violist Jill Quin and cellist Robyn Godfrey, and a string quartet will be performed by students from All Saints College, at St Stanislaus Performing Arts Centre, Bathurst, on Friday, December 4th at 6.30 pm. Throughout the concert, a unique set of instruments, crafted in the Central West, will have their debut and an exciting new scholarship initiative announced.

David Pereira has a distinguished career as a performer, recording artist and teacher. He has performed on the world stage with major orchestras in the UK, Europe, United States and Asia. David is the cellist of choice and has premiered works by contemporary composers such as Peter Sculthorpe, Richard Mills and Carl Viner.

This concert is a night of firsts. The musicians will play, for the first time, very special instruments crafted by Central West luthier, Peter Reid. Peter fashioned a string quartet, two violins, a viola and violoncello, using only Australian native timbers. All instruments in the quartet have belly plates sourced from the one piece of 1000 year old King William pine. The backs, sides and necks came from 500 year old Tasmanian Blackwood then finished with jarrah fingerboards and rosewood fittings. The combination of these rare timbers has resulted in instruments of visual beauty and deep, rich tone. When David visited Sophia’s Strings early this year, he was so impressed with superb sound of the cello of the set; he commissioned an instrument from Peter. David’s new instrument is a bass violin patterned on the “Servais” of Antonio Stradivari who only made five of these and the only unaltered one is now on exhibition in the Smithsonian. It is believed nothing like this bass violin has been crafted since 1710.

To encourage the cream of young, local, string players, a wonderful new scholarship will be offered from 2016. The instruments from this beautiful quartet will be made available for use, free of charge, to the best string quartet from a learning institution in the Central West. Further details of the competition for final year students will be announced at the concert.

Tickets for this fabulous event are $50 per person, $30 concession, school age students in uniform are free. For enquiries and bookings contact Rod Tuson by email: rodtuson1@gmail.com; phone 6337 9679, or you can book online at http://www.ticketbo.com.au/sophiasstrings.