Student Focus
Meet Toriea Hotham - she’s just started her Year 11 studies in Senior College and thinks Oberon High is “the best school!” Toriea has been attending OHS for just on 12 months having previously attended McKillop College in Bathurst. Under the compressed curriculum model, Toriea is studying General Maths, English Standard and Timber. While she enjoys her current subjects, her favourite subject is Drama. This is understandable, as Toriea’s career aspirations are to be a performer, and she loves singing and dancing. This year Toriea represented the school in soccer in Rural Cup. Toriea’s favourite teacher is Miss McTrustry, however she also really likes Mr Jones who has helped her by making mathematics enjoyable, resulting in a big improvement in her examination results. For Toriea, the best thing about OHS is her friends and she’s really happy that these friends are across all year groups. After high school, Toriea plans to have a gap year before pursuing her dream of being a performer. She would also like to study to be a Dance Therapist, helping people through dance and movement. Toriea is a happy and focussed student who is enjoying her time at Oberon High School.

Notes from the Principal
Remembrance Day
On Wednesday 11th November 2015, Oberon High School marked the 97th Anniversary of Remembrance Day with a ceremony led by our 2016 School Captains and Vice-Captains. The ceremony was organised by Mr Cameron Inwood who read the ode and assisted the school captains in a very well planned and executed service. Four of our school leaders also attended a Remembrance Ceremony at the Oberon RSL on the day to lay a wreath to honour our fallen soldiers. Well done to all involved!

Senior College
Oberon High School continues to be an extremely busy and exciting place to learn with many wonderful student achievements during 2015. (read more on page 2)

Mickey’s in the Western Region Academy of Sport
Year 10 student, Mickey Muratovic (pictured above with WRAS mentor Jack Allars) earned a scholarship to the Western Region Academy of Sport. (read more on page 3)

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<td>Duke of Edinburgh</td>
<td>8</td>
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Our committed staff have also been working overtime on changing our curriculum structure for the introduction of our new Oberon Senior College in Stage 6 for 2016. The compressed curriculum model which has our senior students studying three subjects each year and completing the HSC for those courses in that year, has been well received by our entire school community. The school's curriculum team led by Craig Luccarda have developed our new school structures in preparation for our move to a senior compressed curriculum. Many teachers visited other schools, and attended conferences and professional learning activities, returning to school to share their experiences and provide the solutions needed in the implementation of our new structure. Throughout the year our curriculum team reported to staff and held community sessions to provide relevant information about our new curriculum structures. I would like to thank Craig Luccarda for his exceptional leadership and his work with his curriculum team. Our school rolled over into our compressed curriculum structure on Monday, 9th November 2015. It was also very pleasing to welcome many new students from St. Josephs who have joined our school and the new structure. I look forward to speaking with their parents and getting feedback on the structure and other components of our school. Again welcome one and all to Oberon High School.

Mickey Pye – the Toyota Star Maker album launch

All of Oberon was 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. Part of his hectic work schedule has been writing and recording tracks on his first album – “Unleashed”. Oberon High School students have the opportunity to attend the official album launch at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC) on Thursday 26th November 2015 at 7.00pm.

This is a unique opportunity and limited bus seats are available.

Thanks to Oberon Council who have agreed to subsidize to cost of the buses to support Oberon talent.

Cost to this event including bus is –
- Under 15 years - $18.00
- 15 years and over - $26.00.

Buses will leave Oberon High School at 5.30pm, Thursday 26th November 2015. As timing is tight, please return all money and permission notes no later than 19th November.

However due to the limited number of tickets, it will be those students who book their tickets first. Parents are welcome to buy tickets and come with the school.

We look forward to supporting our local singer and being part of the celebration of Mickey’s new album. The students will be accompanied by Mr Barwick, Miss Marshall and other staff members.

If students wish to follow Mickey on his tour and the lead up to the album launch, they could check him out on his website – [www.mickeypye.com.au](http://www.mickeypye.com.au) or Facebook – [www.facebook.com/mickeypyemusic](http://www.facebook.com/mickeypyemusic).
**Fighting Success for Past Student**

It was exciting to hear the news last weekend when one of our past students, Mitchell Stevens (year 12 in 2004) competed for the NSW Country Heavy Weight boxing title in Cobar. Mitchell is the son of one of our staff, Mrs Julie Stevens who was very proud on Monday after her son won his title fight on November 7 and was awarded the championship belt. The 'Champ’ is pictured wearing his NSW Country Heavy Weight Championship belt after his impressive win in the ring. Mitchell competes in the Australian Boxing League (ABL), and he was matched against a competitor from Armidale. State titles were also contested on the night and another Oberon export in David Sellers narrowly went down on points in a very close contest after going the distance. Congratulations to both boys on their fantastic results. Competitors travelled from Tamworth, Forbes, Parks, Orange, Bathurst, Oberon, Central Coast and other areas surrounding Cobar. The ‘Champ’ is pictured wearing his NSW Country Heavy Weight Championship belt after his impressive win in the ring.

From page 1 - Mickey Muratovic

Mickey was thrilled recently to hear that he had been offered a scholarship into the Western Region Academy of Sport to support his dreams to play football (soccer) for Australia one day. Mickey currently plays football in Sydney for the highly fancied club *Sydney United* and has impressed many coaches and scouts with his ability to put the ball into the back of the net with regularity. The scholarship with the WRAS will provide Mickey with one on one intense training aimed at giving him the edge in his chosen sport through detailed strength and conditioning programs. The program is designed to assist athletes make a successful transition from an elite youth level to an elite senior level. Mickey currently trains with WRAS mentor Jack Allars every Thursday morning before school preparing him physically, while creating good habits for the future in terms of recovery and time management. Students and staff at Oberon High School would like to wish Mickey the very best in this program and we look forward to hearing about his future successes. Well done Mickey!

**Updated bell times and period lengths for 2016**

Periods on Monday 1 are now 48 minutes each and all other days in the two week timetable are 53 minutes. A student survey revealed a longer early morning break would be suitable as it divided the day up evenly with two periods – break – two periods – break – two periods. There are two 30 minute breaks for students each day. Assembly now occurs once per fortnight on Monday 1. After a week of new bell times, our impression is that 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>
</tr>
</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>
</tr>
<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>
School Magazine on Sale - $20 at Front Office

In 2015 our school again provided many cultural activities, along with creative and performing arts performances which all enhanced our rigorous teaching and learning programs.

Throughout the year, I have continued to highlight our major successes on 2BS radio each Thursday afternoon on ‘Talk of the Town’ which has increased the positive talk about our school, student successes and other Oberon activities.

School promotion through our school website, local radio, newsletters, newspapers and again our amazing school magazine provides our students up-to-date information, highlighting all that is great about Oberon High School.

I am always delighted to recognise the efforts and achievements of our students both in the classroom and in the wider community through the publication of a school magazine. I would like to thank the staff and students who have contributed reports to this year’s school magazine, and a massive thanks to Jenny Porter and her team for compiling this great keepsake for the 2015 school year.

The 2015 school magazine can be purchased at the front office for just $20.00! There are limited copies, so please hurry.

School Development Day - Thursday 17th December 2015

The staff at Oberon High School will engage in professional learning at the end of the school term on Thursday 17th December 2015. Students are expected to attend school until Wednesday, 16th December 2015. They will be working on their new courses as all students have rolled into their next year group to allow for the introduction of our senior college compressed curriculum structure. The majority of the staff professional learning consists of mandatory sessions to support student wellbeing and positive outcomes for students within our school. If you have any questions about the sessions presented on the school development day, please contact Craig Luccarda or Ken Barwick on 02 6336 1606.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program/Activity</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1 9.00 – 9.15</td>
<td>General Information Term 4 Wrap Up and 2016 Information</td>
<td>Description – Dissemination of information to all staff relating to school changes for 2016. ✓ Survey Results Discussion ✓ Focuses for 2016 ✓ School Excellence Framework Trial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2 9.15 – 10.00</td>
<td>Code of Conduct and Professional Expectations</td>
<td>Description – Session covers the professional Code of conduct, professional expectations and Procedures for handling complaints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3 10.00 – 10.30</td>
<td>Guidelines for specific Sports and Physical Activity</td>
<td>Description – Training outlines all the specific guidelines and requirements for all in school, carnival and excursions relating to school sports and physical activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4 10.30 – 11.30</td>
<td>Updated School Anti-Bullying Procedures</td>
<td>Description – Session covers the processes used and the content of our schools new updated Anti-Bullying procedures. All staff walked through the new policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 5 Morning tea</td>
<td>Morning tea</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 6 12.00 – 1.00</td>
<td>Positive Behaviour for Learning – New direction and school structures</td>
<td>Description – PBL team to deliver a PBL update and new school direction for 2016. Discussion about processes and data collection to support visions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 7 Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 8 1.40 – 3.00</td>
<td>PBL Workshop</td>
<td>Description – Staff to write PBL lessons and collect teaching resources and materials to present a consistent school wide approach towards PBL for 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 9 3.00 – 3.20</td>
<td>Plenary and Evaluation</td>
<td>Description – All staff to complete the short evaluation provided.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ken Barwick  
Principal  
0418 629 198
New Study Guides and New System

The library is supporting students who have moved up to new Years in the school’s compressed model of study, by issuing new textbooks this week.

Please return textbooks that are no longer needed

We are hampered in this endeavor by students who have not returned their textbooks from their last year of study. In some classes students are sharing texts while we wait for the rest to be returned by students who no longer need them.

Would parents please help students to search for library books, both fiction and nonfiction, and remind them to return them ASAP. Students have been issued with a loan list so they know what books they are looking for.

One of the newly created sections in the library is “Study Guides”. We offer study guides that cover all Preliminary, HSC subjects and 7 - 10 core subjects. Students are invited to borrow the study guides, on a two week loan, and use them to consolidate their knowledge of topics as they are working on them in class. As we get close to exam periods, study guide loan periods will shorten to overnight to ensure all students have a chance to access them.

Exciting features include the ability to link directly to database articles and websites from the catalogue and lists that direct students to books, software, internet content and eBooks relevant to the assignment they are given.

Ruth Grace
Teacher Librarian

Ancient History cover-up

Year 8 students created Aztec warrior masks in Ancient History. The students were investigating contact history, what happened when Europeans and Aztecs, two different cultures and societies, met.

Although the original Aztec masks were designed to intimidate their enemies, the OHS versions look a little friendlier. Thanks to Mr Inwood for the inspiration.
Science Faculty Report

The Science faculty has been preparing for the transition to the 3X3 curriculum for some time and this was effectively implemented on Monday, 9th November 2015. The preparation for the transition required the science staff to ‘head back to the drawing board’ to realign the scope and sequence in all junior classes and streamline the assessment schedules and sequence of teaching in senior college.

"... successful implementation of our plan in science ..."

We are delighted with the successful implementation of our plan in science and the effect the plan has had on our senior college structure. Initial positive feedback as to where we are headed in this important structural change in catering for the education of our senior students, is very pleasing.

"... the most exciting educational experiences of their lives when they enter our classrooms."

The Year 6 into 7 transition phase in science was immensely successful and well received by all pupils who attended.

"... quality science education at this school ... to cultivate innovative ideas ..."

The science faculty at Oberon High School has invested significantly in equipping itself to cater for all sciences being taught from Years 7 to 12.

I am proud to state that we are ready and excited to start our first lessons with Year 7 and provide them with the most exciting educational experiences of their lives when they enter our classrooms.

I am hopeful that our endeavours to cater quality science education at this school will generate the much needed enthusiasm to cultivate innovative ideas amongst the youth in our school community.

Gyan Mudaliar
H.T. Science
Community

Oberon High School - educating the whole person for the whole of life

Highlands Steam & Vintage Fair
February 2016
Hosted by the Oberon Heritage and Collectors Club
More information at www.oberonsteamfair.com.au

Oberon Recreation Ground
Friday 4/12/15
Starting from 5:30 pm

Performances from Oberon’s Finest Talents, Young and Old.
Special Guest – Domino Houlbrook - Cove and Kurt Booth
Face Painting
Fun Glow Items and battery operated Candles available to purchase
BBQ and Canteen Facilities
Ruella Coffee with Real Coffee and Hot Chocolate
Mr Whippy
All you need to do is bring the family with a blanket or chairs to the Oberon Recreation Ground for some great Festive Fun.

*We will even be having a visit from SANTA*

Gold coin donation per person, which will be going to the Oberon District Little Athletics Centre to improve our facilities and equipment for the little athletes of Oberon.
(Wet Weather Plan in place so don’t let that put a dampener on a great family evening out!!!
If you have any questions ‘like’ Oberon Little Athletics on Facebook and send us a message.)

Oberon Recreation Ground
Friday 4/12/15
Starting from 5:30 pm

Oberon District Little Athletics Proudly presents
Community – Carols in the Park
Performances from Oberon’s Finest Talents, Young and Old.
Special Guest – Domino Houlbrook - Cove and Kurt Booth
Face Painting
Fun Glow Items and battery operated Candles available to purchase
BBQ and Canteen Facilities
Ruella Coffee with Real Coffee and Hot Chocolate
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TVET Outdoor Recreation Camp
During 2015 year 12 students Merania Stanley and Jayde Mackenzie took the opportunity to attend an outdoor recreation camp. This opportunity is available for all year 11 and 12 students.

No prior skills are necessary, but you should have moderate fitness, an interest in the outdoors and adventurous activities, be prepared to sleep in a tent and form lots of new friendships whilst away from home for 9 days.

Contact Mrs Fitzpatrick for more information.

HIGHLANDS STEAK & VINTAGE FAIR
February 2016
Hosted by the Oberon Heritage and Collectors Club
More information at www.oberonsteamfair.com.au
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