Introducing Bailey Armstrong, now in year 10. At the recent presentation night Bailey was awarded first in geography, mathematics, PDHPD, science, history, food technology 100 hours, and visual arts 100 hours and consistent effort in English.

Music and Visual Arts are her favourite subjects because they allow her to be creative. Her favourite teacher is Mr Lyle - “you can have a joke with him; he’s nice”.

Bailey’s taste in music is eclectic and she admires music that you have to work hard to make, because that takes real talent. Bailey has guitar and vocal lessons with Mickey Pye and Abby Smith and is already an accomplished performer, playing a major role in the recent showcase. She loves performing because “when you perform you take a step out of your comfort zone.”

Bailey also enjoys sports, representing the school at Rural Cup. She loves athletics and running because it “boosts your mood.” Outside of school she plays hockey with Oberon.

Bailey’s many career choices range from sport & rec., to undertaking a trade with the Defence Forces.

A high achiever in many areas, Bailey will continually succeed at any challenge she accepts.

Mickey Pye’s surprise performance

Success for Aminita

Highlights of 2015

School’s out for summer!!

Last day for students is Wednesday, 16th December 2015. Students return to school on Thursday, 28th January 2016.

Also in this issue:-

- Presentation Night (page 2)
- Ryan Hopson’s outstanding achievements (page 7)
- School development days (page 8)
- Term dates for 2016 (page 8)
- Have your newsletter emailed (page 9)
- Year 6 transition (page 9)
- Parent Portal access (page 10)
- OHS digital suite (page 10)
- Help for parents (page 10)
- No reason to be bored! (page 11)
Notes from the Principal

This will be the last newsletter for 2015; the year is coming to an end quickly. I would like to thank everyone who attended our Presentation Night on Tuesday 8th December 2015 to celebrate our student’s achievements throughout 2015. It was extremely pleasing to see the community and parent support for students. There were some outstanding performances on the night! I would like to make a special mention of our 2016 school captains who were the MC’s for the evening. Bronte Leihn, Angus Fittler, Amy Mills, Kurt Boundy, Claudia Limon and Brandon Franklin were outstanding in their organisation and smooth running of the night and they are to be congratulated. Big thanks also to Mrs Mackay-Galea and Miss Windsor for their exceptional organisation, Mrs Porter for producing the certificates and Ms Grace who announced all the award winners throughout the evening.

Presentation Night 2015

It gave me great pleasure to deliver the principal’s address at the Oberon High School presentation night last Tuesday. There have been many achievements throughout the school year and I am extremely proud of the efforts of both students and staff throughout 2015.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all our teachers and students who were involved in organising the presentation night, and I would like to thank the parents and community members who attended the ceremony. Particularly, I would like to thank all our special guests, presenters and supporters who attended to help out on the evening.

In 2015, 13 of 17 students who applied for university entry have been successful already, through early entry schemes. Many students have been successful in gaining early entry to two or more universities, well done to all our students.

Again this year we have continued to share and promote all that is great about Oberon High School through newsletters, school app & website, weekly newspaper articles and radio talk back each Thursday. The support from our local press and radio is very much appreciated. There are many activities and events which highlight the many aspects of our fantastic school.

I believe it is all the outstanding opportunities for students at Oberon High which help our school attendance remain 5% above state average. Well done to all students for an outstanding 2015!

“...our school attendance...5% above state average.”

The following is a pictorial representation of many successes throughout 2015.
Tuglow – Champion House 2015

OHS Swimming Carnival 2015

Shannon Foley at the Bathurst Lions Club Youth Public Speaking competition.

Shannon Foley and Josh Harvey with Minister Paul Toole at Government House.

School Captains display Strong Leadership

Oberon High School P&C March Market Madness

P&C money supports the BYOD Laptop Program

“Into the Light - Roald Dahl’s Revolting Rhymes”

Alex Sikima, Jason Massey and Emily Henby in full dress for a packed house of ‘Into the Light’.

Year 7 Camp at Wambalong

Building Strong Leadership through the SRC

Throughout 2015 the Oberon High School SRC organised many fund raising activities – thanks must go the 29 members and Miss Marshall.

100 Years of the ANZACS

The 100th anniversary of the ANZACs landing at Gallipoli included a PowerPoint tribute to the four soldiers from Oberon and districts that died in the Gallipoli campaign.
Community Support continues

Our school captains were handed a cheque for $1300 by Mawhood’s Supa IGA manager Ian Mawhood as part of the IGA Community Chest.

BORG Panels donated all the materials for our new library bay ends. Thank You!

P&C support helps our students in many ways across the school

Numeracy Trend Data

Overall Year 9 School Growth for Numeracy is 9.3 greater than state average. Trend Data indicates the school performance continues in a positive direction.

Retirement, Fundraising & Recognition

Recently a function was held to farewell Carmel McCusker who is now enjoying a well-earned retirement after nearly 35 years cleaning Oberon High School.

Tyler Colley with his NRL under 13 High School Most Valuable Player trophy won at the Small Schools Rugby League Carnival in Dubbo.

On Thursday 21st May 2015 our school captains represented our school at the Robert Hooper Community Centre in Oberon when they assisted the Oberon Council with fund raising for cancer in Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea.

First Time Back-to-Back Rural Cups

Oberon High School

Students Lead the Oberon Youth Council

Year 11 student Angus Fitler has been rewarded for his outstanding commitment to the youth in the Oberon community when he was elected as the Youth Mayor for the next twelve months.

Year 12 student Keely Armstrong has also been rewarded for her ongoing dedication and commitment on the Oberon Youth Council in 2014 when she was elected as the Youth Deputy Mayor.

Columbia Aged Care Official Opening 2015

Year 9 Food Technology students impress as they cater for the official opening of the Columbia Aged Care facility. Our school captains also assisted building positive school and workplace relations.

Future Careers Interviews Oberon Senior College Red

Oberon High School’s Debating teams attended the 49th Festival of Speech at Lithgow High School
Oberon receives Snow, Snow and more Snow

NAIDOC Celebrations and Cultural Day

This cultural afternoon followed the success of last year’s NAIDOC celebrations. The day aimed to increase the understanding and awareness of indigenous culture.

Performing Arts continues to grow at Oberon High School

In August, students and community members travelled to Homebush to watch the Australian Diamonds play Wales in the Netball World Cup. Australia went on to defeat the New Zealand Silver Ferns in the final on Sunday.

World Class Sports

The Equestrian team is made up of students from both Oberon High School and Oberon Public School. Emily Thomas travelled to Coonabarabran to compete in the North West Equestrian Expo against 100 competitors. Emily came a creditable 3rd in the time trials.

HSC Music 2015 Oberon High School

The major works comprise 60% of the students’ final mark in these subjects and Mr Armstrong (Timber), Mr Boyd (Graphics) and Mr Lye (Visual Arts) were very impressed by some of the amazing projects that this year’s HSC students achieved.

HSC Major Projects Submitted

2015 School Captains handover for 2016

2015 Captains
Shannon Foley
Josh Harvey
Keely Armstrong
Adrian Trevy
Merania Stanley
Jaidyn Levanić

2016 Captains
Bronze Lehni
Argus Fitch
Amy Mills
Kurt Boundy
Claudia Limon
Brandon Franklin

‘Alice and the Rabbit’ Showcase Performance
Oberon Senior College Red
Compressed Curriculum 2015-2016

Continued support from Mickey Pye
and the Bathurst Academy of Music

School environment a
Community Facility

Oberon High School - educating the whole person for the whole of life
Some final thanks -

• Thanks to our teachers who have worked hard with students and to the administrative and support staff for their work.
• Thanks to local businesses who donated prizes, sponsorship of the school magazine and scholarships.
• Thanks to those many businesses and organisations that take our work experience and work placement students.
• Thanks to the P & C for their support of our students and our school programs.
• Thanks to our school counsellors – Emily Boland and Amanda Hall, along with our school chaplain – Dan Henby.
• Thanks to Veronica Kelly and the canteen helpers whose work in the canteen is much appreciated.
• Thanks again to Mr. Harvey for his ongoing support of our school as director of the Bathurst Network.

Oberon High School is a great school and one that looks to improving every day. We aim for great academic success for our students.

Further Success for Ryan Hopson

- Equal highest academic achiever in year 11, 2015
- Oberon Medical Centre award for excellence in science
- Victor Chang School Award for Science
- National Computer Science School scholarship

On Thursday 26th November 2015, Year 12 student Ryan Hopson received confirmation that he had been selected to attend the prestigious National Computer Science School (NCSS) during the 2016 summer holidays. Ryan was also offered a scholarship to attend the NCSS to cover the costs associated with his travel and stay at the University of Sydney. Very few students are invited and even less are offered a scholarship, however Ryan was chosen after receiving his Victor Chang School Award for Science in Dubbo a week earlier. (See Term 4 Week 8 newsletter)

Ryan is an outstanding Year 12 student who recently received the highest academic achiever award for Year 11 along with classmate Lucy Voerman at our presentation night. Ryan also accepted the Oberon Medical Award for Excellence in Science after ranking first in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

Staff and students would like to congratulate Ryan on his recent successes and we all look forward to hearing about his time at the University of Sydney after attending the National Computer Science School.
School development day programs for the end of 2015 and many of the 2016 days have now been set by the school executive. The final day of attendance for students this year is Wednesday, 16th December 2015 and students return on Thursday, 28th January 2016. Below is an outline of the training teachers will undertake at school development days.

Term 4 – 2015:
Thursday 17th December 2015
Session 1 – General Information Term 4 Wrap Up and 2016 Information
Session 2 – Code of Conduct and Professional Expectations
Session 3 – Guidelines for specific Sports and Physical Activity
Session 4 – Updated School Anti-Bullying Procedures
Session 6 – Positive Behaviour for Learning – New direction and school structures

Term 1 – 2016:
Tuesday 27th January 2015
Session 1 – School Structures and General Information
Session 2 – External Results Analysis
Session 3 – Child Protection Update 2016
Session 5 – Faculty Time
Session 6 – School Planning Milestones 2016
Session 8 – Mental Health Update and Staff Training
Session 9 – Assessment, Academic Course Review System, N Warning Process

Term 4 – 2016:
Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December 2016 replaced by the following
Tuesday 16th February 2016 (3.20pm -6.30pm)
Session 1 – Staff Training CPR and Anaphylaxis including face to face practical examination
Tuesday 17th May 2016 (3.20pm -6.30pm)
Session 1 – Mental Health First Aid and Student Wellbeing
Session 2 – Using Digital Technologies in the Classroom
Tuesday 9th August 2016 (3.20pm -6.30pm)
Session 1 – Setting the Scene PDP processes and observations
Session 2 – Using Digital Technologies in the Classroom
Tuesday 1st November 2016 (3.20pm -6.30pm)
Session 1 – 2016 Curriculum and Staff Overview and directions for 2017 and beyond
Session 2 – Improving Teaching using Digital Technologies

Next year’s Term Dates

| Term 1 | Staff - Wednesday 27th January 2016 |
| All students - Thursday 28th January 2016 |
| Last day – Friday 8th April 2016 |

| Term 2 | Staff - Tuesday 26th April 2016 |
| 7-10 Students - Wednesday 27th April 2016 |
| All Students - Thursday 28th April 2016 |
| Last day - Friday 1st July 2016 |

| Term 3 | Staff - Monday 18th July 2016 |
| All Students - Tuesday 19th July 2016 |
| Last day - Friday 23rd September 2016 |

| Term 4 | All Staff and Students – Monday 10th October 2016 |
| Last day - Friday 16th December 2016 |

If you have any questions about any of the programs at Oberon High School, please contact Ken Barwick or Craig Luccarda.

Ken Barwick, Principal
0418 629 198
Newsletter Emailed
In 2016 the OHS newsletter will be emailed direct to your email address, as well as being available on line on the school’s website and on Skoolbag, the school’s app.
Please ensure that the school has your current email address so you can receive your up-to-date newsletter conveniently. oberon-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Mickey Pye’s impromptu performance
Everyone was delighted when Mickey Pye paid a surprise visit to the school on Monday, 30th November.
Mickey took time out from his hectic promotional tour to visit the school and thank all those who had supported his recent album launch in Bathurst. The school arranged for buses to take Mickey’s fans to BMEC for the launch.
He gave an impromptu performance in front of the entire school population in the hall, and later signed copies of his CD, ‘Unleashed’.

Aminita Success
Student created band, Aminita have been recognised for their efforts in the Oberon Council Songwriting Competition. The results were announced by Mickey Pye at his album launch concert, when the band discovered they had achieved 3rd place.

Yours Dramatically Musical,
Ms Hibbert

Year 6 Transition
Year 6 Transition has been a lot of fun this term. Students from Oberon Public School, St. Joseph’s Central School and Black Springs Public School have been attending a number of days at Oberon High to experience high school before starting Year 7 in 2016.

It is the first time we have had the opportunity to pursue this transition program, which has come about with our changes to the senior school and the compressed curriculum.

With the roll-over into our new school structure Year 7 teachers were available during their scheduled Year 7 classes. This allowed us to complete a number of short block periods, an observation week and 3-day blocks over three weeks. The observations allowed secondary teachers to attend Oberon Public School and see how students worked in a familiar environment. We assisted in art, literacy, sport, math lessons, and had the opportunity to see how the students learn in their Year 5/6 classes.

This week will see students attend OHS for their last 3 block days. During these blocks students have attended classes running off the timetable they will use next year. They have met their teachers and managed to become accustomed to the school day. We hope you have had an awesome time Year 6.

Catch you next year.
Ms Hibbert.
Keeping in touch with your child’s education

Parents and carers of students at OHS can monitor their child’s education via the Parent Portal on Millennium. Complete the enclosed ‘Secure Parent Portal Access’ form and return it to the school to enable access to be granted. Details of your password and how to gain access will be emailed to you when school resumes in January 2016.

OHS Digital Suite - accessing online resources from home

Online textbook for 7 - 10
English, Maths, Science, History and Geography


Available to
All students 7 – 12

Log on
Username: DET internet username
Password: ohskwirk

Online documentaries and movies


Available to
Senior College students

Log on
Username: Google drive username
Password: Google drive password

Parent Line NSW professional counsellors take calls 7 days a week from parents of High School-age children. Parents can ask questions about aspects of behaviour, relationships, substance abuse and educational concerns until 9pm every night.

Young people often struggle with mental health issues more than younger children do. If your child has not been him or herself for several weeks, explore some options to help:-

* Find a quiet time to have a chat
* Visit a GP
* Investigate services such as headspace
* Call us on 1300 1300 52 to explore what parents and carers can do to help.

Online Counselling

Parent Line NSW is trialling Online Counselling on Mondays from 3pm to 5pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1pm. Go to www.parentline.org.au. Outside of these times you can call 1300 1300 52 or email info@parentline.org.au

Online Counselling is available to Parents, Carers and Professionals concerned about a child from 0-18 in New South Wales.

Parent Line NSW is a state funded program managed by CatholicCare Sydney.
**School Holiday Activities**

Pack a picnic and come make some new friends.
- Canoeing, Lake Canobolas, 6th & 13th January.
- Bushwalking, Glow worm tunnel Blue Mountains NP, 14th January.

Cost: $30 per person per day, minimum age 7yrs. Bookings essential, limited numbers available.

Transport included; pick up locations in Orange & Bathurst.

For bookings & enquiries please contact Tina on 0488 653 931

www.aspirensw.org.au

**Summer Holiday Activities**

Activities depend on bookings and weather conditions.

Pack your day pack and join us to test your nerve. This is sure to be a day you will never forget!
- Abseiling The Pinnacle, Mt Canobolas, 7th & 12th January
- Canoeing, Lake Canobolas, 6th & 13th January
- Bushwalking, Glow worm tunnel Blue Mountains NP, 14th January

Cost: $30 per person per day, minimum age 10yrs. Bookings essential, limited numbers available.

**Bonus Offer!** Book any 3 activities for the one participant and pay only $75

**SUMMER KIDS’ CAMPS**

**THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT**

New friendships  Fun
Great value  Safe

Summer is all about having FUN in the great outdoors. There is no better way for kids to jam-pack their school holidays with adventure and excitement than by attending a Sport and Recreation Kids’ Camp.

Choose from day programs and residential camps to Duke of Edinburgh’s Award journeys. Activities include raft building, mountain biking, flying fox, giant swing, cookouts and more. With so many programs on offer, you’ll be sure to find a camp your kids will love.

Kids’ day camps start from $50. Residential camps include 24-hour supervision, accommodation, meals and activities, and many offer supervised transport to and from Central Station, Sydney.

Sport & Adventure camps

Click here for more details or to register

**Skoolbag**

Skoolbag is Oberon High School’s free app. Download it now to your smart phone and keep in touch with what’s happening at your school. Notices, news, newsletters, eforms are all available from the app.

**Back to Top**