From the Principal's Desk

As mentioned in our previous newsletter both staff and students are completely immersed in our assessment and reporting cycle. All students will have completed their half yearly examinations by the end of Week 6 which is two weeks earlier than usual to accommodate the curriculum rollover during Term 4 this year. Teachers are now busy marking and grading papers against outcomes and are preparing half yearly reports in Millennium.

Student Focus

Jess Maclure is a Year 10 student, studying English, Maths, Geography, History, Science, PDHPE, PASS, and Food Technology as well as Commerce which she studies by distance mode.

As well as achieving good academic results in all her subjects, Jess is a keen athlete and enjoys participating in a wide range of team sports. She has represented the school in basketball, netball, touch football and soccer and is a valuable member of all these teams.

Jess is leaving her career options open by getting a good grounding in a wide range of subjects. In term 4 she will be going to Dubbo for work experience at the Dubbo Zoo.

On weekends Jess works at the Long Arm Farm Cafe in Oberon and enjoys meeting the range of interesting people who come into the cafe.

Jess has a keen interest in overseas travel with one of her most memorable experiences being scuba diving in Fiji where she shared the ocean with a reef shark and a turtle. In the future she wants to further experience different cultures in areas as diverse as Europe, Africa and South America.

Jess is dedicated to achieving all she can while at Oberon High School and is determined to use her education to ensure she has an interesting and fulfilling life.
then walking to the shops to meet others or buy packets of lollies for school. I have asked my executive team to do regular checks of the streets in the mornings to ensure that students arrive at school on time and they are not filling up with sugar before embarking on their educational day. Students must get on and off the bus at their designated stops and if they are found in shops or behind businesses in the toilets there will be follow-up with parents.

**P&C continue to support Technology**

At a recent Oberon High School P&C meeting newly appointed treasurer Mishka Eggins presented school principal Ken Barwick with a cheque for $5500 to continue their ongoing support of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program at Oberon High School. The school P&C contribute $75 per student towards the purchase of laptops, while the school also makes a similar contribution. This allows students to purchase a laptop for technology work within classrooms at half the retail cost which enables all students the opportunity to engage at school using similar technologies. The funds supplied by the P&C are vital and go a long way towards ensuring the success of our schools BYOD program. The recent cheque will be distributed in the following way; $2,700 towards BYOD ($75 x 36 students) $1,300 towards teaching technologies $1,500 towards the purchase of sports uniforms for Rural Cup.

**Anti-Racism Policy**

The purpose of the Department’s Anti-Racism Policy is to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination in its schools and worksites. The policy applies to all students who attend government schools, all departmental employees and has implications for each school’s community. Schools and departmental worksites are responsible for:

- identifying an Anti-Racism Contact Officer and providing the necessary training for the officer;
- providing timely and professional responses to complaints of racism;
- ensuring that practices and procedures within schools and worksites are consistent with the policy;
- developing anti-racism education strategies; and
- Reporting in Annual School Reports on the implementation of the policy.

The Department provides a range of resources to support the policy including professional learning presentations, teaching resources for use in classrooms and strategies to engage parents and community in the life of the school. Information about the Department’s anti-racism education resources, professional learning activities and strategies to engage the school community is available at [https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/multicultural/antiracism/index.htm](https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/multicultural/antiracism/index.htm)

**School Lockers welcomed by Students**

In a joint project with our school, the P&C have donated $ 2000 towards the purchase of 88 student lockers. Mr Luccarda worked with both students and staff to establish a set of rules and regulations for the use of lockers and they are located on the platform in the Year 11 area and also outside the Year 12 room. After offering the lockers originally to our Stage 6 students (Year 11 and 12), they have now been offered to students in Year 7 to 10. To secure a locker, or if you have any questions about the lockers, please contact Mr Luccarda on 02 6336 1606. I must again thank the P&C for continuing to support our students. Pictured is one of our Year 10 students Charlie Schrader who feels that school lockers are long overdue.

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**3 OUT OF 2 PEOPLE HAVE TROUBLE WITH FRACTIONS**

*Educating the whole person for the whole of life*
Subject Fees Overdue

A few weeks ago I outlined in a previous newsletter that many students have not paid their subject fees which are necessary for practical work to continue. Many elective courses carry a fee to cover materials and consumables. The elective subject fees at Oberon High School are kept extremely low compared with other larger schools around the network and state. Our largest fee charged is in subjects such as Food Technology, Hospitality and Metals and Engineering. All of these courses have highly expensive materials required for practical work. The following example shows just how reasonable these fees are –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 11 - 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Technology Fee (Materials)</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Technology Wood/Metal</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Technology</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Hospitality Operations</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts Process Diary</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
<td>Photography &amp; Digital Media</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphics Technology</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>Sports Coaching</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students Recognised for Their Efforts

Over the past few weeks it has been great to see a significant increase in the number of student awards which have been submitted and handed out in classes and on assembly. Effort and Commitment, High Academic, Outstanding Academic and other special awards have featured and all of these are now being placed on Millennium to record important recognition data. One of our school’s strategic directions is to reward students where appropriate for their effort and commitment as we move towards improving school culture and having student’s value academic success. Well done to all the students who have been rewarded recently.

These certificates are often kept by students to place in their resume portfolio and all awards go towards achieving further success in our schools Positive Behaviour for Learning Program (PBL).

Over the next two weeks, student whose school attendance is greater than or equal to 92% will be recognised for their regular attendance which is well above state average. Congratulations to all these students.
Tyler Colley, a year 7 student, is a rugby league star in the making. On the 7th May 2015 Tyler was part of the Oberon High School and St Josephs combined junior team that contested the Small Schools Rugby League Carnival in Dubbo.

Around 10 schools competed and Tyler played fullback in three games on the day. NRL Development talent scouts watched all the teams play and selected Tyler as the under 13 “NRL High School Most Valuable Player”.

Outside of school, Tyler currently plays for the St Pat’s Under 13 side in Bathurst.

Remember the name ‘Tyler Colley’ as he is a rugby league talent well worth keeping an eye on in the future.

Congratulations to all the players in the Under 13 side who all played well to make it to the final on the day. The boys narrowly missed out on making the small schools state Under 13 semi-final, however the senior boys have made it through to the semi-finals and the junior boys will continue to support our senior squad. Big thanks to Mr Leven who has been training four or more league teams and organising excursions almost every week. Our school is looking to go one better than 2014 when we lost the small schools final in sudden death extra time. All the boys!

Ken Barwick
Principal
0418 629 198

Coat hangers for the Wardrobe section of the Performing Arts Faculty. There have been a number of donations of clothes and costumes and now we need coat hangers to store all the wardrobe items. Please leave any donated coat hangers at the front office.

Part of the preparation for these performances required them to choose appropriate costumes. They raided the wardrobe section of the performing arts room at the school, with some comical and sometimes hilarious results.

Can’t wait to see the final performances!
Report from the Science Agriculture and Careers Faculty - By Gyan Mudaliar, Head Teacher

This semester has seen some buzzing activities in the science classroom for years 7-10.

Most of the assessment tasks scheduled to be undertaken during this semester were given out to the students on time and the completed projects and work are being collected for final determination of semester two grades. The reports for the year 9 and 10 will be out soon.

It is extremely pleasing to note that many of the year 7 science tasks were completed on time and some outstanding models of invertebrate animals were presented for assessment by the students. The pictures show some of the amazing models.

The enormous effort and interest by all year seven science students is acknowledged unreservedly.

The quality of models constructed also deserves my commendation and some of these models will be displayed in the front office foyer for parents to see after they have been assessed.

The year 11 Biology students undertook an ecology study trip at Blenheim State Forest on the study of local ecosystem during this week as part of their assessment task which had been pending for a long time.

Year 11 students study the ecology of Blenheim Forest

Year 12 science students are in the midst of their third module that hopefully will be completed during this term. Some past year paper revision work has been undertaken in year 12 sciences so as to develop the repertoire needed to handle exam style questions in HSC and also to build confidence and motivation. The homework centre is open to anyone who needs help in science tutorial on every Thursday.

The science faculty has also seen 12 students from year 7 and 8 sit for their online science competition during this week. We will keep you informed about their success in the next semester. We are contemplating extending the competition to other classes by next year should there be sufficient expressions of interest by the students. The fee for the science competition was paid for by the school and for the junior classes this is going to be an ongoing process.

The science, agriculture and careers faculty will be making their Assembly presentation in week 7 during assembly in the hall. Some commendation awards will also be presented on the day.

In the Careers area, next week Fran Dwyer from CSU will be at the school talking to Year 10 students about subject selection and how it will affect their tertiary study options, and Year 12 will be hearing all about early entry to CSU. We hope to bring more news to you in the next semester. Till then, “Good luck”. I leave you with this quote.

Did the genome of our cave-dwelling predecessors contain a set or sets of genes which enable modern man to compose music of infinite complexity and write novels with profound meaning? ...It looks as though the early Homo was already provided with the intellectual potential which was in great excess of what was needed to cope with the environment of his time.”

SUSUMU OHNO, 1928 TO 2000
Geneticist

Science Trivia Question:
What do you call a fish without an eye?
Answer: Fsh
Premiers Debating Challenge

Congratulations to our senior Debating Team, comprising Keely Armstrong, Acacia Howarth, Izzy Ross and Jess Mrdjenovic, who participated in the Premiers Debating Challenge on Friday, 22 May 2015, in Bathurst.

Our team had a good win when they argued for the affirmative in the first debate against Lithgow High - “That we should restrict the use if social networking to people who are over the age of 18”.

Unfortunately our team lost their second debate when they argued the negative against Bathurst High - “That we should only host international sporting events in democracies”.

This Debating Challenge is a wonderful experience for the students, enhancing their well-rounded education. The four students, supported by Mrs Francis, were great ambassadors for the school.

On Friday 29 May 2015, our junior and senior debating teams will travel to Lithgow to compete in the Festival of Speech. We wish both teams well in this next event. Full report in the next newsletter.

P&C News

Pop Corn

Homework Centre attendees are the first to benefit from the P&C’s purchase of a popcorn making machine. The P&C will be using the machine for fundraising in the future, as well as catering for school events. They have also invested in a fairy floss machine for future fundraising.

Donations

Following some successful fundraising activities, the P&C recently donated $5,500 to the school. $1,500 of this has been earmarked to purchase uniforms for sports teams, with the remaining $4,000 for technology such as BYOD and other classroom support. The school is very grateful for the work of the P&C and the generous donations.

Save the Date for Bingo!
The P&C is claiming the 30th October, 2015 for a Bingo night. This should be another fun night, so keep the date clear.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the P&C will be Thursday, 10th June 2015 at 5pm at the school. Come along, support your school and have a say in how funds raised are used to support your child’s education.

Contact Gayle Voerman, P&C president, on 0419 445 767 for more information.

STOP PRESS

Tom Kemp Rugby League Cup

Oberon defeated West Wyalong at Oberon today, Friday 29 May 2015 by 44 points to nil. Oberon now progresses to the next round which should be played within the next two weeks. See the next newsletter for a full report on the game, or check out the school’s webpage.
Term 2 Week 6

What’s On

BuSY
Barnys Usual Sunday Youth
FREE Youth Group on Sunday afternoons at St Barnabas Anglican Church, Oberon Street, Oberon
Time: 4.00pm—5.30pm
Contact: St Barnabas Anglican Church on 6336 1366

Dance Dance Dance
Holly’s Ballroom Dance Classes
Wednesdays 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the gym
NO CHARGE

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.”
— John Dewey

“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”
— Eleanor Roosevelt

COMMUNITY MEETINGS
PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT OBERON COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2015

Oberon Council is holding a series of community meetings to present the Draft Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2015. The Draft Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2015 and associated documents will be on public exhibition from 25 May until 22 June 2015.

Community Meetings will be held at the following locations and dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 26 May</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Oberon RSL Club Auditorium</td>
<td>Note: Change of Venue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 3 June</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Robert Hooper Community Centre, Fleming Street, Oberon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 4 June</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>O’Connell Public School Hall, Black Mills Lane, O’Connell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 10 June</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Black Springs Community Hall, Dog Rocks Road, Black Springs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: Change of Date due to Public Holiday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 11 June</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Burraga Sport and Recreation Club, Lloyd Street, Burraga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Council representatives will be happy to address Community Groups and Organisations in relation to the Plan and interested groups should contact Council’s Executive Coordinator, Sharon Swanell on 6329 8151.

The Draft Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2015 and associated documents will be available for viewing at the following locations:

- Council’s Administration Centre
  131-139 Oberon Street, Oberon or phone 6329 8100 for further Information
- Oberon Library
  Cnr Dart & Flamingo Streets, Oberon
- Oberon Visitor Information Centre
  48 Ross Street, Oberon
- Council’s Website
  oberon.nsw.gov.au or QR Code

Written submissions are invited in relation to the Draft Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2015 up until 4.30pm on Monday 22 June 2015. These should be addressed to the General Manager, Oberon Council, PO Box 84, Oberon NSW 2787.

Our next courses will be held on:
Tuesday 2nd June 2015 at 5pm
Sunday 21st June 2015 at 9am

To book in, check out our website www.saferdrivers.org.au
For more information, call us on 6331 2191
or email bathurst@pcycnsw.org.au
www.facebook.com/BathurstPCYC

Educating the whole person for the whole of life
Veritas House Inc. - providing accommodation and support services to children, young people and their families.

Ty Mostyn (case worker) is in Oberon on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Neighbourhood Centre from 9am-11am. Phone 6332 3882 or email counselling@veritashouse.org.au, youthandfamily@veritashouse.org.au.

Ty can help with the following:
- Youth Counselling
- Help with Centrelink, housing, employment services
- Information on emergency accommodation
- Family Support and Relationship Support

Accredited by Sports Medicine Australia, these courses are suitable for all coaches, managers, players, parents or any sports volunteer looking to further develop their skills.

**Introduction to Sports Taping**
This course provides participants with the knowledge of strapping techniques, reasons why to strap, how to tape effectively and the value of using correct tape. Topics covered include taping for the ankle, wrist, thumb and elbow.

**Advanced Sports Taping**
Participants will learn taping techniques for the knee, shoulder.

Introduction to Sports Taping is a prerequisite for the Advanced Sports Taping course.

Book now! Places are limited. Call (02) 6862 6623 or book online at drs.nsw.gov.au/training/region.asp?area=western.

**Date:** 17th June 2015  
**Location:** Oberon High School  
**Cost:** $60 per level (Level 1 and 2)  
**Time:** 9am-3.20pm (level 1 in the morning, level 2 in the afternoon)

Further information - please wear comfortable clothing and bring pen and paper and contact PDHPE staff at the school on 6336 1606 if you have any questions.

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**Five Study Tips**

1. **Study Alone**  
   Unless you've got a couple of friends who are super-serious about getting down to business, stay away from group study sessions because they tend to get off-topic pretty quickly. Save the social time till after you've handed in your test.

2. **Create Your Perfect Study Area**  
   The place where you study should be quiet, comfortable and free from distractions. Go to your room, close the door and kill as many distractions as possible - like music, television, and even the internet and your phone. If you don't have your own room that you can sneak away to, consider studying at the library instead.

3. **Get it All Out**  
   Your study materials, that is. Before you dig in, make sure you have all your books, notes, study guides and writing utensils in front of you. Don't give yourself another excuse to get up and rummage around.

4. **Turn Your Notes into Flash Cards**  
   Now that you've got all your notes in front of you, open up a pack of index cards. As you read through the important facts, rewrite them in Q&A form on the cards. For instance: to study historical facts, write the historical fact on one side of the card and the key details on the other side. To study geometry formulas, write the name of the formula on one side and the formula itself on the other side.

5. **Snack Healthy While You Study**  
   If you want to stay sharp while you study, stay away from junk food. Instead, snack on studying-friendly foods like dark leafy greens, whole grains, peanut butter, milk and seafood. Feeling sluggish? Caffeine or energy drinks won't help you in the long run. Get your energy boost instead by eating a banana or an apple.