From the Principal's Desk

Term 2 is quickly drawing to a close and all students have completed Half Yearly Examinations. There have been many sporting and educational activities over the past two weeks and Oberon High students should be very proud of their outstanding successes.

For a small comprehensive high school, we continue to outperform some much larger schools in the West with many students being selected each year to attend State Championships in a variety of sports.

Last week's exciting win in our annual interschool sporting competition ‘Rural Cup' will be remembered for some time, as it was the first time in history that Oberon High School has gone back-to-back. Congratulations to all!

A comprehensive Year 6 into Year 7 Transition Program has been formulated with the feeder schools this year. Transition details such as Information Nights will be published in future newsletters and Year 6 students will receive an information letter outlining all aspects of the program.

On Tuesday 9th June 2015 our school held a very early subject selection evening for Year 8 and Year 10 to allow students and parents to plan effectively and provide adequate time to access information and support as we move quickly toward our compressed senior curriculum known as Oberon Senior College.

Later this year we will roll over into our first compressed 3 by 3 model in preparation for the 2016 HSC. Mr Craig Luccarda delivered a very clear and informative presentation to our Year 10 students and parents in the school library about this significant change in our school.

This subject information session provided a great opportunity to learn about the future directions of our school and the structure of secondary education delivered in Oberon.

I would particularly like to thank Mr Craig Luccarda for his organisation and preparation for this very important meeting. Thanks also to our executive staff and teachers who supported Mr Luccarda with his presentation.

(Student Focus)

Introducing Brian Barnes, a year 7 student who follows Penrith Panthers, likes dubstep and loves active sport.

Brian lives in Oberon and attended Oberon Public School before starting at Oberon High this year. He is studying the mandatory year 7 subjects and particularly enjoys PDHPE, Visual Arts and Music.

In Visual Arts he likes pencil drawing, (but says he's not that good at it). It's not surprising that Brian likes Music - in the past he has played trombone, saxophone and xylophone. This year he also played keyboard, performing 'Ode to Joy' for an assessment in Music.

Brian's favourite teacher is Mrs Crouch, because she’s funny and loud. She teaches him English and Music.

In the sporting arena, Brian has represented the school in rugby league, recently participating in the small schools rugby league challenge in Dubbo. He also assisted the school to win the Rural Cup by playing table tennis, softball, soccer and touch. He will also be part of the basketball team playing at the Basketball Gala Day against Portland and Lithgow in Bathurst later this month.

He says the best thing about Oberon High School is the way Mr Barwick and Mr Leven ‘tackle down' the bullies.

On weekends Brian plays soccer, although next year he would like to play rugby league. At home Brian has two younger brothers and a ‘staffy terrier’ dog named ‘Jazmen'. At only 12 years of age, Brian still has some time to decide on potential career options, however, at this stage he would love to be a professional footballer.

Brian is a good student who has the respect of his teachers and classmates.
Below is a simple table which shows the difference between the current curriculum model and the compressed model. Our Year 10 students will start the compressed model in Term 4 this year as Oberon Senior College Red and our Year 9 students will start the compressed model in Term 4 – 2016 as Oberon Senior College Black. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

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**Back-to-back Rural Cups**
On Thursday 4th June 2015, Oberon High School travelled to Molong to compete in their second round of the Rural Cup. Oberon High School have never won the cup in consecutive years and all efforts were focused on achieving back-to-back titles. 35 sports were contested across all year groups ranging from Year 7 mixed sports to Open Boys’ and Girls’ sports in a variety of disciplines. After a very close session 1 Oberon High School held a one sport advantage; after great wins to the Junior Girls’ Volleyball and Open Girls Basketball. Oberon extended their lead throughout sessions 2 and 3 with further wins in Basketball, Junior and Senior Tennis, Table Tennis and a decisive 42-10 result in Junior Rugby League. Extremely close sessions 4 and 6 meant that the overall result came down session 5 where seven sports would determine if Oberon would celebrate an achievement which had eluded them 3 previous times. As Oberon students lifted across the board and after a long day of competition the positive results fell into place, winning six of the seven sports to take the tie against Molong to a victory of 292 to 237 points. Having accounted for Canowindra High School during Term 1, Oberon were presented the Rural Cup by the principal of Molong prompting a huge roar of excitement from the Oberon students. School Captains Shannon Foley and Joshua Harvey proudly held aloft the cup as Oberon was rewarded with back-to-back titles. Our amazing success can be attributed to a huge team effort across all sports and commitment from all staff who coached teams. Big thanks must go to Mrs Morrison and Mrs Pringle for their great organisation and preparation of all involved. A great result for our school, well done one and all.

**School Display in Local Library**
Over the past three years we have heavily focused on positive school promotion in an attempt to show the wider community all that is great about Oberon High School. School enrolment figures have slowly increased and as we move forward into the Senior compressed curriculum, it is even more important to communicate with our parents and the community. Regular newspaper articles and improving our school media releases have all contributed to positive feedback. A big thanks must go to Mrs Porter for continuing to drive our school promotion across all areas. A display has been set up in the town library were student work will be displayed over the next month. Our pictorial display highlights many school achievements and the learning activities available to students who attend Oberon High School.

Our town library has fantastic facilities available to both students and all members of the community. There are a variety of activities run during school holidays and I would encourage everyone to drop in and take a look at the resources available.
School Chaplain Appointed

In 2014 Oberon High School applied for funding to appoint a school chaplain to assist across the school in supporting students with a wide range of social, emotional and educational issues. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in our bid; however in 2015 we struck a deal which sees our school contribute half the necessary funds while the remainder is raised by other means. As a result I can now introduce Mr Dan Henby to our school community as our latest addition as a school chaplain. Mr Henby already works with students at our school on Fridays presenting SRE. His new role is somewhat different, providing pastoral care for all students, teachers and other staff at the school. In surveys taken as part of the new school planning process both students and parents highlighted the real need for an extra level of support for our students at school. One of the major strategic directions for the next three years is to build a positive school culture and values where students can grow, learn and excel with appropriate support structures. Our school chaplain will work closely with Mr Luccarda and the welfare team designing welfare and support programs for various groups of students according to areas of need based on real data. These programs and their content will be outlined in future newsletters, some of the areas may include -

- Character building and self-esteem
- Understanding social boundaries, rights and responsibility
- Developing positive relationships
- Dealing with crisis and trauma
- Bullying and supporting others
- Family crisis and domestic violence

The school chaplaincy role is about being caring, supportive, informative and non-judgemental. Mr Henby will attend Oberon High School as a chaplain on Mondays and Wednesdays and can be contacted on 0422 633 224. If you have any questions about the school chaplain role or any of the proposed programs, please contact the school and discuss them with Mr Henby, Mr Luccarda or Mr Barwick on 6336 1606.

School Leaders attend Parliament House

On Wednesday 3rd June 2015, our school captains attended the Secondary Schools Leadership Program held at the NSW Parliament House in Sydney. Miss Marshall was accompanied by Shannon Foley and Joshua Harvey for this special visit. Our captains listened to members of parliament speak, went into the lower and upper houses to watch parliament in action and follow the process of a bill. At lunch they spent some time with Minister for Local Government Paul Toole and then after lunch they headed to Government House. After a tour of Government House, they listened to the Governor speak and then had afternoon tea on the terrace. Once again our leaders impressed on the day and they found the day extremely interesting. Big thanks to Miss Marshall for providing the fantastic experience for our leaders.

Jason Comperes Western Region Dance Festival

On 10th June 2015 I had the pleasure of attending the Western Region Dance Festival at BMEC in Bathurst. Students from all over Western NSW showcased their amazing talents in performances consisting of 24 solo and ensemble dances involving students from K to 12. The night was co-compered by Jason Massey who also wowed the crowd with a showcase contemporary/modern solo at the end of the night. Jason shone on the night receiving one of the largest cheers and whistles from the crowd. The Western Dance Ensemble was another highlight as they presented a quirky dance with golf sticks as props in an item called ‘Off Scratch’. The dance looked at the emotional rollercoaster which can occur in the game of golf, from the highest of highs to those shots you would just like to forget. Overall it was a great showcase of the talent we have in our public school system. I was impressed with the way Jason represented Oberon High School. Well done and congratulations on your performance Jason! Community members will get a chance to see the Jason perform later in the year at our school’s performing arts spectacular late in Term 3.

Ken Barwick, Principal
0418 629 198
The days get shorter but the work needed gets longer. Suppose it’s better to be busy. Lots of great things have happened since I have reported in the newsletter and many great things will continue over the coming weeks and into next term. The major focus in Industrial Technology Timber, Industrial Technology Graphics and Visual Arts is Major Works for the HSC. I have tried to include a picture of some of the works in progress. Many students are putting in the extra time at the moment, coming in on Wednesdays and some last weekend. This will hopefully reduce some of the stress associated with such an important aspect of the course assessment for these students by the Board of Studies examiners between week 4 and week 7 next term.

Mr Lyle, Mr Armstrong and myself are looking forward to the coming weeks of hard work and so should the YR 12’s. LOL

Furniture design by Jayde Mackenzie
Wine cabinet by Matt Simmons
Dubstep design by Kyle Smith
The “Perrycaster”
Panda by Jason Massey
Compound bow product design by Cheyanne Booth
Grasping the demon by Lucy Voerman
Welding the safe in Metals
Construction VET - Bricklaying at Bathurst TAFE.

Recently a number of the construction students travelled to the bricklaying and tiling trade facility at Bathurst TAFE to get an introduction and refresher from Mr Peter Moore in the mystic art of Bricklaying. Can’t think of a better thing to do, what with mud on the trowel, calluses on the hands and sore backs. Love it. Peter makes it a fun, hands on and informative day in which everyone walks away each year knowing whether Bricklaying is a profession for them. Me thinks some slept well after that day.

Chicken Run

A number of years ago I was amazed by the 5-star accommodation for the fowls at Mayfield. Truly inspiring. It took many years to build the marvels of the world like the Opera House but it was time and money well spent. mmmmm.

Waste to Art

Mr Lyle this year collected a heap of junk, metal junk that is, and had his Stage 4 students create fantastic sculptures for the recent waste to art competition. Ned Kelly meets Puppy and other all sorts.

Concrete Pads for the AG troughs

Concreting is part of our construction course and the students have been excavating, forming up and laying small slabs to place the water troughs in the school paddocks. Happy Bovidae!

Pro Hart eat your heart out

Three weeks ago Mr Lyle, myself and some more than willing targets filled some balloons with paint and water and took aim at producing some explosive art. This was of course in the search for true artistic expression and the office ladies wanted some art to hang in the office. They have finally dried out (the paintings that is) and will be soon on display in the office area. Even Mr Barwick took part in the art making and he loves the randomness and disorder of these works.

Stairway to Heaven (or the top kitchen cupboard)

The Stage 5 woodies have recently completed a folding hardwood step ladder which will take pride of place in many households. Well done all.
Why should you read for leisure?
Studies tell us that even 15 minutes of reading a day can reduce stress, and improve memory, concentration, and vocabulary. Plus it doesn’t have to cost a cent; you can borrow a book from the library! You don’t have to read serious mind-improving tomes, either. Pick something you enjoy and you won’t want to put the book down after 15 minutes.

“15 minutes of reading a day can reduce stress and improve memory, concentration and vocabulary”

New books at Oberon High School library that you or your child may want to peruse include:

**Terry Deary’s Best Ever Shakespeare Tales**
The author of the Horrible History series (which you can also find in the library) has created a gruesome but entertaining guide to some of Shakespeare’s stories poking fun at the characters and sneaking in some ghastly historical facts about the productions.

**Australian Backyard Explorer**
Peter Macinnis’s Australian Backyard Explorer is a Children’s Book Award winner. Filled with images and journal extracts it helps you discover Australian explorers and their journeys – it even makes suggestions about projects you could do in your backyard to repeat some of their discoveries.

**Four**
Veronica Roth’s Four fills in the back story of the main male character in the Divergent series. While it would be a great read after finishing the series, students who have seen the movie adaptation of the first novel would enjoy finding out how Four got to where he was.

See Miss Grace in the library to choose a book and you might improve your own health and well being.

**“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”**
– William James
What's On

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

Save the Date!
15 June - Tom Kemp rugby league - Mr Leven
18 June - Basketball Friendly - Mr Grantham
18 June - Great Australian Spelling Bee
19 June - DISCO - Miss Marshall
22 June - Year 7/8 Rewards Day - Mr Grantham
22 June - Bathurst NAIDOC Public Speaking and Debating - Miss Corby, Mrs Francis

28 June - 12 July - Winter Holidays - staff return for Term 3 on Monday 13 July, students return on Tuesday 14 July

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Dance Dance Dance
Holly's Ballroom Dance Classes
Wed. - 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the gym
will not be held during the holidays

Bathurst Chamber Orchestra
a Mitchell Conservatorium Ensemble

Friday 19 June 2015 | 7:30pm | Uniting Church Bathurst
Saturday 20 June 2015 | 3:00pm | Oberon High School Oberon

Adults $30 | Concession $20 | Family of Four $80
School aged MiniCon students FREE

www.mitchellconservatorium.edu.au
Phone: 02 6331 0192

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

Oberon High School - educating the whole person for the whole of life
Accredited by Sports Medicine Australia, these courses are suitable for coaches, managers, players, parents or sports volunteers 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 pre-requisite for the Advanced Sports Taping course.


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)

Wear comfortable clothing, bring pen and paper and contact PDHPE staff at the school on 6336 1606 if you have any questions.

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**WINTER HOLIDAY CAMPS**
**THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP**

**Meet & Greet Rec Day**
Reservation days are an opportunity for you to have fun and meet other young people who understand what dealing with cancer is like. There will be info about CanTeen and an opportunity for parents to meet CanTeen staff and ask questions. Current members of CanTeen and their families can attend and also anyone thinking about joining CanTeen and their families.

Everyone who attends must complete a consent form and return this by 19 June 2015. For current terms please call 6248 7171 or email tennishah.canTeen@nsw.gov.au

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**If people are trying to bring you DOWN, it only means that you are above them.**