From the Principal's Desk

Term 2 disappeared very quickly and many successes were achieved throughout the past ten school weeks. All students have completed half yearly examinations, staff have delivered Semester 1 reports, Oberon High School retained the Rural Cup in consecutive years for the first time and Year 10 students all engaged in a new support program called ‘Future Careers Interviews’.

Throughout the interviews, parents expressed their gratitude as the process clearly assisted students with their choices and it also provided appropriate feedback, advice and direction based on school based evidence collected over the past few years. The interviews in which I participated were extremely positive and provided clarity about what to expect in each of the senior courses. In many cases, parents and students changed their initial subject choices after being provided more information, making the process a very worthwhile exercise. I would like to thank and acknowledge the work of Mrs Fitzpatrick for leading all the interviews and collecting relevant information on each of the students. Also a big thanks to Mr Craig Luccarda for designing and implementing the Future Career Interview program this year and for organising the interview timetable. An amazing student support program, well done to all involved!

Congratulations must also go to Mr Leven and the boys involved in the Tom Kemp Rugby League team who made it through to the state semi-final against Gulgong High School which was played last week. After a hard fought contest the final score remained 16 all at full-time leading to another nail biting sudden death extra time. Early in extra time, Oberon High suffered the heart ache of a close loss in sudden death for the second year in a row.

(Principal's report continued on page 2)

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Student Focus

Izzy Ross is a year 12 student who has been attending OHS since year 7. Currently working towards the HSC, Izzy is studying Advanced English, English Extension 1&2, Advanced Maths, Biology and Drama. She enjoys all her subjects but her favourites are English and Drama, because “you can express yourself, let out your feelings - act it out in drama and write it in English”. Izzy’s favourite teacher is a former English teacher, Mr Hunter, because he was passionate about his subject, engaged the students’ interest and valued their opinions. For many years Izzy has represented the school in debating and public speaking, most recently in the Premier’s Debating Challenge and the Festival of Speech. She likes the small class sizes at OHS because students get one-on-one time with teachers. The teachers can give better explanations so the students understand better.

Next year Izzy hopes to attend the University of Canberra to study for a degree in Applied Science Forensic Studies. This would lead to her chosen career which for many years has been Forensic Pathology. Studying for the HSC can be stressful and Izzy uses reading as a way to reduce her stress. Izzy is a huge fan of musicals and for the past 6 months has been rehearsing for High School Musical, which opens in Bathurst on 25th June and runs until 28th June 2015. A talented and dedicated student, Izzy is on the right track at OHS to achieve great things in her future.
Mr Leven was extremely happy with the boys efforts on the day given we played with many student out through injury and the boys who filled in really stepped up and performed outstandingly. Our depth in rugby league looks great for next year’s competition. Well done to all the boys and thanks to Mr Leven.

Our final football competition is another state semi-final for the combined small schools team with St. Josephs early next term in Dubbo.

Our two schools are getting together for some combined training sessions during Week 1 of next term. All the best to this team, we hope you can go one better this year!

Parent Teacher Evening
Information about our second Parent Teacher Evening for 2015 can be found in the envelope with this newsletter. Our Parent Teacher Interview Evening will be held on Tuesday 28th July 2015. The interviews will start ½ an hour after school at 4pm and conclude at 6pm. We have again separated the teachers to improve privacy and individual attention. The Mathematics and PD/H/PE staff will be in Room 9, English, LOTE and HSIE staff in Rooms 2 and 3, Science and Agriculture staff in Room 13, while the TAS staff will be in Room 28. The Principal, Deputy, Careers Advisor and tea, coffee and nibbles will be in the school library.

School Uniform
The colder months in Term 2 and 3 sees our students regularly wear their red school jumper and black track pants. School uniform is an essential component in being part of the school team. Wear our uniform with pride and see Mr Barwick or Mr Luccarda if you have uniform issues.

Important Dates
Friday, 26th June 2015 - last day of term 2.
Monday, 13th July 2015 - first day of term 3 - STAFF return to school.
Tuesday, 14th July 2015 - ALL STUDENTS return to school for term 3.

Angus becomes the Oberon Youth Mayor
Year 11 student Angus Fittler has been rewarded for his outstanding commitment to the youth in the Oberon community winning the election as the Youth Mayor for the next twelve months. Angus served on the youth council throughout 2014 as deputy mayor and stepped into the top role role on occasions when needed. He is committed to improving the lives of young people in Oberon and organising exciting activities which may interest all types of individuals. Angus attends Oberon High School studying a variety of Preliminary HSC subjects and was also elected House sports captain earlier this year.

The role as Oberon Youth Mayor will provide Angus great leadership learning opportunities which will assist him in many areas throughout his life. Angus is a delightful young man who shows compassion for others and enjoys spending time with his friends and playing sport. He displays a positive school attitude and is focused on achieving a strong Higher School Certificate result next year.

The entire school community would like to congratulate Angus Fittler on his election as Oberon Youth Mayor.

Keely Armstrong elected Deputy Mayor
Year 12 student Keely Armstrong has also been rewarded for her ongoing dedication and commitment on the Oberon Youth Council in 2014, being elected as the Youth Deputy Mayor for the next twelve months. Keely has become the complete all-rounder, involved in many school and community activities.

Apart from being a highly committed academic student looking for an outstanding HSC result, her exceptional musical talents sees her perform regularly and teach other students guitar on Wednesdays. Keely also plays many sports including soccer and regularly attends activities organised within Oberon.

As a school vice-captain, Keely displays excellent leadership qualities which helps her excel in representing the school in public speaking and debating.

The entire school community would like to congratulate Keely Armstrong on her election as Oberon Youth Deputy Mayor.
High School Students Commit to OYC

Building a positive school learning environment and strong moral values are very important aims at Oberon High School. It is always pleasing when students engage in the student representative council (SRC) and work hard on improving the school. This builds a positive learning atmosphere. It is great when these students take up the challenge and opportunity to represent the school within the community on the Oberon Youth Council. The OYC meets regularly to plan and organise activities for the youth of Oberon and we are extremely proud of the commitment of the following students who have joined the OYC for 2015 – Shannon Foley, Josh Harvey, Merania Stanley, Jaidyn Levanic, Keely Armstrong, Ivy Moore, Angus Fittler, Lucy Voerman, Amy Mills and Emily Henby.

Congratulations to all these students on taking the important step of involving themselves within the wider community.

Stage 4 Rewards Day - Lots of fun for all!

On Monday 22nd June 2015, students from Year 7 and 8 were invited to attend a rewards day, held at Metro 5 Cinemas and at Ten Pin Bowling Bathurst. This stage excursion was organised by Mr Trent Grantham to reward students in these year groups for outstanding effort and commitment throughout Semester 1 and to also develop and foster positive relationships with their peers and friends. As always, all students were on time for a rewards excursion and they headed off on a frosty morning to see the new release movie, ‘Minions’. Armed with popcorn and coke as part of the deal, the students sat back and enjoyed an alternate day in education. A quick lunch break at Bathurst McDonalds provided the energy to take each other on at Ten Pin bowling. A lot of fun and laughs were had by all and a tired bunch of happy students returned home around 4.00pm.

Big thanks to Miss McTrusty (Year 7 Advisor), Mr Grantham (Year 8 Advisor) and Mrs Crouch (Girls Advisor and 2016 Year 7 Advisor) for taking the students out for the day and rewarding some of our great students who have worked hard this year. The rewards day is only one of our schools activities which continues to build a positive learning culture at Oberon High school. Our ‘positive behaviour for learning’ strategy aims to develop a school culture that values safe, respectful and responsible learners, we aim at ‘Educating the whole person for the whole of life’.

(Pictures show just some of the fun had by students (and teachers) on the day).
(Principal’s report continued from page 3)

Student Attendance at School

Attendance every day that the school is open for instruction is a legal requirement and a major responsibility of parents/carers. Do not keep your child away from school for the following reasons as they are not considered to be acceptable:

- Family Holidays (no longer exempt)
- Birthdays
- Shopping
- Minding other children
- For routine check-ups or care such as hair cuts
- Minor family events
- Medical and other health appointments for your child with specialists such as dentists or doctors should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays
- Regular appointments (i.e. private swimming or music lessons during school time) which require students to leave school early

It is important to understand that the Department may take further action where children of compulsory school age (6-17) have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken.

- Attendance meetings and compulsory attendance conferences - Parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a meeting with school personnel and other regional officers. The aim of the meeting is to help identify strategies to support the child and family. Other agencies may also be invited along to help, if parents agree.
- If the school and other regional officers have tried to help improve a child’s attendance, without success, parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a compulsory attendance conference. The conference will be run by a trained conference convenor. The aim of the conference is for the school, parents/child and other identified agencies (“the parties”) to further identify the issues which are impacting on a child’s attendance.
- The outcome of a compulsory attendance conference is for the parties to agree to undertake certain actions to improve the child’s attendance. These actions are written in the form of undertakings.
- Applications to the Children’s Court – A Compulsory Schooling Order. Legal compliance can be sought through an application to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The aim is to assist a family and/or child to address the issues which are preventing satisfactory school attendance but has the added enforcement of a Court’s powers.
- Prosecution in the Local Court - If all attempts by schools and regional support staff fail to improve a student’s attendance, action can be taken in the Local Court and the result can be fines up to a maximum of $11,000.

If you have any issues or questions about programs at Oberon High School, please contact Craig Luccarda or Ken Barwick on 6336 1606.

Ken Barwick, Principal
0418 629 198

P&C News

SAVE the DATE! The P and C will be holding a Bingo Night on Friday 30th October. More information on this event will be available in term 3.

The P&C will be providing FAIRY FLOSS for Homework Centre on Thursday 16th July. Our monthly meeting will follow at 5pm. Come along and see our new fundraising tools in action.

Agenda for monthly meeting to be held Thursday 16th July:
- Minutes from last meeting
- Correspondence
- Treasurer’s report
- Principal’s report
- Fairy floss operating instructions and sampling
- Bingo Night
- fundraising

For more information on anything about the P&C please call Gayle on 0419 445 767.

P&C dates 2015

Thursday 16th July - Fairy floss for homework centre
Thursday 16th July - 5pm monthly meeting (includes fairy floss)
Friday 30th - Bingo Night (bring the family).
Performing Arts ... quiet!

So, it has been a while since you heard what's happening in Performing Arts. Don't worry we haven't been doing nothing. In fact we have been so busy we haven't had time to take a breath.

HSC is busy and we're getting closer and closer to the completion of those major projects and performances. In fact HSC Drama will occur around week 6 next term and HSC Music 1 around week 8 next term. Students are busy creating and completing as they ensure their projects include all required components. Next term brings a lot of rehearsal and final preparation along with some very early HSC Trials (week 2 Drama and week 3 Music 1).

Year 11 Drama have just completed a unit on Macbeth involving monologues. They had to create a monologue based on one of Shakespeare's characters. We commend the students for their efforts as they tantalised and scared the audience. Next term they're playbuilding.

Year 9/10 Drama have also entertained with their recent Cosi performance. Giving the audience a laugh as they embodied the very weird, but wonderful, characters. Next term, they're cooking! That's right, you heard me. They're cooking with Shakespeare and I'm pretty sure soup is on the menu.

Year 9/10 Music have been busy, busy learning all about Classical Music this term. We've looked at sonata form and investigated the orchestra. In recent weeks, we have focused on the concepts of music and their application to performance, composition and aural activities. It is important for students to understand all of these areas and how the concepts relate as they are the basis of everything we do in Music. We have actually been completing a series of lessons using our BYOD devices and a program called Nearpod, which allows students to interactively work with a presentation.

Year 7 Music have also been busily learning about the various instruments found in the orchestra and various other countries. Thanks to Evelyn they had the opportunity to listen to Mrs Crouch play a cello. (Badly!) Students should now be able to tell you all about how some instruments produce their sound and why the orchestra is laid out in a certain way.

“... something really exciting ...”

Pardon? Oh, you heard it on the grapevine did you? Hmmm... No confirmations just yet, but there could be something really exciting happening at the end of next term... No, no clues. No clues just yet. Keep your eyes peeled and your ears listening and ... you'll find out.

Yours Dramatically Musical,
Ms Crouch and Ms McTrustry.

Brand New Bay competition

As a result of a kind donation from Borg and the assistance of the OHS TAS department, this term the library has received a facelift in the form of bay ends. Not only do bay ends cover the unsightly supports of the metal book shelves, they give use the chance to create displays. The library staff are thrilled with the new look temporary display areas, but with so many bay ends we can’t possibly decorate them all. Accordingly, the library would like to announce the “Brand New Bay” competition. The rules are as follows:

• First prize is a $20 canteen voucher; two runners up will receive a $10 voucher each.
• Bay end displays will be judged on Friday July 24.
• The display must celebrate a book, author, or genre. (Preferably a book held in our library)

“... seeing your genius at work.”

Things to consider:

• The bay ends are of different heights and sizes. Students can claim a particular bay end by talking to Miss Grace.

• The library can provide coloured paper and other craft and display items, but you may use items you supply for yourself to a limit of $5. You could use items in the display that you reclaim when the display is changed in term 4 e.g. a coat hanger to hang something from the top of the bay.

Remember, the display cannot permanently mark the bay ends, and must not be a danger to library patrons (e.g. hanging material that could trip passers-by).

Students are encouraged to talk to library staff about the competition. We will offer help to anybody who asks and look forward to seeing your genius at work.
**HSC seminar day**

Twelve year 12 students attended an HSC seminar day at CSU on Tuesday, 16th June. Participants could attend five seminars during the course of the day on subjects including discovery, creative writing, various branches of sciences, maths, modern history, business studies, etc. The day provided a good insight into how university works and what it’s like to attend lectures. Students experienced that they are the ones responsible for getting to lectures on time, listening attentively and taking notes. Students became aware that while attending university they are expected to be more independent than as school students. At university it’s up to the students to get what they can out of a lecture because the lecturer will generally not wait for them to catch up if they are not listening or are a bit slow taking notes.

For students from a relatively small school such as Oberon High, the size of the CSU campus was a bit intimidating. The students who attended recommend that next year’s HSC students attend a similar day as the experience is very worthwhile.

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**Wood Raffle Winner**

Congratulations to Mishka Eggins who won the Year 12 Wood Raffle. Year 12 students started selling tickets in this raffle at the school’s March Market Madness and the raffle was drawn at last Monday’s assembly. Money raised from the raffle will go towards the Year 12 graduation to be held in November.

(Pictured at right: School captains Josh Harvey and Shannon Foley with Mishka Eggins).

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**Regional Cross country success**

The school’s cross country was held on 29th April and a number of students performed well enough in that to qualify for the Western Region Cross Country competition. Oberon High School was represented by nine athletes at the Region Cross Country event held on 10th June at Geurie. While all the Oberon students ran well, proudly representing their school, two students performed to a standard high enough that they have progressed to the next level and will be running at the State Cross Country.

The training that Jess Mrdjenovic (year 12) and Rhydah Leihn (year 8) have been undertaking has paid off and they will both be heading to Eastern Creek on Friday 17th July to contest the state titles. Jess came a creditable 3rd and Rhydah came 4th at Geurie.

Congratulations to both these athletes and good luck in the next stage.

(Pictured at top right: Jess Mrdjenovic holding her ribbon and entry into the state cross country and at right: Rhydah Leihn who also qualified to attend the state event).

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**Skoolbag app**

Oberon High School has its own mobile phone and tablet app so you can access school news items, newsletters, events calendars, school notices, timetables, school documents, excursion notes and information. Parents can also communicate back to the school. The app has sections for explaining absences, responding to notifications and links to phone or email school. There’s a link to the school’s website and the school student management program where you can access academic and welfare information about your child.

Just respond to the link on the app and we will email you your login details for the Millennium Student /Parent portal.

The app is FREE to install and available from the App stores for both Apple and Android devices.

The school’s website can be accessed at http://www.oberon-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/

**Keep in touch with your child’s education.**
**Year 8 Girls In The ‘Wild’!**

On Thursday 25th June Year 8 girls who are currently participating in the ASPIRE program, visited the Dubbo Zoo.

This excursion included an overnight stay. *(Pictures show some of the girls discovering the zoo).*

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**HOLLY’S BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES**

Holly will be coaching debutantes and their partners during Term 3 so her Wednesday night classes at the school will recommence in Term 4.

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**OHS celebrates NAIDOC**

Once again Oberon High School will be celebrating NAIDOC Week with an afternoon of activities at the school.

Keep the afternoon of Tuesday of Week 3 of Term 3 free.

More information about this event will be in the next newsletter, on the school’s webpage and on the Skoolbag app.

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**“Be the change you want to see in the world”**

- Mahatma Ghandi

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**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

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**Raising Resilient Teenagers**

FREE online program empowering parents to make sense of adolescence and parent their teenager more confidently.

**Who can take part?**

Parents or guardians of at least one child aged 12 to 15 who live in Australia, are fluent in English, and have internet access.

**What’s involved?**

- As a parent, you will receive a brief, individually tailored parenting program that will give you feedback about your current parenting and strategies to reduce the risk of depression and anxiety in your teenager.
- You will be allocated to one of two groups, either receiving the program straight away, or in 3 months’ time.
- We will ask both you and your teenager (if they agree to take part) to complete some online surveys, at the beginning, and after 3 months. We may also ask you to complete similar surveys after 6 and 12 months.
- In total over 12 months, your participation will take a few hours of yours and your child’s time. To say thank you, both you and your child will be reimbursed with e-gift vouchers.

Please ring Graham Palmer on 6332 2277 for more information about this free service.

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**Oberon High School**

- educating the whole person for the whole of life
dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps | 13 13 02

WINTER HOLIDAY CAMPS
THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

- New friends
- Fun
- Great value
- Safe

Our popular Winter Kids' and Family Holiday Camps are filling fast. Find out what's on including our popular ski / snowboard camps at Jindabyne. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands. Our Kids' Camps are suitable for kids aged 7 to 16 years* and range from 1 to 7 days.

Residential Kids' Camps include:
- 24 hour supervision
- Instructor led activities
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Supervised transport
*Snow Sports camps are suitable for kids aged 10-16 years.

Family Camps include:
- Instructor led activities
- Meals
- Accommodation
- Lift and lesson tickets and transport to Perisher (for Jindabyne camps only)**

**Kids as young as 6 years can participate in group lessons as part of a Family Camp.

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- Lift and lesson tickets and transport to Perisher (for Jindabyne camps only)**

**Kids as young as 6 years can participate in group lessons as part of a Family Camp.

Bookings are essential. Please contact the Oberon Council Library on 6329 8220.

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