From the Principal’s Desk

As mentioned in our last newsletter the start of Term 3 is always busy with education week, parent teacher night and Year 12 preparing for their trial HSC examinations. Some Year 12 courses have already submitted their Personal Interest Projects (PIPs) to the Board of Studies for marking, while others are hard at work completing major projects for early marking. 2015 marks our first attempt at HSC Music and Drama which involves early HSC performance marking later this term. The following dates for HSC practical examinations have now been confirmed –

- A team marking Drama will arrive on 27/08/2015 at 12:10pm and leave at 3:30pm.
- A team marking Industrial Technology will arrive on 28/08/2015 at 8:30am and leave at 12:15pm.
- Music practical marking has not yet been confirmed.

We do not expect these dates to affect our production of ‘Alice and the Rabbit’. Over the past two weeks I have enjoyed attending our school’s trial HSC performance evening for music and drama. It was particularly pleasing to see many of our staff present at the evening performances as well as assisting with the student performances. Over the course of the two nights, three staff from Denison College assisted with the marking which provided great professional learning across the campuses. A huge congratulations and thanks to Mrs Crouch for these two nights and the ongoing support of our performing arts students. Our parents and supporters were very impressed with the quality of our student performances, which look great, as we head towards our practical HSC examinations later this term. Thanks to all involved and also to all who attended.

Student Focus

Year 11 student Eliza Dwyer started at Oberon High in 2015 after completing her earlier education at St Josephs. Eliza noted the difference in class sizes between OHS and ‘Joeys’, but says that overall OHS has exceeded her expectations. Eliza is studying Standard English and Maths, PDHPE, Society & Culture, Visual Arts and Biology, with Visual Arts being her favourite. She particularly enjoys drawing and her preferred medium is graphite pencil. Diplomatically, Eliza did not nominate a favourite teacher.

Eliza was elected Tuglow House Captain for 2015. She enjoys many sports and has represented the school in Oz tag, basketball, netball, soccer, and touch footy and she played a significant role in supporting the school winning Rural Cup this year. On weekends Eliza plays soccer with the Oberon Club, usually as a striker in an attacking position.

After year 12 she plans to take a gap year before starting a TAFE course. Eliza is still undecided on a career and has considered possible occupations as diverse as Tiler and Photographer. Her ideal job would be ‘Concert Photograpeher’ allowing her to use her creative design flair while enjoying music. Eliza has eclectic taste in music. Travel and living on the coast are future goals but right now Eliza is making the most of her opportunities at OHS.

Don’t be late!

“Alice and the Rabbit” tickets now on sale. See page 5
fully focused on the curriculum set-up for 2016/2017 in our compressed curriculum model. This year our subject information evenings, held at the end of last term were earlier than usual. To give students time to consider their course options, Year 10 students have all been interviewed with their parents as part of our new career support model called ‘Future Careers Interviews’. Students in Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 made their elective choices for 2016 and they will soon be notified about their subjects and the line structure for 2016.

During Term 3 all students and staff will continue working on our consistent classroom rules. The purpose of these basic classroom expectations is to provide consistency from classroom to classroom. We have also adjusted our mobile phone policy which allows students access to their phones, IPods and IPads at recess and lunch. Students are not to use personal electronic devices in the classroom or they will be confiscated and will need to be collected by a parent. The basic classroom expectations are listed below;

- Hats off in class
- Personal Technology Away (phones, headphones, iPods etc)
- Use furniture appropriately
- Eat at recess and lunch
- Keep hands to yourself
- Safe, Respectful and Responsible Behaviours.

On Monday, 3rd August 2015 we were all happy to hear the exciting news that Mr Grantham and his fiancé welcomed a beautiful little girl into the world at 7.15am. All the students and staff would like to congratulate the couple on the birth of their first child measuring 48cms and weighing 6 pound 10 ounces. Mr Grantham looked extremely tired on Tuesday at school and he received lots of advice from others to help prepare him for what is about to change in his life. The happy couple have named their little girl, Audrey Louise Grantham. Our school community would like to congratulate both parents and wish them happy times with the new addition to their family.

LEFT: Mr Grantham (the proud father) and Audrey Louise (the gorgeous new baby)

Oberon High School App - Download free
Oberon High School has a fully operational app which is regularly updated with important school information and events by our promotions officer Jenny Porter. It is a great way to receive alerts and reminders about excursions, notes and other school activities. Mr Armstrong organised the Oberon High School App through Skoolbag. The app can easily be downloaded from the iTunes app store or the equivalent android app store. It’s great for fast access on information and it is linked to everything a parent or student would need. Many students, teachers and parents are using the app to communicate and to also send in absence notes and change-of-address details. In the long run, the app will save a lot of chasing notes and paperwork. Many parents who have already downloaded the app are pleased with our regular alerts and there have been many positive comments and feedback about our new school app. Well done to all involved!
Education Week and NAIDOC Cultural Celebrations

Education week each year provides an opportunity for our school to promote the positive aspects of public education and to also acknowledge the efforts of students, staff and members of the community. Massive thanks to the organising committee of this year’s education week assembly – Mr Luccarda, Mrs Mackay-Galea and Mr Leven. Thanks also to staff who produced certificates and assisted students with performances. This year our guest speaker was an ex-student Miss Jennifer Lane who works with the University of Canberra. Miss Lane relived her days at Oberon High School and the effect it had on her direction in life and how her school experiences have assisted her in her decision making after school. I would like to thank Miss Lane for her valuable contribution to our education week celebrations.

Our successful assembly was followed by our second annual cultural afternoon to celebrate NAIDOC. Miss Rebecca Corby, our Aboriginal Education Teacher, organised the junior school in a variety of indigenous related activities including dot painting, face painting, and indigenous inspired sports – all with an emphasis on learning while having fun. This cultural afternoon follows on from the success of last year’s NAIDOC celebrations. Support for indigenous students and school programs, as well as increasing the understanding and awareness of indigenous culture, continue to be integral to the education of students at Oberon High School.

Procedures for Cold and Dangerous Weather

A reminder to all students and staff to follow the safe snow day procedures as we are still experiencing consistent cold weather and snow falls in and around Oberon. It is important that we all understand the expectations in the event of dangerous weather conditions.

Procedures:

Snow before school:
- Council website is updated from 7am. Police advise on road closures between 4pm and 7am. Council also advertise closures on radio stations 2LT and 2BS. Principal will contact Council or police to seek advice on closures, contact the bus company and make a decision as to whether the school is open. This decision will be discussed with the Director NSW Public Schools Bathurst and notice given via 2BS.
- Information regarding road closures can also be found using the Live Traffic app.

Snow during school hours:
- Parents who live out of town will be requested to provide advice in writing at the beginning of the year, of an alternative home in town their child can go to, in the event of road closures and buses not being able to deliver students. The school will attempt to advise parents if buses are unable to deliver students home. Parents will also be required to advise
the school in writing whether in the case of buses taking students home early, if would rather collect their child from school, or have their child go to a nominated house in town.

- Parents who live in town will be requested to advise the school if: their child is to go home on the bus; walk home or remain at school to be collected by a parent.
- In cases where students are to go home early, an assembly will be called in the school hall, where all students and staff are to attend.
- The Principal will meet with staff to ascertain which staff should leave school, and those able to safely stay in order to provide adequate supervision for students. Where it is safe to do so, staff should remain at school until the buses have left.
- The Deputy Principal and Head Teachers will ensure that students are safely escorted from the hall to the buses as they arrive. Students who live in town will remain at school, unless the parent requests otherwise.
- Office staff will maintain a list of actions nominated by parents, with phone numbers, and call parents to advise them that buses have gone home early. The Principal or nominee will contact 2BS to advise of the situation and contact the Director NSW Public Schools Bathurst.

Ken Barwick, Principal
0418 629 198

NAIDOC Celebrations - Tuesday 28 July
At the end of term 2, Miss Bec Corby, our Aboriginal Education Teacher coordinated some of our indigenous students in creating dot paintings for a display celebrating NAIDOC. The display featured for two weeks in the town library during the last school holidays. Pictures show some of the NAIDOC cultural afternoon activities as well as preparations for the town library display.
**Butterfly Effect**
Enlighten Education presented a program called ‘Butterfly Effect” for girls in years 8 and 9 focussing on a number of areas including self esteem, body image, and safe use of social media. Chloe, the presenter, was delighted with the behaviour and maturity of the girls and she may be returning to the school to conduct a similar program with older students in the future.

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**Oberon High School presents**

Alice and the Rabbit

Showcasing a variety of performances in music, dance and drama from the students of 2015

Date : Thursday the 3rd of September in the school hall

Time : 6 for 6.30 pm start

Tickets on sale at the school office. Hurry, Don’t miss out.

Single entry $5.00      Family Ticket $20.00
And the winner is ..... 

Students are invited to view all the bay ends decorated as part of our “Brand New Bay” competition, all of which are so impressive Miss Grace was glad she didn’t have to be the one to decide the winner. A committee of staff selected the following as the outstanding displays:

Jayde MacKenzie winner of a $20 voucher for her Owl in an art and literature tree display,
Emily Henby runner up with a $10 voucher for the Lord of the Rings display,
Lydia Sinclair runner up with a $10 for her Roald Dahl’s nonsense word display.

As well as looking at the bay ends, students may like to borrow from the new books supplied this term. In the fiction section the Hogwarts Library trilogy offers students serious studies of magical life including Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by Newt Scamander. In the non-fiction section Australians All: A History of Growing Up From the Ice Age to the Apology by Nadia Wheatley, one of the Children’s Book Week short listed books, is a fascinating read.

Inspirational Speaker

Students in years 7 & 8 were privileged to listen to Youcef Abdi, an Australian dual Olympian who spoke to them about never giving up on their goals in life. After a disadvantaged start to life in Algeria and missing out on selection for the Australian Olympic team twice, he went on to represent Australia at both the 2008 Beijing Olympics and 2012 London in the gruelling 3000m steeplechase. Prior to these Olympics he had won bronze at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games in 2006 in the 1500m.

Students had opportunities to ask questions and were given advice on athletic techniques in their chosen events. Thanks to Oberon Little Athletics for facilitating this event.

ABOVE: Jayde MacKenzie with her winning “wall”
Oberon United Football Club
is having a

**At the Oberon RSL Club Auditorium**

**on Saturday 8th August 2015**

**Juniors (up to Yr 6)**
5.30pm to 7.30pm $8.00 each

**Seniors (Yr 7 to under 18)**
8pm – 10pm $10.00 each

**Disco will be supervised by Soccer Committee and helpers (volunteers welcome)**

There will be glow sticks and lots of goodies available so don’t forget your pocket money!

Little Athletics is a uniquely Australian sport for children aged 3-17 years. As the name suggests, it is based upon the sport of athletics (track and field) and the events are specially modified to suit the ages and abilities of all children. A wide range of running, jumping, throwing and walking events are conducted.

With the season quickly approaching we will be holding registrations outside IGA Oberon on:

- **Saturday 29th August** from 10am – 1 pm
- **Saturday 12th September** from 10am – 1 pm
- **Friday 25th September** from 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Registration is $65 per athlete.

You are able to register your little athletes online at www.lansw.com.au following the links. You will need to get your username and password for RE-registrations, if you put in your email address it will be sent through to you easily (check your junk folder too). If your email address was not registered, just contact me on 02 6336 1626 and I can get your username etc to you.

It really is a sport for the whole family to enjoy together. Hope to see the old faces and some new faces on the track and field...

Little Athletics NSW and Oberon’s Little Athletics committee encouraging healthy living...

Our next courses will be held on:

- **Sunday 2nd August 2015** at 10am
- **Tuesday 17th August 2015** at 5pm
- **Saturday 29th August 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
**Adolescent Scoliosis Spinal Curvature**

**The National Self Detection Program**

*Information for schoolgirls in years 7 and 9 and their parents*

Scoliosis - a lateral or sideways curve of the spine. The spine also rotates on its long axis as it curves. It usually develops during early adolescence (age 10-13 years) when growth is most rapid. Cause is unknown - it is not contagious and not caused by bad posture, soft mattress, carrying a heavy school bag or junk food.

**HOW DO YOU DETECT SCOLIOSIS?**

Simply look for it! It only takes 30 seconds

**WHAT ARE THE OUTWARD SIGNS OF SCOLIOSIS?**

- Head not centred over body
- Unequal gaps between the arms and the trunk
- One shoulder higher
- One shoulder-blade higher and possibly more prominent
- One hip more prominent
- Spine obviously curved

Visit our website
www.scoliosis-australia.org