From the Principal’s Desk

In my last report I encouraged Year 12 to make the most of their final days of formal schooling before they head off to effectively prepare for their HSC examinations over the holidays and during the first week of Term 4. I will be thinking of all our students while I am in the United States on a family dance tour; however I wish all our students success in the final examinations and ask that they celebrate safely and take care of each other at this time in their lives. I’m sure all our parents can relate to this exciting time for Year 12 and I would like to thank the parents of Year 12 for the support they have provided our school over the past six years. If this is your last child completing schooling, I congratulate you for choosing Oberon High School and thank you for working with our staff over the years.

Our Year 12 students have proven to be an impressive group of students who have engaged in many activities throughout the year and they have maintained a consistent approach, embracing our positive school values of being Safe, Respectful and Responsible Learners. Our Year 12 students in 2015 are a particularly creative bunch of individuals with many studying courses such as music, drama, visual arts, graphics technology, photography, industrial technology timber and high levels of English. I am hoping they set a very high standard and achieve some outstanding HSC results which would reward their continual hard work and effort throughout the year. I must congratulate Mrs Tara Morrison who has supported her year group as Year Advisor. Mrs Morrison has managed to keep them focused, helped them with fund raising activities all year and always maintained a close relationship with each child so they could excel academically and reach their potential.

The final day of lessons for Year 12 will occur on Thursday 17th September 2015 and this was...
followed by a BBQ breakfast hosted by next year’s school captains in the centre quad at 8.00am on Friday 18th September 2015. After a farewell assembly and morning tea, we will say goodbye to Year 12 as they head home to start preparing for their HSC examinations. I would like to wish all of Year 12 the very best in their preparation and encourage all of you to contact teachers and use all the support structures available. See you all next term!

Our Year 11 Preliminary HSC students are now preparing for their final Preliminary examinations which commence on Friday 11th September 2015 and conclude on Thursday 17th September 2015 to fit in with Year 12 celebrating their final days at Oberon High School. Many Year 11 students will play a significant role in the farewell celebrations, BBQ and assembly. All students have been issued a copy of the timetable for the examination period which will be held in the gymnasium due to the size of our Year 11 group of students. These students will then commence Year 12 work during Term 4 in their courses. Students who have formal ‘N’ Determination warning letters will need to complete the outstanding work in their courses prior to the commencement of the Year 12 component. Year 12 students will receive their final school reports in their presentation folders on their school day, while Year 11 reports will be posted home on Friday 23rd October 2015.

**Year 6**

Year 6 students and parents from our feeder schools attended a transition information evening last Tuesday night where key staff led by Mr Craig Luccarda (DP) and Ms Amber Hibbert (Year Advisor 2016) outlined a series of school visits and expectations for 2016. Many parents were impressed with the presentation and I would like to congratulate and thank Mr Luccarda on his excellent organisation and presentation.

*Pictured below are the highly engaged students and parents, thinking about their transition.*

After the Year 6 session, a second information session was delivered to students and parents from St. Josephs Oberon to assist with a smooth transition of students across to Oberon High School ....

**SASS Recognition Week 2015**

Monday 31st August 2015 to Friday 4th September 2015 was SASS Staff Recognition Week for 2015! The theme for 2015 was “Our jobs, Your children, Their future”. We have the most amazing SAS staff who support students and teachers in our school and they are vital in making our school a great educational centre.

I would like to thank all our hard working administration staff, school learning support officers, general and farm assistant for their hard work, commitment to the students and staff, and their dedication to providing the best possible service to our students and community in 2015. These staff are: Cathy McIntosh (SAM), Leonie Oxley (SAO, Office), Mishka Eggins (SAO, Office), Kylee McGrath (SAO, Lab Assistant), Jenny Porter (SAO, Library, Promotions), Peter ‘Bugs’ Harvey (GA), Peter Whalan (FA), Julie Stevens (SLSO), Robyn Gibbons (SLSO), and Joanne Chiles (SLSO).
School Refund Policy

In 2015 some excursions and school activities have again failed to meet their budgeted costs for many reasons.

There have been many students who have received a refund for a payment where circumstances have prevented the student attending the excursion or activity.

Oberon High School publishes the Refund Policy every year so that the wider community can appreciate some of the associated costs involved in organising activities.

In general, a refund will only be granted where:
• The activity is cancelled
• An incorrect payment has been made by student or parent/carer
• The student meets with serious misadventure
• The place of the student will be taken by another student.

In every case, the refund will be limited to that amount not required for:
• Buses
• Money which cannot be refunded – e.g. pre-paid entry

Where the principal determines that a student will not participate in the activity a full refund will be given. Refunds can only be made by cheque payable to the parent/carer.

School Captains Elections for 2016

During Week 7, Year 11 students were addressed by Mr Luccarda and Mrs Mackay-Galea about leadership at Oberon High School. Students were all given a nomination form for the position of School Captain in 2016.

The responsibilities and the role were explained and the process used to elect captains was also outlined. An interview process occurred where students were given the opportunity to tell school executive why they would like to run for school captain and they outlined what they could offer the school as a leader.

Students who were selected to run for the position of captain then addressed all staff at a meeting held after school on Tuesday 25th August 2015. After revising their speeches, they then addressed all students at our school assembly on Monday 31st August 2015.

All staff were impressed with the quality of the speeches presented by the eight excited and nervous Year 11 students who nominated. Well done to all nominees!

Voting occurred on Tuesday 1st September 2015 and the new school captains were announced at a short assembly on Friday, 4th September 2015. These results will be published in the final newsletter in Term 3.

I would like to congratulate all the candidates for their effort and commitment throughout the process of selecting school captains.

The candidates are shown below.

Pictured Back L to R: Ryan Hopson, Angus Fittler, Bronte Leihn, Claudia Limon, Kurt Boundy, Brandon Franklin
Front: Lucy Voerman, Amy Mills

Year 6 continued from page 3

... before our curriculum roll-over date – Monday 9th November 2015. I would like to welcome all our new students and I hope they all enjoy their transition visits. If any parents have questions or concerns, please contact Mr Craig Luccarda or Mr Ken Barwick on 02 6336 1606.
Bell Times and Period Lengths in 2016

After some time investigating the indicative face-to-face hours for secondary students each day, our school staff have decided to make some minor changes in consultation with the school P&C and community. Our current learning and support period which occurred each Tuesday to Friday for 20 minutes has been merged into the other six periods, making each period 3 minutes longer. In 2016, each period will be 53 minutes in length and there will be two 30 minute breaks for students. This is a change from a 20 minute recess and 40 minute lunch break. A student survey revealed a longer early morning break would be more suitable as it divided the day up evenly with two periods – break – two periods – break – two periods. The changes were happily accepted by students, staff and the community. Assembly will only occur once per fortnight on Monday 1. We will endeavor to make our assemblies open to the community as often as possible to celebrate student successes.

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HSC Industrial Technology Projects

On Friday 28th August 2015, HSC markers attended Oberon High School to formally mark Industrial Technology Timber and Graphics practical projects for the 2015 HSC. There were some outstanding projects this year, with 4 students in both timber and graphics.

Adrian Perry combined his love of music and timber by making an electric guitar as his major project for the HSC. After making a prototype and ironing out any issues throughout the year, the final product was outstanding.

Matthew Simmons produced a modern wine rack with interesting curves, combining beautiful timbers with smart design and symmetry.

The quality of all projects this year were very pleasing and all students need to be congratulated on their fantastic effort and quality of presentation for the marking process.

Congratulations must go to Mr. Armstrong (Industrial Technology – Timber) and Mr. Boyd (Industrial Technology – Graphics) for their exceptional support of these students both in class and for providing extra working time prior to submission.

The students will now sit a theoretical HSC examination and the marks will combine to produce their overall HSC result.

Pictured Above: Adrian Perry’s Guitar and Matthew Simmons’ Wine Rack, and at Left: Detail from Coffee Table by Jarad Cesarone

Ken Barwick, Principal
0418 629 198
HSC Drama first!

Last Thursday 27th August saw our first HSC drama class complete 60% of their external examinations.

In the lead up to the day our five students, Keely Armstrong, Acacia Howarth, Cayley Jones, Jess Mrdjenovic, and Izzy Ross, rehearsed tirelessly for their group performance. The group performance is core to the HSC Drama examinations and comprises 30% of the overall marks. All students must partake in this play built component in a group of 3-6 students.

Additionally, students must complete the 30% individual project. This project has 10 options in total, including design options, critical analysis options, video drama, script and individual performance. Our students completed costume design, program and promotion design, script and we had two individual performances. Whilst the first three were submitted on the 17th August, the performances were completed on the same day as the group performance.

Congratulations to our first cohort of HSC Drans students. Your efforts have paid off and now it’s time to concentrate on the written examination comprising of 40% of your final mark.

Pictures show our five HSC Drama students preparing for their live performances

What’s next...

After the excitement of Alice and the Rabbit, performing arts will be busy, busy, busy with HSC Music examinations on Thursday 10th. Best of luck Keely, Chloe and Shannon.

Additionally, all other classes will be completing their assessments before the end of term.

Yours Dramatically Musical,
Amber Hibbert
Want to Learn the Violin?

Mitchell Conservatorium is offering lessons on string instruments (violin, viola and cello) at the school, as part of the collaborative program between Mitchell Con, Oberon High School and the Kowmung Music Festival.

Contact Ms Hibbert if you are interested.

**Dates to Remember**

- Wednesday 9th September 2015 - Kelron Cup - Open rugby league - Mr Leven
- Thursday 10th September 2015 - HSC Music exams - Ms Hibbert
- Thursday 10th September 2015 - P&C meeting - Gayle Voerman (0419 445 767)
- Thursday 17th September 2015 - Homework Centre
- Thursday 17 September 2015 - General Maths tutorial (after school) - Miss Marshall
- Friday 18th September 2015 - Last day for Year 12
- Friday 18th September 2015 - Farewell Assembly for Year 12
- Friday 18th September 2015 - Last Day of Term 3
- Tuesday 6th October 2015 - First day of Term 4 for students and staff
- Tuesday 13th October (period 1 & 2) Year 6 attending OHS - Ms Hibbert
- Wednesday 21st October (period 3 & 4) Year 6 attending OHS - Ms Hibbert
- Thursday 29th October (period 5 & 6) Year 6 attending OHS - Ms Hibbert

**Alice and the Rabbit**

Oberon High’s major showcase for 2015 “Alice and the Rabbit” was a huge success. Held on Thursday 3rd September, 2015, there were only two performances. Both the matinee and evening performances played to huge audiences who were treated to performances from the multi-talented students and staff of the school.

It was an amazing and entertaining show. Here are some photos from the rehearsals and performances.

Thanks to all the performers, producers and behind-the-scenes crew.
Talented Mathematician’s Day

On Wednesday, the 26th of August, seven O.H.S. students from years 8 and 9 went to Bathurst High for a fun-filled day of Problem Solving activities.


There were cheers, high-fives, lively chatter and rapturous applause as pairs of students found answers to the numerous puzzles. Chocolates, as prizes, were distributed throughout the day and Jasmin (pictured below) found herself the recipient of the major chocolate prize at the conclusion of the day.

Later in the day, the 4 schools, Oberon High, Bathurst High, Blayney High and Orange High, were asked to mingle and form different pairs. Once you figured out a question a staff-member stamped your sheet and you went and got another question bag. If you got stuck, you put the question bag back and grabbed another.

The bus trip home was slow, due to rain and a broken-down truck on the steep incline, but Mr. Jones was extremely proud of the way our students conducted themselves. It will definitely be on again next year and maybe we will need a bigger bus?!

Mr Michael Jones
Head Teacher Mathematics, PDHPE
OHS P&C - What’s On
Monthly meeting 2nd Thursday of every month during school terms - 5pm at Oberon High School, Ross Street, Oberon

P&C 2015 meetings - Thursdays, 5pm
10th September
8th October
12th November
10th December

Tickets are now on sale for the P&C Raffle to be drawn at Halloween Bingo Night, there are some fantastic prizes. All proceeds from this raffle will go towards the needs of students at OHS.

If you wish to purchase tickets or would like to sell tickets contact Mishka at the office or call Gayle on 0419445767

In other P&C news our Halloween Bingo Bonanza is getting closer. Be sure to save the date Friday, 30th October for a family fun night. There will be raffles and lots of extra opportunities to win great prizes. Our fresh popcorn will also be on sale at this event. Halloween Bingo Bonanza will be at Oberon RSL - doors open at 5:30pm - Bingo starts at 7pm.

We have contacted a lot of local businesses seeking donations to assist with our fundraising however, if anyone is able to contribute by donating suitable prizes for our raffle or bingo night please contact Mishka at the school (6336 1606) or Gayle (0419 445 767).

**The P&C would like to thank all the businesses who have made donations to assist our fundraising.**

**Halloween Bingo Bonanza**
FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER
Oberon High School
P&C Fundraiser
All proceeds go to help our students

$10 for 10 rounds
Oberon RSL Club
Bingo starts at 7pm
Doors open at 5.30pm
(Bistro and Bar open from 5.30pm)
Phone 0419 445 767 for more information

**Government Funding for YOUR School**
The P&C recently received information from the NSW federation of P&C associations regarding Gonski funding model for public schools. If you would like more information on this matter or wish to sign the petition go to www.igiveagonski.com.au.

If you would like more information about any of these events or other matters relating to the Oberon High School P&C, please contact Gayle Voerman, President 0419 445 767.
Oberon Youth Council

DISCO!
9 October
At the Oberon RSL
Ages 6 - 11 6pm - 8pm
12 - 18 8:30pm - 11:30pm
$5.00 SINGLE entry

Soft drinks and chips will be available for purchase

YOUTH SONG WRITING COMPETITION
2 categories: 12-16yrs & 17-24yrs
OBERON-LITHGOW-BATHURST
PRIZES
(Supported by Bathurst Academy of Music)
1ST: $250 each + Music Workshop 2ND: $100 each
Recording & Demo of your song

Write a song about your values, concepts, dreams & wishes!
APPLICATIONS AT SCHOOLS, LOCAL BUSINESSES OR OBERON COUNCIL!
Entries close 18th September 2015

Entries extended to Tuesday 6 October 2015
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 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 63361626 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:

- Saturday 29th August 2015 at 9am
- Thursday 10th September 2015 at 5pm
- Saturday 19th September 2015 at 10:30am

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