



OATLEY WEST Lantern

MR NASH'S CORNER

This will be the final Newsletter for 2019. We've had a great year, a busy one but extremely fulfilling. I'd like to share my address from the Presentation Assembly last week:

Every year at Oatley West Public School is a busy one, but this year seems to have been busier than most and has absolutely flown by. Our school has a strong culture of improvement and success and a strong commitment to achieving high learning outcomes for all its students.

Our staff are passionate educators, hardworking and a dedicated team who work in partnership with the students, parents and wider community.

We have continued to excel as a school both academically and in the sporting areas that we represent outside of the school.

Our school continues to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities that include; band, chess, choir, dance, debating, school disco, Premier's reading challenge, Percussion, PSSA sports, Public Speaking, Recorder, Student Representative Council (SRC), Swimming Scheme and Talent Quest to name a few.

Our school also offers many excursions and incursions to complement areas of study being undertaken.

Oatley West Public School is mindful towards sustainability and has a very active 'Organic Diggers Club' where students, teachers and parents have garden beds in the school grounds that produce Pak Choi, Spinach, Kale, Lettuce, Mint, Chives, Edible flowers, Beans and many other vegetables. We also have a mini orchard which grows oranges, lemons, limes and mandarins. Our students learn to plant and care for their produce garden and when fully grown they learn to harvest their produce as well.

Another area that has been developed at our school is the Archaeological Dig Site which is behind the demountable buildings, Park Avenue side of the school. This area has been developed to complement the syllabus teaching outcomes and can be used for learning from Kindergarten to Year 6. This is a unique space within our school and has attracted interest from schools within and outside our Georges River Network of schools.

School Values:

**Fairness/Integrity/Respect/Cooperation/
Excellence/Participation/Care & Responsibility!**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17
DEC

Talent Quest 10am

18
DEC

Graduation Year 6
Last Day of School 2019

28
JAN

Staff Development
Day

29
DEC

Yr 1—Yr 6 Return to
School

30
JAN

Text Book Sale Day



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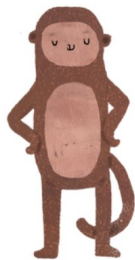
*The School by the park -
Great Kids, Great Teachers, Great School!*

Principal Nash continued

During the year, the school purchased 3 large and 3 small ping pong tables which have been a great hit. They are portable and can be wheeled to wherever they are needed for play.

We have been a Kids Matter school for many years. We believe in developing the whole child and student wellbeing is a high priority, supporting all our teaching and learning. The Kids Matter Program was incorporated into Be You which is part of the Beyond Blue network.

Although we are still a part of this network, we have embarked on a new program called Peaceful Kids.



Peaceful Kids Monkey Mascot

This program came about after an external program called GOT IT worked with some of our children in 2018. We have four teachers trained in this work and employ a teacher one day a week to allow them to run this program. Mindful minutes are practised in each classroom every day after recess and lunch. This has become a whole school emphasis throughout 2019.

As part of the Peaceful Kids program, the same teachers have been trained in the Peaceful Parents program and we will be running workshops for parents in 2020.

As part of our wellness programs we have introduced the Fathering Project with four activities taking place across 2019. We've held a Bangers and Bingo afternoon, Paper plane competition activity, a film night and this term a games afternoon. This is a great time to give our Dads some quality time with their children at school. Each term's activities have been extremely well supported and we hope to keep this program running again next year.

French and Chinese languages have again been offered this year before or after school with many students attending these classes. It would be good to see more students attending, as this is a great opportunity to learn a language or to further enhance a home language.



Due to increasing numbers, we opened a new section of the school site to be called the sail playground.

This area has taken some pressure off the main playground and we hope to develop it with new asphalt for larger play space, reconfigure the silver seats and next year (hopefully) to install some equipment for play and discovery for the younger students. Watch this space!

A very exciting project, our new Adventure Playground was finally completed and a great addition to the Caterpillar playground. It is a very popular area, particularly during the recent hot weather. This project was funded by a Community Grant and P&C Funds.

We are now also seeing the completion of a passive area in front of the bike shed. Seating, plants and astro turf have provided another area for students to leave the main playground for quiet time to talk, play games, read or to just to sit. Many thanks to the SRC and SRC Seniors for this project which was part of their leadership by the river program – based on a book 'Where is the green sheep?' which deals with differences & healthy living. We are yet to purchase a sleeping green sheep to put in this area.

Our Library continues to be a very special place at our school. Yes, our students continue to be strong readers and borrowers of books and enjoy using the Library to interact with technology. Libraries are now known as the 'third space' as they also provide an area that induces wellbeing and provides equity for all students across the school. Our Library is very busy during mornings and lunch times.

Principal Nash continued

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P&C, School Club and our community for their support this year.

Without the support of all our community groups, it would be impossible to do what we do.

The School Club, Canteen, Uniform Shop, Music Council & Community Festival all support us to the hilt, and on behalf of all our staff, I'd like to offer a sincere thank you to each and every one.

Our school has grown in numbers with 88 (in area) Kindergarten enrolments, for 2020 and next year we will be around the same at 588 students in 23 classes.

If you have heard rumours as to who is on what class for 2020, this is wholly dependent on the numbers we have at present.

To staff and parents, this could change in an instant. Classes for next year are based on numbers we have at present and who might enrol between now and first week back is unknown.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a great Christmas, New Year and for safe travels over the holiday break.

We get to come back and do it all again in 2020. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



Captains Speech at Presentation Assembly:

Our time at Oatley West has been great. Year 6 have grown into one big family and have enjoyed every moment; from camp to class parties, we always found a way to have fun.

This of course would not be possible without all of the great teachers we have had. There are too many to name but we appreciate each and every one of them that helped our years at Oatley West Public School be as best as they could be. Although, preparing for high school, there have been our fabulous Stage 3 teachers to give a helping hand. We would like to thank Mrs Di Lucchio for teaching PDHPE, Mrs Assad, Mr Griffiths, Miss Diwell, Miss Aravanopoulos and Mrs Mc Donald our teachers. They have done everything in their power to prepare us for high school and we are extremely grateful.

Year 6 have made so many memories along the way. I believe we speak for all of Year 6 when we say camp was so much fun. Travelling around Canberra could never be better without all our friends and teachers.

On behalf of Year 6, we would also like to thank Mr Nash, our amazing principal and all he does for us and the school. He has shared his wisdom and helped us constantly throughout our school experience.

We would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Chappell for helping us time and time again on our project for the school and always giving us the support to get through the year.

On behalf of the SRC leadership team, we would like to thank Miss Farah for organising many great things this year that Year 6 has participated in.

We will never forget our time at Oatley West Public School and are very thankful for everything. We hope the rest of Year 6 succeeds in high school and gets everything they deserve and more.

For the final time **THANK YOU!**



UNIFORM SHOP

VALUE FOR THE WEEK

COOPERATION

Work together to achieve common goals.
 Help each other to succeed.
 Work together to peacefully resolve conflict.
 Listen to the views of others.



*MERRY CHRISTMAS
 FROM US ALL*



LIBRARY NEWS



As this is the last week of the school year could all library books and resources please be returned to the library. We will be doing our stocktake and preparing our books for next year! Thank you again for all your support in the library.

Rita Fitzpatrick & Holly Blake

GREEN GAZETTE



Our yearly Green Gazette paper is available now and will be on sale for a gold coin donation before school and at recess and lunch tomorrow. All gold coin donations will be donated to help the injured koalas from the bush fires.

Mrs McDonald & Miss Benita



SPORTS NEWS



PLAY FOOTBALL
FROM 5 YEARS | MALE & FEMALE
REGISTRATIONS OPEN: JANUARY 2020

FIND YOUR CLUB
SGFA.COM.AU/PLAYFOOTBALL

UNIFORM SHOP

We will be reopening Thursday 30th January 2020.

Please ensure you have all your uniform needs in preparation for next year.

We do not open during school holidays and the Oatley West School Uniform cannot be purchased elsewhere.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped in the uniform shop this year. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!

Manager – Sia Coelho

Enquiries: scoelho@iinet.net.au

SCHOOL BANKING

Please note, no school banking this week.

Faith S has been a part of the school banking team since her grandchild Jayden started Kindy at OWPS in 2016.

Sadly, Faith will not be returning to help in 2020.

On behalf of the school banking team, we would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks for the many hours of support you've given us over the years. We are so appreciative for giving our school 'the gift of time' and like to wish you and your family the very best for the future J

Will be delivering the last of this year's banking prizes this week.

Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy Christmas!





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we serve



Oatley Lions – Farmer’s Christmas Bush Bash Project Update

16 December 2019

Oatley Lions are so appreciative of the support received by Oatley West & Oatley Public School communities and wish to sincerely thank all the families who kindly donated a Christmas present for the children in western NSW.

You need to know that your generosity has helped provide hope for so many farmer’s families who are really struggling due the ongoing drought.

Many were brought to tears because of your kindness.

- *Oatley Lions members took the lead on a project to provide a Christmas BBQ for farmer families in western NSW to send a strong message of support & kindness on one of their Hay Days.*
- *15 Oatley, Lugarno and Cronulla Lions drove to Gallon NSW to deliver the Christmas Bush Bash Event, held on Saturday 14th December.*
- *It was an amazingly successful and rewarding event with positive feedback, smiles and tears of appreciation for the efforts of our Lions Clubs, local schools and our local community*
- *Over 75 farmer families totaling more than 400 attended the BBQ*
- *They received over \$30,000 of donations including:*
 - *BBQ delights from Oatley Lions*
 - *\$11,000 of food & fuel vouchers*
 - *\$5,000 of water*
 - *100’s of Christmas gifts that were donated by the children of Oatley West & Oatley Public Schools. These gifts were given to the children by Santa which brought squeals of delight, tears of joy and appreciation and helped take families minds off the severe drought that is challenging everyone.*
 - *Jumping castle and train rides*
 - *20-piece choir*
 - *Clothing for families, books*
 - *Food & toiletry hampers*



As importantly they received a message that people in the city are thinking of them, understand their current plight and the importance of food production to the country.

Again, sincere thanks from Oatley Lions members.

Merry Christmas to you and your families.

