

# Oxley Vale Public School

*A quality education in a caring and innovative environment*

## MESSENGER



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Oxley Vale Public School acknowledges that the school is built upon the traditional lands of the Gomeroi/Kamilaroi people. We pay our respects to the Elders both past and present and ask for guidance and wisdom as we work towards improving educational outcomes for all our children.

Term 1 Week 2

4th February, 2014

### Principal's Message

Welcome back to the best school in NSW for 2014! I hope everyone has had a relaxing and restful holiday break and are ready for another great year. There are a few changes to staffing this year and also we will be implementing a new rewards system across the whole school. We are really looking forward to seeing how students respond to this.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new families to our school and wish all students, parents and teachers a happy, productive and rewarding term.

**Luke Norman**  
*Principal*

### Staff for 2014

I would like to welcome our new staff members for 2014 Mrs Shelly Porter (SP), Miss Rosie Waugh (2/3W), and Mrs Genienne Ellis (3/4E). We trust you will have a wonderful time here at OVPS. We also welcome back Mr Scarborough who was away during term 4 last year.

**Principal:** Mr Luke Norman

**Assistant Principals:** Mrs Gabrielle Purdy (KP), Mrs Genienne Ellis (3/4E) and Mr Grant Scarborough.

### Teaching Staff:

KP Mrs Gabrielle Purdy  
KM Mrs Sandra Murray  
1E Mrs Kathy Elliott  
1C Mrs Dianne Charlton

1/2R Mrs Helen Rowsell

2T Mrs Di Trasler

2/3W Miss Rosie Waugh

3S Mr Craig Sheaves

3/4E Mrs Genienne Ellis

4E Miss Caitlin Eather

5M Miss Cheryl Marshall

5/6S Mr James Steele

6L Miss Miranda Langford

### Support Staff:

Admin Officer Christine Davidson  
Admin Manager Leanne Grinter

### School Times and Supervision

The Department of Education and Communities requires schools to have staff on supervision duty 30 minutes before the start of the school day. Until that time the DEC considers parents legally responsible for supervising their children. We have teachers supervising students from 8:55am each day at the first bell but until then no supervision is provided.

We are encouraging all parents to plan for 8:55am as the earliest time for their child to arrive at school. We understand that this is not always possible but being earlier than this should not become a habit as our biggest concern is for the safety of the children. **If children do come to school before 8:55am they are to go directly to the COLA with their bags.** No child is permitted in the buildings before this time.

## **Entering and Leaving School – guidelines for students and parents**

As the year starts we would like to revisit the guidelines for children arriving at school in the morning and for leaving school at the end of the day.

All students should be at school before 9:25am when lessons begin. All parents and students who walk to school should enter the school through the pedestrian gates above the canteen. **For safety reasons we are asking that no-one walks through a teacher car park at any time.** Children should walk on the outside of buildings and place their bag outside their classroom. At no time before 9:25am should students enter a building. If students arrive before 8:55am they are to go directly to the COLA with their bags.

At 3:25pm when the final bell goes all children who walk home or are collected by parents will be walked to the top gate by their teacher. Parents are invited to wait at the gate or close by under the covered areas. We ask that parents not wait inside the buildings as no students will be leaving this way and it can disrupt lessons, particular if parents arrive a long time before the bell.

All students catching buses will walk to the Library to wait for their bus.

### **Office Times**

Our school office is open for enquiries, messages and payments between the hours of 8:45am and 3:45pm. Any phone calls outside of these times will be recorded on our answering machine and followed up the next day.

### **Leave & Exemptions**

If your child will be away for school for at least a week for any reason other than an unforeseen illness parents should contact the school and apply for "Exemption form Attendance at School". This will allow your child to legally be excused from attending school during that period and this period of absence will not affect their attendance rate (which must be greater than 85%).

Exemption forms can be collected from our front office. Please note that the application for exemption must be completed and submitted to the Principal prior to taking the leave or the school is unable to grant the application.

### **Voluntary Contributions (School fees)**

At the start of every year schools send out

information regarding the voluntary contributions, otherwise know as school fees. These contributions go towards providing valuable resources to assist students with their learning needs.

We are asking families to pay their voluntary contributions as early as possible to allow for planning the purchase of resources early in the year and to provide a clear financial picture for the school. We would appreciate if families could pay their contributions at the front office where either Leanne or Christine can receipt the funds. Individual student fees are \$55 and the contribution for a family of 2 or more students is \$90.

Your support with these contributions is very much appreciated.

### **Appointments**

If you wish to see the Principal about a matter that may take some time to discuss please phone the school during office hours and ask to make an appointment. You are able to leave messages with our office staff if this is easier for you.

If you wish to discuss matters with your child's teacher we ask that you leave a message at the front office. Teachers are able to call you back at an appropriate time to discuss matters with you or to make an appointment. We understand that there are times you may wish to discuss issues of great importance however it is not appropriate to do it during teacher preparation time or in the morning before lessons. Teaching time is valuable and we would like to keep interruptions to a minimum. Thank you for understanding.

### **Canteen News**

Welcome to all our new and returning families.

The canteen is open for lunch every day and for recess on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Please ensure that your child's name, class and order are written clearly on a paper bag with the correct money enclosed. Orders may be done at the canteen counter but it is greatly appreciated if they could be done at home and dropped to the canteen upon arrival at school.

Lunches are delivered to the classroom but recess must be picked from the canteen by the student.

Parent volunteers are always welcome at the canteen, if you are interested in helping out please give me a call or pop in to the canteen.

Caterina Walker

Canteen Supervisor

# ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS

## Merit Awards

### Infants

**1C:** Rhys Hanson, Kaitlyn Hahn

**1E:** Anthony Nichols –Daley, Mia Robinson

**1R:** Toby Ison, Abby Reaves Britz

**2T:** Jesse Sylvester, Eve Noon

**2/3W:** Chelsea McDonald, Craig Johnston

### Primary

**SD:** Hayden Stokes

**4E:** Jack Morris, Alkira McGrady

**3S:** Darcy Holz, Spencer Edwards

**3/4E:** Allanah Klease, Bailey Kane

**5M:** Evan Kelly, Lillian McGrath

**5/6S:** Kurt Waites, Hannah Woods

**6L:** Emily Klease, Daniel Peel

## Book Work Ribbon

Indi Braizer

Taylor Beattie

Solome Ibe

Cooper Schubert

Laila Browning

Bridie O'Neil

Sarah Turner

Ellie Wiseman

Amber Dawson

Hayden Todd

Shae Grant



## Keeping lunchboxes safe

\* Before preparing your child's lunchbox, always wash your hands and ensure you have a clean chopping board, lunchbox and utensils.

\* Bacteria that cause food poisoning grow at room temperature so it is a good idea to keep lunchboxes cold, even in winter. Include a frozen drink or ice-brick to keep sandwiches fresh and safe.

\* Wrap frozen drinks in a paper towel to stop condensation making lunches soggy.

Be selective about what you pack, especially on hot days. Try to avoid cold meats, chicken and eggs on hot days.

## Welcome Kindergarten 2014





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