

PIN OAK

ISSUE 01: Term 3, July 25 2014



Welcome to the first issue of the new Oxley College fortnightly magazine.



On the Branch



Sports News



K-6

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Editor's Letters

Let's begin with a statement: a good magazine is like a burger. A good magazine is juicy, it's stimulating, it's packed full of content. It has a meaty patty: the letter from the Head Chef Mr Parker, fried in the oily goodness of Mrs Cunich and Mr Ayling. A good magazine has crunchy lettuce and ripe tomatoes: the Feature Article and Big Issue article respectively, providing a healthy and worldly dose of nutrition. It has regular columns to provide some relish, and a side of chips: a K-6 page to keep the young'uns happy. Turn to the music page for some melted cheesy jokes, or to the back page if you want the final touch: sports, with some caramelised onion if you so desire. All held together by the wholegrain, whole-hearted Ms Lanser bread and sprinkled with the greatest herbs and spices (student contributors) in Australia. And so, we are proud to present the first ever Pin Oak Burger: more than enough to dig your teeth into.

Ruben Seaton

Editor

I am so excited to have been able to act as Editor for the very first edition of the Oxley Pin Oak, a school magazine designed to bring news regarding Oxley College, and engaging content involving music, film, arts and current affairs.

This magazine aims to be compelling and relevant for the student body and the parents and wider community. Our first edition has pieces about the border conflict in Israel and the modern hijab, as well as content that intimately affects the Oxley community such as our attitude to the arts and advertisement free radio for Australia.

Here at the Pin Oak, we hope to bring our readers a balance between international and local affairs, keeping you informed about what's happening in the world. I really hope that there is something to attract everyone in this edition, and you can catch up on the latest events happening in our community.

Annabel Santo

Editor



HEADMASTER'S REPORT

Michael Parker

The Pin Oak is a powerful symbol of Oxley College. It has its roots deep in the soil of the school. Its branches spread out and feel like they touch each part of the campus. How appropriate it is, therefore, that a newsletter which will come to encapsulate all that is best about Oxley will bear the name of the Pin Oak.

Indeed I am very excited to be writing in the very first edition of this newspaper. It is not just a more interesting looking 'Weekly Record' for Oxley. Its philosophy is entirely different. For it is not just a record of what happened at the school over the last week, but an exciting interchange of reports, news and views from all parts of the school and beyond.

The most important difference is that the Pin Oak is run by students. A Year 11 committee has come up with the look and the feel of it (indeed I sat in on a meeting where a vigorous discussion was going on about the right font for the articles). Students have come up with many of the columns and the titles. They have come up with most of the articles. Indeed... my own column inches have been cut so that I now only have 500 words instead of 1000 to get my message across (although I may occasionally pull rank).

The articles are not meant to be a simple 'roundup' about what is happening at Oxley either. There will be commentary on current affairs, music reviews, opinion pieces about sport and many other articles too. Although there will be a staff moderator (Ms Beatrice Lanser) making sure that everything is appropriate, I do hope that there will be strong views and robust debate on these pages in the months and years to come. I hope too that everyone will learn something from the fresh and interesting perspectives that arise from the editors, the feature editors and the regular contributors.

Another difference is that one of the target audiences now is students. Hopefully they will read what their peers are reporting and think about the views that the editors have. I hope that it encourages debate. I hope that the odd feather is just a little ruffled on the way. It may even mean that some students find themselves reading some of my articles. However, I may be getting carried away with myself in this regard.

We found the editorial team by going around to classes during Term Two and offering the opportunity to be involved in a new publication. There was a big take-up with over a dozen people coming to the first meeting. There will be opportunities for all those who wish to write for the magazine in the years to come. This too speaks to the inclusive nature of so much at Oxley College.

So, in short, I welcome Pin Oak again to Oxley College. It is an auspicious publication indeed.

FILLING IN THE GAPS



Every day in the news over the last few weeks we have heard with unfaltering consistency the names "Gaza" and "Israel" mentioned with the word "rockets" in between. Perhaps you've followed the stories, or perhaps you've brushed this latest act of destruction off as "just another bad thing happening in the Middle East" – it's often hard not to. With a comparative analogy to Australia perhaps your rocket-smoke clouded vision may clear!

Just imagine the ACT, the most densely populated area of our country, was not owned by Australia but instead owned by one of our greatest enemies – New Zealand. Unfortunately NZ also own Sydney – the most culturally important city to our nation. Not only does NZ own a key part of our territory, they also don't practice the same religion as us. This is what it is like for Israel, a very small country who is predominately Jewish in an area which is predominately Muslim. The ACT is the Gaza strip – a very small piece of land between Israel and Egypt technically controlled by the Palestinian Authority that is actually run by militant group Hamas. Sydney is the equivalent of Jerusalem – an important city for Christians, Muslims and Jews, which makes its ownership very contentious.

Although New Zealand controls only a small section of our country, they really want power over the whole of Australia.

The militant group Hamas are our equivalent of New Zealand's shooters' party, who wouldn't believe Australia even exists. At this point you might be thinking, "Well that settles it - Israel is the victim" ,but as always there are two sides to the story. The Palestinians have been denied their homeland as well for many decades since the Sykes-Picot agreement in 1916 that drew the map lines across the Middle East. In its most simplistic form the issue here is who believes the land is theirs.

Now imagine that your friends, three teenage boys your age, were walking around the outskirts of Sydney. Your friends are good kids and they innocently try to hitchhike, when out of nowhere some NZ shooters' party members kidnap and murder them. This is what happened to three Israeli boys you may have heard about recently, their bodies were discovered on June 30. Israel accused the Hamas of the murders but the militant group denies their involvement. Since these killings Israeli forces invaded 1000 private homes, arrested 300 Palestinians and killed 635, in comparison to Israel's 31 deaths. At the same time as this Gaza began firing rockets at Israel.

It is the equivalent of ACT flying rockets right over our houses and we fire straight back – all in all over 300 rockets have been fired. This has become a war.

There has since been a revenge attack - a Palestinian teenage boy was kidnapped and burned to death. As a consequence, East Jerusalem exploded with riots and more rockets were fired. With such dense populations and such small countries, the likelihood of deaths due to these rockets is enormous. Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu's spokesperson said, "Israel stands thoroughly against this. We promised to investigate. We promised to bring the perpetrators of that crime to justice and guess what? We delivered. We've done exactly that." However there are victims on both sides as innocent Palestinian's homes are destroyed and the number of refugees increases.

It is hard to imagine in our safe bubble of Australia that the area surrounding us could be so divided and generate so much hate. Also difficult to comprehend is the impact these attacks have on people our age, with teenagers being used as pawn pieces in a game played by countries with deadly powers. A ceasefire agreement lasting more than a few hours is yet to be reached and because the issues in this region run so deep, the likelihood of a peaceful settlement is slim any time soon.

By Evangeline Larsen

Deputy Head Reports

Deputy Head Learning K-12: Kate Cunich

It is always exciting to begin a fresh term, and what a better way to start than with a newsletter that introduces student voices. At Oxley, we are keen to provide more and more opportunities for our students to experience real-world learning and this initiative is a great example of what can be done when that opportunity is provided.

All K – 10 students have recently received a formal report on their progress, effort and achievement during Semester One. This document can be used either as something that is filed away and forgotten, or as an important stepping stone along the continuum of learning. Even when disappointed with a result or comment, students can use the feedback to inspire them to try harder, to strive and to improve.

At a recent conference of world thought leaders on education, I was delighted to hear the very same message that we have been espousing at Oxley: the importance of seeing learning at school as preparation for a love of learning and as preparation for our futures. The overarching theme was that those who exhibit the

traits of a growth mindset and learn how to welcome error ultimately achieve the most success. I encourage parents and students to use the recent report as a marker along the journey and to use it to set goals, whether they be organisational, behavioural or academic.

Our Year 12 students are currently sitting their HSC Trial Examination. We are proud of the way many have devoted time in the holidays to attend additional workshops and revision sessions. Again this experience is a test of preparation, revision and study skills up until this point. The results will provide the “where to next” for students in their final weeks of schooling.

Next week, there will be a series of 2015 Information sessions for students and parents. These will outline the variations to study programs for current Year 11, Year 10 and Year 8 students. All are welcome to attend. The presentations and materials will also be available electronically.

Deputy Head Pastoral K-12: Peter Ayling

Safe Drivers

As more and more Senior Students become independent and gain their driver’s licence it is another opportunity to have a discussion concerning staying safe. Youth Safe have a Parent Fact Sheet on Helping Teenagers Become Safe Drivers. I encourage you to visit this site. www.youthsafe.org.

Pride in Presentation

At Oxley College we take great pride in the presentation of our young students. We seek your assistance in ensuring our students are in uniform and boys’ hair in particular is presented in a conservative short style. All items of clothing can be obtained from the uniform shop.



Wendy Dowling

It is with great sadness that we farewell Wendy Dowling who has worked in 7-12 Student Services for the past three and a half years.

Many parents, students and staff come in to contact with Mrs Dowling on a daily basis.

Mrs Dowling manages everything from first aid, absentees, lost property, messages, phone calls and numerous other matters.

The staff, students and I will certainly miss Mrs Dowling’s thorough organisation, compassion and humility and we wish her well in her new position as School Administrative Manager at Barrack Heights Public School.

Social Media's Hijab



While we use social media to post trivialities, Muslim women use it to empower each other.

Social media has opened new avenues for Muslim women in their endeavors to show another side to themselves. With values and ideals such as devotion, honesty, respect and almsgiving to name a few, still at the core of the lives of Muslims, some explore ways to show off their character. The recently created Facebook page, *My Stealthy Freedom*, offers women the opportunity to anonymously post photos of themselves without their hijabs, expressing their desire for freedom of the compulsory headscarf. On the other side of the spectrum, teenager Nour Saleh turns superheroes on their head in self-portrait illustrations that respect traditions of Islam.

The Facebook page *My Stealthy Freedom* was created in May 2014 by an Iranian journalist, Alinejad, and currently has over 550,000 likes. The act of shedding one's hijab is one of cultural and religious disobedience that could potentially negatively affect these women. Each woman posts a photo of herself posing without their hijab, some more exposed than others, accompanied by a message conveying their attitudes towards freedom. The page is said to not be a protest against headscarves in general, but a protest against forcing women to wear them.

For many women in Islam, the choice to wear a hijab is made willingly, however *My Stealthy Freedom* allows those who feel that the hijab is a burden to speak out. Alinejad lives in London and

wanted to be the person to facilitate discussions where "male and female Iranians with different opinions can meet and talk about how they feel, think and what they do in private. They don't have to be afraid of censorship, like in the Iranian public sphere."

With public life in Iran fraught with restrictions, the page has become a popular site for women to express their frustration and feel the elation in demonstrating their beliefs through social media. Messages of support from nations worldwide have poured in to the website, causing even more enthusiasm. "Respect & Support from California! Stay strong. Basic rights & happiness to be who you are. Express yourself, we are listening."

Public spaces very much enforce the codes of conduct of wearing a hijab, though that does not mean the shedding of the hijab is non-existent. The captions that accompany the images range from "Although people gave me blaming looks, the sweetness of that moment has remained unforgettable" to "I am a girl from Shiraz. I'll raise my hand and practice freedom. Freedom! I want you to know that this exhausted bird will go on searching for you and trying to attain you forever." With posts accumulating at a rapid rate, the page is quickly gaining an international following that raises awareness to voices that are rarely heard. "With social media, Iranians can break open the barrier between private and public life,"

“ the page is quickly gaining an international following that raises awareness to voices that are rarely heard ”

says My Stealthy Freedom’s founder, reflecting on the influence that social media has had.

In another form of social media, 17 year old Nour Saleh has published a series of illustrations on Tumblr. As part of the Draw Yourself challenge, Nour Saleh drew various fictional superheroes, incorporating her hijab into the drawings. The loose and long clothing, and the statement headscarves are a reflection of Nour Saleh’s character. These drawings give young girls characters to relate to and draw strength from. It has been said that the modesty displayed in the headscarf protects the identity of the character to fight for justice.

Among the most popular illustrations, are Saleh’s interpretation of Captain America and Katniss Everdeen of the Hunger Games. These two drawings in particular have captured the attention of the public, with the striking American flag headscarf and a Katniss style braided hijab. As a young, deeply devoted Muslim, Saleh places a comment below each drawing to “clarify the art”. She explains in each comment that she is a Muslim girl who wears the hijab and prefers long, loose clothing. She also expresses her inspiration or references certain styles of hijab. Referring to her Katniss impression, she comments, “Since I wear the hijab I can’t show my hair, but that doesn’t mean I can’t keep the Katniss braid! It’s called a braided hijab!” Her drawings display her fondness for Islam and her personal way of sharing it with the world through social media.



Social media has provided a new way of expressing the values and morals of Islam. With many more articles, stories and creative trains of thought circulating the internet and the media, it is well worth taking an interest in the changing attitudes of Muslims and the world. Rebellion against Islamic law in regards to clothing, particularly what is now regarded as a sufficient headscarf, is in question.

Other stories include the new book *Little Mosque* by Zarqa Nawaz, describing her donning of the hijab to infuriate her parents, news of marches through Tehran supporting enforcement of Islamic lawful dress, students at English universities still feeling the pressure of stereotypes and a law that has been denied that could have banned women from wearing hijabs on a beach in Paris, as France states they wish to “affirm their commitment to secularism.” Men and women throughout the world will fight for what they believe are their rights, social media only aids them to travel in many different directions.

By Maddie Thomas



Week 1 Awards

Respect Others

K: Archie Wallace 1: Eva Duffy 2: Taylor Anstee 3: Cordelia Ison 4: Isabel Feetham 5: Ivy Hayes 6: Thomas Donovan

Students of the Week

K: Zahra Lim 1: Leo Ison 2: Evie Crowley 3: Jacqueline Worthington 4: Arabella Osborne 5: James Feetham 6: Connor Philpott-Tyson



Year 5

Last term Year 5 worked on their creative writing skills, focusing on literary descriptions. We learned that an interesting description makes stories come alive a bit like decorating a cake. To decorate a literary description you need interesting sentence beginnings, adjectives, adverbs, similes, metaphors, alliteration, repetition and you need to describe how you senses are experiencing. Our descriptive writing was based on spooky descriptions of a haunted house, a unicorn, a dragon and a witch inspired by images from the internet. Year 5 enjoyed presenting their work at Assembly.



Week 2 Awards

Students of the Week

K: Wally Atallah 1: Torah Wooderson 2: William Barnett 3: Matthew Smith 4: Cooper Hall 5: Toby O'Sullivan

Respect Others

K: Angus Dean 1: Bella Carpenter 2: Dylan Davis 3: Sienna Bellis 4: Lachlan Blair. 5: Arabella Brown



Year 4

As part of our learning on fractions and decimals, we made hundredths mosaics so we could see the connection between how a part of a number is represented as a fraction and how it is shown as a decimal.

Year 4 has studied many different poetry forms, such as clerihew, cinquain, diamante, animal alliteration, and colour poems.



The Ponerian

A Ponerian lives in perfect pure pink papaya trees in Peru.

A Ponerian eats particular purple popping popcorn and perfectly cooked pepperoni pavlovas.

A Ponerian likes poking pixies with a penguin-shaped pencil.

A Ponerian poses for pictures while pointing at Principals.

My Ponerian pinched me so I panicked as my Ponerian started punching me. Then my papa gave me painkillers and I felt perfectly pleased.

By Luci McManus



SAVE OUR RADIO WAVES

Why We Need Triple J

Imagine if you lived in a world with radio that didn't have repetitive and moronic ads. That didn't have fake, scripted, imbecilic segments hosted by fake, scripted, imbecilic people. That didn't embarrass callers with awkward and uncomfortable questions. That didn't play that same damn Pharrell song seventy thousand times a day.

Thankfully, that world does exist, and luckily enough, it's the one we live on. Saving our ears (and our intellect) for decades has been community and government radio called Triple J.

But, in a continually growing saga of the current government's handbook on 'How To Make Australia Worse For The Youth', Liberal senator James McGrath has delivered his maiden speech, where he calls for the ABC to be privatised if it does not address its supposed 'inner-city left-wing bias', and for Triple J to be sold immediately.

His speech – in which he also demanded abolishment of Federal Departments of Health and Education and defended people's rights to make homophobic comments – has caused an uproar in the youth community, and for good reason: apart from good quality public toilets, the 'Js are Australia's most under-appreciated public service.

Fronted by a group of enthusiastic, honest and genuinely funny presenters and backed by a devoted team behind the scenes, Triple J operates seamlessly around the clock to give light-hearted yet engrossing content. This is, of course, moulded around an exquisite choice of modern and classic music: covering almost all genres with a much-needed emphasis on Australian music; it's a flawless combination. Oh, and did I mention that there's no ads?

The privatisation of Triple J would be a tragic event and a classic 'you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone' circumstance. James McGrath should have thought twice before he spoke, because without Triple J, we are all going to have a lot more silent and awkward car trips to school.

By Ruben Seaton



SPOTLIGHT

ARTIST:

ZAC MORAN

Instrument: Guitar

Pin Oak: How long have you been playing music and what's attracted you to do so?

Zac Moran: I've played since Year 2 – when I was 8. I guess I'm attracted to the ability to express yourself through the instrument.

PO: What's your earliest music memory?

ZM: Seeing John Williamson at the Mittagong RSL Club play True Blue. It was great.

PO: Who do you consider as influences?

ZM: I have a wide variety of influences – from country right across to Kanye West and Mikill Pain in the rap genre and anything in between, like Coldplay and Ed Sheeran.

PO: If you could swap lives with any musician in the world, who would it be?

ZM: It would have to be Guy from Coldplay.

PO: I don't know many people that would want to swap lives with a bass player...

ZM: But he's so gorgeous!

PO: Okay. In your opinion, best album of all time?

ZM: As of recently, Parachutes by Coldplay.

PO: Favourite One Direction member?

ZM: Harry. His hair... wow.

PO: Least favourite genre?

ZM: EDM.

PO: Who would win in a fight between a shark and a crocodile?

ZM: Diplomatically, I'd have to say a crocodile in murky, shallow waters and a shark in open water... But overall, I'd have to say the crocodile has the edge.

UPCOMING EVENTS



OLE! WEEK

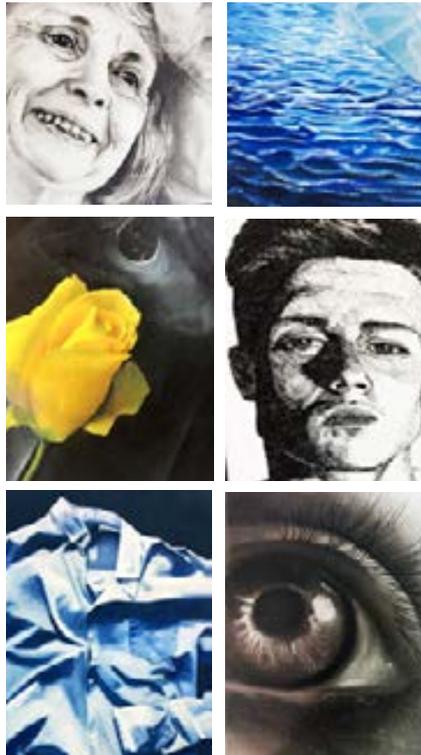
OLE! Week 2014

OLE stands for Other Learning Experiences and it is the intention that the experiences offered will extend and enrich activities beyond the classroom, particularly through activities which have an outdoor, service or cultural focus.

During Week 1 of Term 4, students from Year 3 to Year 11 will be involved in a variety of activities, some which will run on campus and others which may involve camping and building confidence in the outdoors or alternative environments. We believe this type of enrichment program is highly beneficial for our students, and OLE! Week is an opportunity for students, with their teachers, to have these experiences within a supervised and nurturing framework.

You will shortly receive information relevant to your child/children's activity and we ask that you carefully read through the paperwork, complete and return it to the College as soon as possible. As you can appreciate, OLE! Week is a huge undertaking logistically and we look forward to your support and assistance in running another successful year of positive experiences and challenges.

By Natalie Lane



HSC ART EXHIBITION

2014 YEAR 12 VISUAL ARTS

Orchestra Room Oxley College
Railway Road Burradoo
Ph 48611366
5.30 - 7.30pm
THURSDAY 7th AUGUST



EXPRESS YOURSELF

You are warmly invited to the Oxley College
P&F Art and Cocktails Evening
Saturday 9 August 2014

Oxley College Music School
Cocktails & substantial finger food from 6.30pm
Live Auction at 7.30pm

Please forward your RSVP with payment of
cash or cheque of \$30 per person to
Judy Loydstrom or Kirrily Hope at the college
on or before Monday 28 July 2014.
(Cheques payable to Oxley College P&F)



K-6 BOOK WEEK

Book Fair: Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 August

The Book fair will be launched on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning of Week 6 to raise funds for our K-6 Hedwig Awards. As usual, Scholastic has provided a broad and colourful collection of books to choose from. Start saving pocket money now for this marvellous event.

Book Parade: Wednesday 20 August
Theme: Connect to Reading – Reading to Connect

K-6 students and their families and friends are invited to celebrate Book Week on Wednesday 20 August at 9:00am. We will parade in the PE Centre then move to the library to share books and reading with our guests. In line with the Book Week theme "Reading to Connect" students have been asked to think of a book they have shared with someone and to dress as a character from that book.

K-6 Premier's Reading Challenge
Five weeks left! Students must complete their book list by the Friday 22 August in Week 6. Congratulations to all the students who have already completed the Premier's Reading Challenge. There will be a barbeque celebration hosted by the Library in Term 4.



THE ARTS

Everyone's a Critic

The child of your design is constantly being appraised and critiqued by the connoisseurs of today's world: the general public. Have you ever seen an artwork that you have not judged to be good or bad in your own opinion? To be able to give your baby up to be assessed by the millions is a task in itself. A painting is personal. It cannot, and will never, be separated from their owner; in a metaphorical case anyway.

Look at Zoe Binder's work that took more than 90 hours to do. The many hours that were spent as a slave to the paper made a thing of beauty that will be judged by the people themselves.

The adorable relationship between her grandparents, who can only be seen as a most loving and carefree couple, is displayed through her charcoal drawing. And yet, am I not already straight out critiquing it? All the Year 12 Major Artworks have been done with undeniable skill. Even after they have been prodded and assessed by all the critics out there, they will all have an individual story.

By Emma Croker



TECH WIZARDS

Recently Amazon.com plunged into the highly competitive world of smartphones, releasing the 'Fire Phone'. It aims to carve a slice of the smartphone pie for itself, currently dominated by Apple and Samsung, while providing a slightly different user experience.

The phone has some typical smartphone features such as a 13 megapixel camera and a 4.7 inch scratch resistant screen. However other features set it apart - including the ability to display 3D images, maps and games. Another killer feature is 'Firefly', a program that allows the phone to recognise objects, images and music from a large database, displaying any relevant information to the subject at hand. It even lets you know if the product is available from Amazon.com! The phone will run on a modified version of Google's Android operating system, Fire OS.

While Amazon is hoping to increase market share, it is unlikely to topple Apple or Samsung's dominance of the smartphone market for the time being. The phone will likely appeal to those in the market for a cheap smartphone, especially consumers in emerging markets.

By Ryan Tan



IN THE GARDEN

As we are in the middle of winter, the vegetable garden is still going strong even though growth has dropped considerably on the greenery.

Luckily no plant has succumbed to the winter frosts.

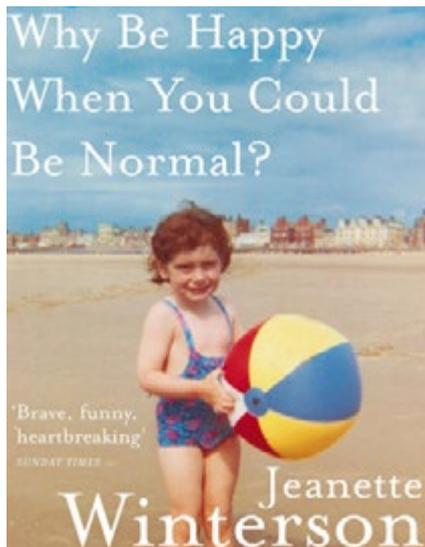
During the holidays the garden received a new storm water tank and now the garden is one step closer to being self-sustainable.

We harvested beetroot, cabbage and a lot of carrots during the first week back at school, which became very intriguing for most students. It was Harry Kooros's first time harvesting carrots, I quote "This is more exciting than Christmas, I mean you pull things out of the ground!"

We are also starting to cook with the produce, making stir fries and omelets as well as supplying the harvested products to the canteen.

Carrots, cabbages, potatoes and lettuces will be available for sale during Annual Oxley Family Day on Sunday 10 August.

By Conor Lynch



BOOKS

★★★★

Why be happy when you could be normal? By Jeanette Winterson

Unconventional, eccentric and honest. This memoir reflects on Jeanette Winterson's upbringing as an adopted child who was told from an early age that the devil led her mother to the wrong crib, was frequently locked out of her house and was forbidden to read fiction. Literature became Winterson's escape. She secretly embraced the world of books by reading all of English Literature prose A-Z in her local library. The books became the light in her dark world and led her to fall in love with words.

Lightened by humour and deepened by the intricacies of Winterson's thoughts, the book offers a complex world that explores themes of love, loss, forgiveness and courage. The beautifully constructed sentences will lodge in your mind and her anger and passion can sometimes feel as though it may burn off the page. Her utter honesty when confronting her actions, personality and sexuality allow readers to consider the importance of feeling loved and wanted.

Although confronting at times this novel is a celebration of the act of reading and writing.

By Evelyn Bratchford



MUSIC

★★

Allday "Startup Cult"

"I can literally rap forever," Melbourne rapper Allday announces proudly three minutes into his debut album, *Startup Cult*. He's not wrong – his first full-length album is an hour of loosely-tied, sleazy hip-hop from a man who made a name for himself by his long hair and whiny voice.

Obviously trying hard to distance himself from mainstream Australian hip-hop, 'Alldeezzy' raps about exactly what you expect a twenty-year old male to rap about: girls, money, drugs and existential crises. Unfortunately, this stubborn distancing means he sacrifices everything that makes hip-hop great: beats, choruses, and that signature wit.

Startup Cult is a disappointing departure from his impressive previous EPs: his slurred words are backed by downbeat and droning synthesizers, as seen on 'Anything But Sober' and well, pretty much every song on the album. Apart from the pop-tinged 'You Always Know The DJ' and tongue-in-cheek 'God Starve The Queen', there is very little that brings this album to life. Has Allday started a Cult? Possibly. Has he wasted his talent? Probably.

By Ruben Seaton



FILMS

★★★★

The Grand Budapest Hotel

The *Grand Budapest Hotel* is Wes Anderson's newest addition to his already quirky film repertoire does not disappoint fans of his previous films.

The film follows a young immigrant, Zero Moustafa, who wholeheartedly takes a job as the junior lobby boy in training at The Grand Budapest Hotel under the supervision and instruction of the unconventional hero of the flick, Monsieur Gustave H.

They get into uncanny shenanigans trying to retrieve the priceless portrait "Boy with Apple" that is supposedly left in Monsieur Gustave's name when the previous owner (who happens to be Monsieur Gustave's ex-lover) dies, but the family in mourning does not condone this and will do anything for the portrait to remain in their ownership.

The cast of this film is extraordinary with names such as Bill Murray, Jeff Goldblum, and Jason Schwartzman featuring in background roles and Ralph Fiennes as Monsieur Gustave H himself! This film is a must see for all Wes Anderson fans and any movie goers with a quirky sense of humour.

By Alexia Cheaib



INTO THE WILD

Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Bronze and Silver Hike Report

On Sunday 22 June a group of Oxley College students made their way to Murramarang National Park. I was one of eleven Year 9 students, taking part in our first bronze Duke of Ed hike. Over the three-day period our group, along with Miss Smart and two Lands Edge instructors hiked approximately 30km.

I think I speak on behalf of most of us, in saying it was the most tiresome 30km of our lives. For the majority of the hiking we walked along the coastline, which meant that we predominantly hiked on sand. On the second night we were faced with extremely strong winds and this meant that boiling water wasn't quite as easy as it may have been! By the third day most of us had finished our chocolate stashes and were ready for a good nights sleep in a real bed.

Overall the camp was most definitely a very enjoyable experience and despite my exhaustion, I'm keen for the next Duke of Ed camp and would recommend everyone to take part. On behalf of the students I'd also like to thank Miss Smart who made a supportive and encouraging group leader.

By Ella Moran



NSW CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

The Westpac NSW & ACT Cross Country Skiing Championships are on Tuesday August 26 at the Perisher Cross Country Trails.

The cross country disciplines students can enter are:

- Cross Country Freestyle - Raced with skate or classic cross country skis or style with a mass start. Teams need to field three skiers to achieve a team result.
- Cross Country Relay – Three skier relay team only event.

Individuals not in teams of three can enter the Cross Country Freestyle. Teams need to have three members to receive a team result for the Cross Country Freestyle. You must have three members in a team to enter and compete in the Cross Country Relay.

Competitors are responsible for organising their own accommodation, equipment and transport.

Please email Mrs McNaught at kim.mcnaught@oxley.nsw.edu.au if you wish to compete in these championships. All entries must be received by Friday 15 August.

By Kim Mcnaught



BASTILLE DAY K-6



COMMUNITY NEWS



P&F

NEXT P&F MEETING:

TUESDAY 29 July 2014, 7:00pm, David Wright Library

The presentation at the next P&F meeting will be "MindMatters and KidsMatter" delivered by Peter Ayling and Rani Ritchie. The presentation will start promptly at 7:00pm followed by the general meeting.

Please send your apologies and any other business to the P&F Secretary, Michelle Rendell (michelle.rendell@bigpond.com.au).

Oxley Family Day is quickly approaching – Sunday 10 August. Many parents have questioned the new format to this day. Oxley Day started as a day where most Year 7-12 Oxley sporting teams had a home game on the same Saturday.

The ISA has grown and they are no longer able to provide schools with a Saturday of home games. In 2013, the P&F initiated activities for the K-6 students.

This year the P&F will build on this idea. The Oxley Family Day will begin at 10:30am and end with the People's Choice Art Awards at around 2:15pm.

The day will be filled with activities for the whole family: jumping castle, house of horrors, treasure hunt, obstacle course, old fashion games, petting zoo, indoor hockey and busking. We hope that all families from K to 12 will take part at some point during the day. A timetable of events will be published on the P&F page of the Oxley website (link below).

The Art Exhibition "Express Yourself" will be opened with a Cocktail event on Saturday 9 August (please check your emails for details). "Express Yourself" will be open on Sunday as well.

If you are seeking information on year events or anything to do with the Oxley P&F Association please follow this link: <http://oxleylearning.org/portal/oxley-community/parents-friends>

JULY+AUGUST CALENDAR

<p>Mon</p> <p>28</p>	<p>Mon</p> <p>HICES Music Festival, Inter-House Drama, 7:00pm, Hoskins Hall</p> <p>04</p>	<p>Mon</p> <p>Year 12 Drama Night, 7:00pm, Hoskins Hall</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Mon</p> <p>K-8 Scholastic Book Fair, 3:00pm-6:00pm, Library</p> <p>18</p>
<p>Tue</p> <p>Year 3-11 English ICAS Comp Year 11 Information evening, 4:00pm, Orchestra Room P&F Meeting, 7:00pm Library</p> <p>29</p>	<p>Tue</p> <p>HICES Music Festival, Stanwell Tops Inc: Year 1 Senior Citizen visitors</p> <p>05</p>	<p>Tue</p> <p>Inc: Years 5-10 Surf Education, PE Centre ICAS Competition, Mathematics. Years 3-11</p> <p>12</p>	<p>Tue</p> <p>K-8 Scholastic Book Fair, 8:00am-9:00am, Library</p> <p>19</p>
<p>Wed</p> <p>Year 10 Stage 6 Information evening, 4:00pm, Orchestra Room</p> <p>30</p>	<p>Wed</p> <p>HICES Music Festival, Stanwell Tops followed by Festival Concert, Sydney Town Hall, 7:00pm</p> <p>06</p>	<p>Wed</p> <p>7-12 Inter-House Athletics Carnival (half day, during sport)</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Wed</p> <p>7-12 Inter-House Athletics Carnival K-6 Book Week Parade, 9:00am-10:30am, PE Centre and Library Year 12 Recital Evening</p> <p>20</p>
<p>Thu</p> <p>Exc: Year 8 Geography, Sydney, Year 8 Stage 5 Information evening, 4:00pm, Orchestra Room</p> <p>31</p>	<p>Thu</p> <p>Year 12 Visual Arts Major Work Exhibition, 5:30pm, Music School</p> <p>07</p>	<p>Thu</p> <p>Year 7 & 8 Music Night, 7:00pm Orchestra Room Exc: Kindergarten, Fitzroy Falls Visitors Centre Headmaster's Tour, 11:00am</p> <p>14</p>	<p>Thu</p> <p>21</p>
<p>Fri</p> <p>Genes for Jeans Day</p> <p>01</p>	<p>Fri</p> <p>K-6 Athletics Carnival</p> <p>08</p>	<p>Fri</p> <p>Final entries for NSW Interschools Cross Country Skiing Championships P&F Cake Stall, 3:30pm K-6 verandah</p> <p>15</p>	<p>Fri</p> <p>22</p>
<p>Sat</p> <p>ISA Winter Sport Round 9</p> <p>02</p>	<p>Sat</p> <p>ISA Winter Sport Round 10 P&F Express Yourself Art Show, 6:30pm, Music School</p> <p>09</p>	<p>Sat</p> <p>ISA Winter Sport Semi-Finals</p> <p>16</p>	<p>Sat</p> <p>23</p>
<p>Sun</p> <p>HICES Music Festival, Stanwell Tops</p> <p>03</p>	<p>Sun</p> <p>Annual Oxley Family Day, 10:30am-2:30pm</p> <p>10</p>	<p>Sun</p> <p>17</p>	<p>Sun</p> <p>24</p>

Upcoming events

- + Tuesday August 26: NSW Interschools Cross Country Skiing Championships at the Perisher Cross Country Trails.
- + Year 8 students are supporting the Korovou Village Preschool in Fiji. Could you please bring in any surplus children's books and sporting equipment such as rugby boots, balls, head gear etc. that now may be too small for your child. The equipment must be in good condition with all grass and dirt cleaned off for entry to Fiji.

MISSION DAY, TERM 2



Sport



WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF SPORT?

Would you rather watch a football game or see that world hunger has ended? Qatar, a country with a population of 2 million, has planned to spend an estimated \$200 billion on the 2022 FIFA World Cup. This sum has shocked the world as it would cost just \$30 billion per year to end world hunger. Is this too much or is this just the future of sport?

Roughly 3.5 billion people struggle from poverty: living in slums, on the streets or with no shelter at all, without food and living on less than \$2.50 a day. For them it's a challenge to live, whilst for us it's a challenge to reach the TV remote to flick to the soccer. Shaul Gabby, an international studies professor at the University of Denver states, "The Arab world will enjoy a psychological lift if Qatar can successfully host the World Cup. So Qatar is sparing no expense to guarantee its success." Won't it be nice that they get to enjoy this lift of mental wellbeing? Don't you think the one third of the population of the Arab world who live in poverty would prefer better health, education and physical wellbeing? Mankind needs to change, for sport isn't just about money, entertainment and reputation. Sporting organisations could eradicate poverty in the world even if their players just took a pay cut and donated the rest. Where is the sporting moral compass headed? Do they need a lesson in empathy?

By Heidi Bevan

PLAYER OF THE WEEK Chilli Sparke



On Wednesday 2 July, Chilli Sparke, Year 1, competed in the Division 5 Moguls at the NSW Regional Interschool Snow Sport Championships. Chilli also entered in a fundraiser race for the Amelia McGuinness Foundation, which provides scholarships for young, talented snow sport athletes after the tragic death of 16 year old Amelia whilst skiing in 2009. She is looking forward to competing for Oxley in August's Northern Region Interschool Championships. Congratulations!

MATCH OF THE WEEK



On Saturday 19 July, the Oxley 15s Rugby team played St Stanislaus College at home. Oxley dominated the opening period with strong running by Escher Le Duc, leading to three tries by Luke Northall in the first 10 minutes. In the second half, Oxley improved their commitment at the ruck before scoring three more tries to Luke Northall, Escher Le Duc and Mitchell Wellman. Excellent defence by Oxley sent the visitors home with no points and an accurate goal kicking performance by Sam Rosen and Mitchell Wellman resulted in the final score being 40-0 to Oxley. The team is gaining good momentum with only one more away game as they progress towards a likely championship.

Sports Draw link: <http://oxleylearning.org/portal/co-curricular/sport/>