

# PIN OAK

ISSUE 16: TERM 2, MAY 15, 2015



Foundation Day



Dutch Visitors



K-6

## Contents

- 3 Headmaster's Report
- 4 Big Issue
- 5 Films, Music, Books
- 6 K - 6 News
- 7 More K-6
- 8 Feature Article
- 10 Deputy Reports : Learning & Pastoral
- 11 In the Spotlight
- 12 MusicArtDrama
- 13 On the Branch
- 14 Gallery
- 15 Calendar
- 16 Sport

---

### Pin Oak Team

Student Editorial Team

Alexia Cheaib, Ruben Seaton, Evangeline Larsen, Evelyn Bratchford, Ryan Tan, Kaarina Allen, Maddie Thomas, Heidi Bevan, Cate Patterson

Student Photographer  
Olivia Donovan

Designers  
Emma Croker, Conor Lynch  
Design Assistants  
Dylan Whitelaw, Savannah Sandilands, Grace Patterson, Bree Feary

Head of Marketing and PR  
Emma Calver

Staff Editor  
Beattie Lanser

Oxley College  
Railway Road, Burradoo, NSW, 2576.  
Ph: 4861 1366  
office@oxley.nsw.edu.au



## MINDFULNESS

Have you ever had a moment when all you can think about is how stressed you are about how you haven't finished the assignment that is due this week or you are really worried because you think that you failed the exam last week. Seriously! Chill! You need to bring yourself back to the moment and think about what is going on right now! This is called mindfulness.

John Teasdale invented the cognitive theory of Mindfulness in 1991. To practice mindfulness we need to be aware of where we are, what we are feeling and what is going on right now? To be mindful we need to notice when we are worrying about the future or stressing about what has happened in the past and bring ourselves back to the moment we are in. After all we can't change what's already happened and the only way to influence the future is to achieve something in the present. Being in the moment can also benefit our relationships because we are more present to the people around us. We listen more effectively and engage more. To get your mind back in the moment, become aware of your senses. Think of five things that you can smell, hear, see, taste and feel. Meditation is another way to practice mindfulness. Breathe and any thoughts that come into your mind let them go. Being in the moment awakens all our senses. We can notice things that we didn't notice whilst we were worrying about our past or future. Practicing mindfulness enriches our lives.

By Savannah Sandilands (Year 8)

## BASTILLE DAY!

BASTILLE DAY (Tuesday 14 July, 2015) is approaching...are you drafting your essay?

How is it that the French Revolution, which officially began on 14 July 1789, still affects my life in the modern world?

Are you planning your outfit in Blue, White and Red?

# HEADMASTER'S REPORT

## **Founding Headmaster, Dr David Wright's speech on May 17 1983, the opening day of Oxley College.**

This is a very special day for Oxley College. After many months of planning, thinking, acting by many people we have finally opened our doors to our first pupils. It is the sort of occasion on which a few important things need to be said.

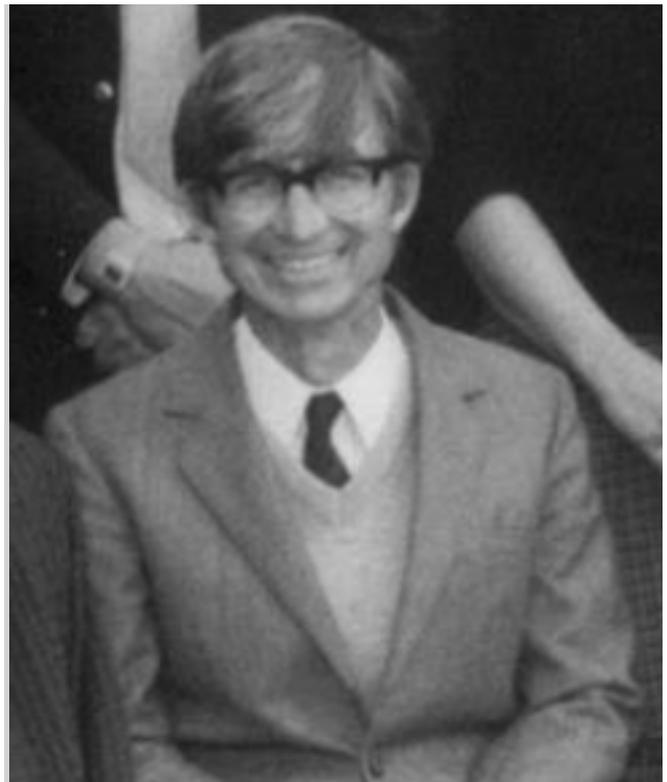
I would like on behalf of the staff and the pupils of Oxley College, to thank our Governors, our benefactors, our supporters, for our new school - to thank them for having had the vision (our world does need the dreamers of big dreams) and the energy and the industry and the generosity of time and resource to translate that vision into act (our world does need the doers - the ones who get things done) and finally, and perhaps most importantly of all, the faith to keep on going through the problems and disappointments, with which a project like this is inevitably associated (in a world that so readily takes fright, how greatly we need our men of faith).

I believe it to be important to ask ourselves why so many people have been so generous of time and effort and money and faith on our behalf. No doubt there are many reasons but one, surely, stands head and shoulders above all others; it is because they are concerned for an Australian nation that they love, and because they know that quality in a nation depends on the quality of its people, and that quality in people is made up of such things as concern for truth and goodness and for justice and for freedom and for integrity and for compassion and for a day's work honestly done. They know too that these are precious virtues and for that reason are fragile and vulnerable and that one has to work hard to promote and preserve and defend them, and in that exercise the role of education and schooling is critical.

In adopting the name of Oxley we arrogate to ourselves at this College the attitudes and motivations and traditions of the pioneer. What makes the pioneer? Is it not a deep seated feeling - an inner voice if you like, which insists that there is a beyond into which one is called to venture - that life is not offered on a plate, truth is not discovered in the obvious, knowledge is not merely lifted off a library shelf; rather these things have to be sought for and struggled after and one must be prepared for rough terrain and hard going and darkness and danger and thirst. The pioneer knows that to realise his goal, personal fitness and discipline and training and self control are vital.

I think we also need to be aware of the fact that whilst it might be the case that most of us recognise a call to break new ground, and might feel the need for it, and might admire in retrospect to see who have done so, we really much prefer for others to do the pioneering for us. We wish very often that things could just stay as they are, that truth was simple, goodness easy, knowledge straightforward - that there was for example just one kind of school, one united world, one opinion. Most scientific research for example, in the words of T.S Kuhn, consists in fact of "mopping up operations". It is the exceptional individual who is really prepared to risk breaking out of the security of the known and the established.

I say this to underline the fact that the pioneers are a very special kind of people. They have to press ahead more or less on their own. They do not have a great number of supporters or followers at the start but rather detractors- it won't work, it's not viable, look at the weaknesses of the people involved, the exercise is unnecessary - you have probably heard some of these



voices already.

In adopting the Oxley Crest we take in hand the surveyor's rod below the sheaf of corn and we acknowledge that harvest comes not from idle sitting back, from luck or chance, but from careful planning, from measurement, from meticulous pacing of the ground and of the page and of history and of experience. It comes from having a standard and striving to measure up. Values only exist because there are in life a wide range of choices open to people and some choices, usually the more difficult ones, have through the rigorous tests of time, have found to be more beneficial to some people than others. There IS a measure in life, a measure which is brought up against all we do, and there are such things as goodness and purity and honour and truth and success and quality because one can fail as well as succeed in the measuring progress. We are pleased to have the surveyor's rod on our crest to remind us that not anything goes, that one can not do as one likes. There is a price to be paid for standards. There is a price to be paid for freedom.

Finally the mottos 'patientia et fortitudine'. Fortitudine is the latin word for a very special type of courage. May it characterise all that we do... and patientia-patience. Patience is the criticism we are bound to face and the rough roads we will have to travel. Patience is striving after the noble and the true. Patience is keep on keeping on; doing today what has to be done today. Patience through the all important early years as we strive to establish the important traditions.

To our founder pupils and founder parents and founder board and founder staff may I wish, under God, good travelling, patience and fortitude and at the end of the day gratitude for Oxley, for contributions that could be made and benefits received. May our nation, our country, the quality of life be richer for the existence of this school and for the young people it seeks to serve.

# BIG ISSUE: IT'S JUST A GAME



In the words of the great comedian Joe Rogan, "I'm not really sure what this is and I don't think you are either." By 'this' he was referring to the eccentric phenomena of human existence. Yes we have created an elaborate system of social constructs to help guide us on our journey. Ideologies that give our life meaning by making life a test of our morality with the ultimate prize of eternal pleasure or a level in a massive game of reincarnation where the final goal is reaching perfect enlightenment. But none of us know any of this for sure so our beliefs about the meaning of life fall into the same category as carefully constructed fiction. We have been blessed with the curse of the awareness of our own mortality and it freaks us out. Nevertheless whatever the reason is for our tiny speck of existence there is a simple way to make it better for everyone. Stop taking this game so goddamn seriously.

You see, at the moment, we're like the annoying friend who buys all the best properties in monopoly and then systematically and sadistically financially punishes everybody else to the point of bankruptcy. It's not really that much fun anymore. We have become so obsessed with the pursuit of acquisition that we've forgotten that we're just playing an extremely strange game. For example, in our game at the moment, there are 805 million starving people in the world while 1.3 billion tonnes of food goes to waste each year. Now that shouldn't make sense to anybody, let alone anyone rational. But because we've been told that it's just the way things are and we can't change anything we switch back on the TV to watch Timmy compete in the next episode of "Junior Masterchef." The reason behind all of this

is simple, the rules of our game favour those who get more imaginary money points even if it's at the expense of everyone else. It would be quite simple to change all of this too. We merely have to accept that the rules we have created are sort of making us all depressed.

In a game of monopoly there is \$20,580 total in the game. If we were playing a big game of monopoly with 100 people, 68 of our players would own \$9 each, 22 players would own \$123 each, seven players would own \$1088 each and one player would have \$8438. This is the extent of our wealth inequality at the moment. One of our players has 8437 of our 20,580 dollars. Now I'm not proposing we divide up the money and each receive \$205.80 each, where's the fun in that? There'd be no reason to play anymore. What I'm proposing is we switch to a completely different game. One that rewards the facilitation of other players whilst condemning narcissism and greed. Such a system would still adhere to our competitive nature while benefiting those of us who are in need. This system is highly achievable; all that we have to do is let go of the material possessions that we hold so dear. It's not going to be easy, consumerism is deeply entrenched in our society, but I believe it can be done.

So, my message to you now is, step back, stop being the annoying friend who tries to ruin everyone else and lets all agree, we've been playing by some messed up rules and its about time we make a change.

By Nicholas Antoniak (Year 12)



## Books



### The Longest Ride

Two couples, two heartwarming love stories and one bewildering tale.

From the bestselling author of the Notebook and Dear John comes the newly acclaimed novel The Longest Ride.

At ninety-one years of age Ira Levinson has lived a remarkable life, experiencing love at its best, having known the joy of having someone content to love him just as he was.

Now however, he is in trouble as he struggles to remain conscious after a horrific car crash. Ira finds himself experiencing a series of flashbacks, with images flashing before him of his beloved wife Ruth.

As Ruth urges Ira to hang on to the life that he has, she begins to recount some of the wonderful experiences that they have shared over the years: Their first date, the heart wrenching times of WW2, and other memorable moments shared over the course of their lives.

Just a few kilometers away college student Sophia Danko has a chance meeting with country cowboy Luke, who has come into her life at just the right time. As the two become closer friends a new romance begins to flourish. However all may not be as it seems.

By Isabella Davies (Year 10)



## Music



### The Tallest Man On Earth: Dark Bird Is Home

When I think of folk music I usually think of guitars with the same four-chord progression and whiny, nasal lyrics about how "He/she has no money and his/her wife/husband left him/her". But from the inferior, lousy folk music that has been produced over the years we have given birth to a sub-genre independent folk or "indie-folk" if you will. This genre is a looser fitting and more laidback interpretation of alternative folk music, which artists such as Iron & Wine, Sufjan Stevens, Bon Iver and The Tallest Man On Earth fit in to.

As a follow up to his 2012 album *There's No Leaving Now* (which by the way perfectly matched my definition of folk music) The Tallest Man On Earth (A.K.A Kristian Matsson) has brought us *Dark Bird is Home*. This album has a more avant-garde and raw approach to it which comes across in most songs excluding *Darkness of the Dream* which sounds like a stripped back version of an old Mumford and Sons song. *Dark Bird is Home* is everything that is expected of an folk album, pain, promise and hurt cramed into lyrics that are sung alongside banjos, guitars and bass drums.

By Izzy Moore (Year 8)



## Films



### Furious 7

Fast and Furious fans around the globe were struck with grief and shock when the news emerged of Paul Walker's passing in late November 2013 and have been wary ever since of the upcoming instalment of the franchise. But, by the numbers from the box office they were pleased with the result.

Indeed going into this film I felt nostalgic but I was very interested to see how they would handle the situation, and handle it they did. The plot line was great, with every character developing well. The way the actors put their own little spin into the characters on handling the loss of Paul's beloved character was heart-warming. Although some of the stunts were too ridiculous to be believable, the action was extremely well done and all the sequences had you on edge.

The most notable scene of the whole movie has to be the ending, which anyone who has seen it will agree. It was extraordinarily moving, and yes the song "See you Again" actually worked very well and didn't make you want to tear your ears off. The last frame of the film read "For Paul", who would have been incredibly proud of this film. A great edition to the Fast and Furious series.

By Alexia Cheaib (Year 11)

## Head of K-6: Justine Lind

A special message.

I wanted to write to you to let you know that I have had my operation and am feeling much better. I miss all your smiling faces but the thought of you makes me eager to get well enough to come home soon.

I've also been thinking about what amazing places hospitals are. They are a lot like schools; full of many different people, with many different interests, talents and jobs to do. They make the world a better place just by combining all their efforts to help others. The workers in the hospital remind me, what an important time it is for you all, at school, right now. They can only do their jobs so well and feel so proud of the important job they do helping others, because, when they were at school, like you are now, they learnt the importance of effort and challenge, bit by bit, to become knowledgeable and confident and to apply themselves to learning so that they could find their own strengths and passions that would someday become these inspiring careers.

Don't worry if you haven't found your passion yet, just be curious and keep your mind open and try different things and something will spark a light of excitement in you. It doesn't even have to be serious or academic! It might be singing, dancing, skateboarding, horse riding, skiing, cooking, helping round the house or absolutely anything at all but it will start small, usually feel like fun so you'll do more, get closer to those expert 10,000 hours and suddenly it will be your thing! Look out for it because when it hits, life will never be the same! Enjoy the ride.

I also wanted to say well done to our students in Years 3 and 5 who have completed NAPLAN this week. We are proud of you for having a go and trying your best.

I also want you to know that the people who write the NAPLAN tests aren't as young or curious or creative as you are! They don't like to think outside the box much. Because of this you need to remember that NAPLAN is only one test, at one small moment in time, that is only looking at one tiny part of what makes you - you. It looks at only some of the things you know now and ignores lots of the things that at Oxley, we think are really important.



It doesn't check how many times you've been acknowledged in our ELVO book, races you've run or awards you've won. It can't know how well you sing, or dance, or tell funny jokes, or know just the right thing to say to someone in your family when they've had a bad day. It won't notice that your eyes sparkle when you laugh or that you can keep a secret for the longest time. It won't test the fact that you are kind, and do things to help others, or notice when your friend is down. It certainly won't guess that you are the person that your favourite pet most wants to see every afternoon. And after all this, it can't possible know the million tiny ways you make the world a better place just by being you. These are the things we get to discover with you each day, more and more each year. And the great thing for us is that even by the time the NAPLAN results come out we'll already know a whole lot more about you and have shared many fun times.

## Weekly Awards

### Students of the Week

K: Louisa Hogan-Baldo  
Yr 1: Charlotte Copus  
Yr 2: Chilli Sparke  
Yr 3: Sienna Soster  
Yr 4: Saskia Gray  
Yr 5: Isabel Feetham  
Yr 6: Toby O'Sullivan



### Respect Oxley

K: Estelle Beckett  
Yr 1: Bryce Rodger  
Yr 2: Christian Denington  
Yr 3: Lora Ross  
Yr 4: Amelia Carpenter  
Yr 5: Sophie Biddlecombe  
Yr 6: Laura Smith





& Crazy Tie Day

Mother's Day Foundation Day



# EUROVISION

## MORE THAN JUST JUMPSUITS

How is it that an event with a façade of glitter and wind machines can be an indicator for politics and ideologies? For those non-fanatics, Eurovision is an annual singing competition between (supposedly) European nations who each perform a piece on live television, each entry is then voted on by all countries (through public polling and an internal jury) and of course, the most popular country's song wins! Eurovision has had a long history; beginning in 1956 it has been broadcast every year since, regardless of world conflict or other international events. Many will know of the artists who built their fame and careers on their Eurovision victories such as ABBA, Celine Dion and Julio Iglesias.

However, any competition that involves rival countries or even those who see each other as enemies in other spheres is bound to be influenced by such issues. The international broadcasting of the competition has been a key part of the controversy. Due to the recognition (or lack there of) issues between Jordan and Israel, in 1978 Jordan suspended the broadcast during Israel's performance and instead showed pictures of flowers! It happened that Israel won Eurovision the same year, when this became clear Jordan interrupted the transmission and acknowledged Belgium (who had placed second) as the winners. Once again in 2005, Israel became the centre of Eurovision controversy as Lebanon was forced to withdraw due to the conflict between internal laws (the inability to recognise Israel and therefore not wishing to broadcast Israel's entry) and the Eurovision Broadcasting Union's (EBU) rules (such an act was not in accordance with their regulations). As recently as 2009, Georgia's entry song "We don't wanna put in" was banned. This was due to its lyrics' uncanny resemblance to "Putin" thus being seen as criticism towards Vladimir Putin, President of Russia and the two countries' involvement in the 2008 Russo-Georgian War. Georgia chose to withdraw from the contest rather than change their lyrics. According to



Fraser Nelson, a UK journalist "One night of Eurovision says more about European politics than a year of debates in the Strasbourg parliament." Clearly, even in this 'trivial' song contest the creeping fingers of international politics manage to appear.

Eurovision provides subtle lessons in international relations. In fact, its founding was a way to unite the traumatised and fractured European continent after the Second World War. Beyond the above examples of arising tension, are those of cultural affinities overruling bureaucratic politics. Dr Eurovision Paul Jordan (yes, that is an official title!) explains that "Bosnia and Serbia don't really get on, and Albania and Serbia don't really get on, but they tend to vote for each other in Eurovision." Similarly, the UK and Ireland support each other in Eurovision by consistently voting for each other despite political tensions. One of the key reasons surrounding this are the large immigrant populations. Nevertheless, it is this dismissal of a nation's political position to instead bond over a mutual love of music and sequins that makes Eurovision unique.

The contest speaks of more than just politics, it also has challenges sexual and gender norms and has done for decades. Whether it was the early 1957 Danish performance that challenged the rules of public demonstrations of affection and sexuality; or the homosexual activism of those such as the 2007 Serbian entrant, Marija



Šerifović, who performed the winning song solely surrounded by women; or feminism prominent in many of the female dominated performances. Last year, the Austrian winner Conchita Wurst epitomised the awareness Eurovision brings to the LGBTQI+ community.

Wurst is a drag queen portrayed by the openly gay Thomas Neuwirth, who uses male pronouns when referring to himself, and female ones when referring to Wurst. Eurovision portrays more than just the set standards of gender and sexuality, as journalist Simon Copland notes it “explores much more: transgenderism, drag, androgyny, and straight out sex. And it does so on one of the most mainstream, most-watched shows in Europe, and around the world.” All of this “radicalism” is brought to an extraordinarily wide audience in one of the most human ways possible – through the celebration of something that transcends all language, political and gender boundaries.

The welcoming arms of Eurovision have stretched many kilometres farther this year after allowing Australia to participate as a wild card entry in the 2015 final. Although Australia is not the first technically non-European country to enter (Israel entered in 1973 and Azerbaijan in 2008) it is the one furthest away – by a lot! In short, the large Eurovision watching audience in Australia and our interval performance in 2014 were behind our entry. For some, this appears like a ridiculous decision, but many appreciate the reasons for this. Eurovision continues to value creativity and unpredictability, tenets arguably lacking in the mainstream pop music industry today. Countries, such as the UK continue to treat Eurovision as a joke; sending performers who are second rate, whilst adding to the often-audible snigger when the contest is mentioned here and overseas.

Self-expression, both in the form of the aforementioned changing gender norms as well as cultural ideas, traditions and trends are all on display in the performances. Perhaps, in Australia we more readily recognise the importance of encouraging artists to express themselves and audiences to take the essential steps between tolerance and celebration of others’ differences.

There is no denying this is a pretty big gig for Australia, whether or not you agree with the performer choice in Guy Sebastian! Eurovision is yet another small step on our path to becoming internationally recognised as a mature and connected nation.

Although there was rife cringe-worthy imagery, Jessica Mauboy’s performance for Eurovision last year portrayed a multicultural, creative and dynamic Australia who was proud of its Indigenous history and population. This was in many ways an introduction of Australia to other European nations who knew very little about us. It is hoped that our proper performance this year will generate further communication and understanding between Australia and Europe.

For decades, Eurovision has created a mask of outrageous costumes, questionably good music and pyrotechnics to cover politics, radical but much needed ideas and a connection between countries. It is no surprise that it is one of the most watched non-sporting events worldwide, with audience numbers reaching up to 600 million! Every year, Eurovision continues, still resonating due to its core values of connection, acceptance and flair.

So, I come to my plug... I invite all students in Year 7 – 12 to join us at Oxley College in watching one of the live Eurovision Semi-Finals on the evening of Friday 22 May at 7:00pm. We expect great food, amazing costumes, singing voices and dancing shoes! Admit it, whether you’ve never watched Eurovision before or you’re an annual addict, the tackiness is worth witnessing! Or if you think you’re intellectually above such frivolity, come for the politics, gender studies and international relations!

By Evangeline Larsen (Year 12)

# DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

---

## Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich

In the next issues of Pin Oak we will be taking time to focus on the experiences of particular secondary year groups. This week we will look at Year 10.

Year 10 is the stepping stone to Stage 6 studies and plays a vital part in the educational journey. Many parents would remember the old School Certificate as a previous marker of reaching the end of the first four years of high school. Since the introduction of the ROSA (The Record of School Achievement) there are no longer formal external examinations, rather a schedule of internal assessment tasks that each student must complete. At the end of Year 10 teachers use this as a snapshot of achievement in order to allocate Stage 5 outcome grades.

At Oxley, Year 10 students study the mandatory core subjects and a combination of electives. This programme provides both core experiences and variety as students hone their skills and interests prior to the choice of HSC courses. As we rapidly approach the final semester of Stage 5, our eyes are on preparing our students to make informed decisions about their academic study in Year 11 and 12.

This year, for the first time, our Year 10 students have already completed the Morrisby Assessments, an experience which culminates in an individually prepared Career Guidance Profile report for each student. The report helps students work out "What would I be good at? What would interest me? What career would I enjoy most? Students are helped to understand their current strengths as well as suggestions for career paths. Included with this year's report will be a suggestion of HSC courses that may benefit this path. Year 10 students and parents will attend a briefing on Wednesday 27 May at 5:00pm in the Orchestra Room where they will hear feedback about their Morrisby results (and how to interpret them) followed by information about course selection. 2016 Year 11 Course selections will be due back prior to the end of term so that timetable construction can begin.

Of course, some Year 10 students have already begun their Year 11 studies in a number of courses. Of particular interest is the experience of those in our inaugural Legal Studies course. Feedback continues to affirm the benefit of stretching:

*I feel the increased workload – it's a given – but I love it! I can really feel it preparing me for the HSC.*

*We are studying things that we will need for life – we need to know these things!*

Other conversations with Year 10 students this week revealed how much they were enjoying the Year 10 experience. A collection of comments:

*We can really feel the higher expectations; we are doing things now that will lead to our careers, to our lives.*

*It's more focussed - I can see Year 12 now that I'm in double digits (Year 10!)*

*I am really liking the subjects I can use in life.*

*In Science we are doing controversial issues like immunisation. We are researching our own interests, making evaluations, choosing things that are real world problems like coal seam gas.*

*I really like the semesterisation (in Geography and History) - we get to go deeper and it will make it easier to remember.*

*You can show your creativity in thinking in Cornerstone. I really enjoy the discussions – you get provoked to explore thinking differently.*

*Cornerstone? I LOVE it, especially the debates. You get to choose a side in seconds flat, and then it just gets harder and harder to defend your side. It makes my head hurt!*

Comments like these reassure us that these students are already exhibiting the attitude, effort and approach that will serve them well in their senior studies at Oxley. The ability to articulate where we are going, to set goals and to think critically are all markers of thriving young minds.





## DUTCH EXCHANGE STUDENTS

At the beginning of the term Oxley College students billeted 19 Dutch students from KSG Apeldoorn. Each Year 10 student involved had a fantastic time with their Dutchies and some close friendships were made. Despite their hatred for our fave Aussie food, vegemite! The highlight for us would have been our epic hockey match in which we dominated!



## JORDAN ALEXANDER

Pin Oak: What is 'halter breaking' and what does it involve?

Jordan Alexander: The animal wears a halter or harness and is led around. I lead the livestock in shows – the purpose of the shows is to generate interest about the industry.

PO: How long have you been doing it?

JA: Since I could walk, I guess. I currently lead a 1152kg bull called Ven.

PO: Why did you decide to take up this hobby?

JA: I have always lived on a farm, and grew up going to shows, so developed an interest in it.

PO: Do you receive any prizes or awards? What is your greatest achievement?

JA: You can win trophies and prize money. The bull I lead has won Supreme Champion at every show we have competed in.

PO: What does the future hold?

JA: I really enjoy it at the moment but I'm not sure where it will take me. I am taking the bull I lead, Ven, to Colorado next year to compete in the World Championships.

By Cate and Grace Patterson (Year 11 and 9)

## YEAR 10 SERVICE LEARNING

Pin Oak: Where did you go and why?

Tahlia Alekna: As part of the Year 10 Service Learning Programme, I went to Bowral House on Monday, Week 1 of Term 2 and I was partnered with my friend Nick Gilvarry.

PO: What did you do there?

TA: We were given a choice to talk to some of the old ladies. There was a louder lady and a quieter lady. We chose the quiet lady called Nan.

PO: What did you talk about?

TA: We didn't talk much at all. We sat there for 45 minutes while she talked about her life - it was like a picture book. (Not to mention that she offered us chocolate twice!)

PO: Someone said you played the piano for the two ladies?

TA: Yes I did. I played "River Flows in You" and a song that I wrote myself. I wasn't the only person. Angus Webb also played one song as well.

PO: What would you say is the most interesting thing about Bowral House?

TA: Talking and listening to the residents because when they talk about their past it slips you into their memories and it's like it becomes alive to you, so clear and so moving. And seeing them in the nursing home makes you appreciate people more and understand the lives they've led. You could make a movie out of their stories, so many stories to tell.

PO: Would you go back again?

TA: I would in a heart beat! Giving them someone to talk to or playing a piece of music and making them smile is a warming feeling. You find a centre point with these adorable people.

PO: Would you recommend this to anyone?

TA: Yes definitely! It gets you out and you experience new things and meet new people. Go and live life and give back!



## GROOVIN THE MOO

Paddocks Australia-wide were trampled to oblivion with the annual occurrence of the country's only regional touring festival, Groovin the Moo. Brightly showcasing the best of the bands that tiptoe the fine line between alternative and Top 40 music, 2015's instalment saw crowds of 15,000 descend into a frenzy of music-induced elation in Maitland and Canberra in early May.

Ten years after its inception into the Aussie festival circuit, Groovin the Moo has grown to guarantee appearances from radio-friendly buzz bands (this year, Sticky Fingers and Charli XCX), international middleweights (You Me At Six, RL Grime), as well as a decent array of hip-hop and hardcore rock (A\$AP Ferg and Northlane respectively). The strong Triple J influence means that up-and-comers such as DMAs played to a respectable crowd before the sun had even fully risen, and guaranteed solid turnouts for clinical underperformers Ball Park Music and San Cisco as evening set in.

The night was dominated by homegrown heroes. Genre-mashing favourites Hermitude blended hip-hop and electronic music seamlessly in a frenetic set, while Flight Facilities spread out their electropop like melting butter to close out the festival. The "sweet vibes" were threatened by a disastrously deluded Wolfmother set ("Just play 'Joker and the Thief' already!" cried desperate fans), but fortunately the legendary Hilltop Hoods were on scene to mop up the mess. When the music faded out and the crowds staggered homeward, it was certain that Groovin the Moo had delivered again.

By Ruben Seaton (Year 12)



## BASSOON WITH RORY

Pin Oak: Can you please tell us about your musical achievement?

Rory Ali: In a few weeks, I will be going on a tour with the Australian Institute of Music Symphony Orchestra for the Bassoon. We are doing many different tours around rural areas in NSW such as Coffs Harbor and Port Macquarie.

PO: How long have you been playing the bassoon for?

RA: I have been playing the bassoon for three years but it is not my main instrument. My main instrument is actually the Bass Guitar

PO: Why did you choose the bassoon?

RA: It is quite a rare instrument and I haven't seen many around. It is also interesting to play and has an interesting sound.

PO: Could you describe the sound and describe what a bassoon actually is?

RA: It an instrument played in the woodwind section of an orchestra, and it is shaped like a long wooden hollow stick.

PO: Do you know people in the orchestra?

RA: I know the conductor. All the students apart from me are studying at the Australian Institute of Music.

PO: How many bassoons are there in the orchestra?

RA: I am the only bassoon player in the orchestra I am touring with, in most orchestras there is only one bassoon.

PO: Where do you see yourself in the future with your bassoon?

RA: I want to progress with it but it isn't something that I really want to do as a professional. Not a career choice anyway.

By Jemina Taylor and Savannah Sandilands (Year 8)

## P&F NEWS

The Oxley P&F now has a full house of Year Reps. Please put your hands together in appreciation for this wonderful group of people who will be organising a social function for your year: Year 12 Nikki Loiterton, Year 11 Linda Cocks, Year 10 Ruth Bowyer and Melinda Kalde, Year 9 Julieann Billington, Year 8 Penny Simons, Year 7 Justine McKinlay, Kate Bow and Cynthia Winter, Year 6 Lynda Smith and Catherine Barnett, Year 5 Kristie Phelan, Year 4 Bec Hardy, Year 3 Kirsten Deakin, Year 2 Alex Rapp and Sarah Carpenter, Year 1 Susan Bladen, Kindergarten Elizabeth Hunter and Penny Leary

Year Rep Coordinator: Julie Scandrett

The inspiring efforts of the Oxley students on Crazy Tie Day were matched as pledged by \$3,403.70 from the P&F to RAISE THE ROOF of hundreds of homes in Jhib Jhibe and district. In total to date over \$10,000 has been raised by the Oxley Community. This is an outstanding result and we feel very proud of this amazing amount. Congratulations and thank you!

Still to come, the College has organised a Nepal Mega Raffle and money raised at the K - 12 Disco on Friday 12 June will all go to the Nepal Fundraising.

The Oxley College P & F are also planning a Nepalese Night in Term 3 to raise awareness of what the villagers of Jhib Jhibe will face in the coming months as they rebuild their lives. We will be immersed in the Nepalese culture through food, music and a video presentation. All the money raised will go directly to the village of Jhib Jhibe and we hope that Matthew Swait from World Horizons will be joining us a guest speaker. Matthew is currently in Jhib Jhibe and will be able to report back first hand. The first meeting for this worthwhile event will take place on Tuesday 2 June 2015 in the David Wright Library at 7:00pm. All welcome.

Congratulations and huge thanks to Anne-Marie Curry and her amazing team for a highly successful K -6 Mother's Day Stall. The total raised was \$607.05.

## Looking Forward

Tuesday 2 June 2015 – Nepalese Night planning meeting

Tuesday 28 July 2015 – Trent Southworth presentation and P & F Meeting

Friday 31 July 2015 – Christmas in July Trivia Night

Term 3 – RAISE THE ROOF in Jhib Jhibe, Nepalese Night

Saturday 5 November 2016 – Pin Oak Fair

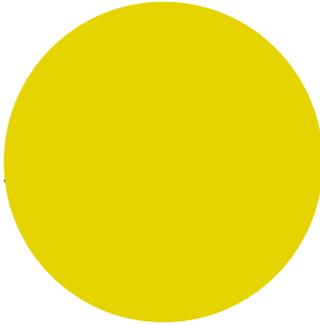
Some of the recent P & F funds have been distributed to the following: Oxley vegetable garden, bunting, banners for Equestrian Day, walkie talkies and K - 6 portable sports equipment.



# GALLERY



# MAY CALENDAR

	<b>Mon</b> Exc: HICES Debating, Chevalier College Year 12 Student/Parent/Teacher meeting for English Extension 1 & 2, from 2:00pm Year 12 Student/Parent/Teacher meetings, Orchestra Room, 4:00pm <b>18</b>	<b>Mon</b> <b>25</b>	<b>Mon</b> Exc: Year 9 Rites of Passage departs by train, approximately 7:30am <b>01</b>
	<b>Tue</b> Exc: Year 10 and 9 Science and Engineering Challenge, Mittagong RSL <b>19</b>	<b>Tue</b> Studio Concert, Orchestra Room, 4:00pm <b>26</b>	<b>Tue</b> Exc: Drama, 'Sharp, Short' Exc: Year 12 Geography, Urban Places, Sydney Exc: Year 10 Southern Highlands Jobs & Careers Expo, Mittagong. Periods 1-4 <b>02</b>
	<b>Wed</b> <b>20</b>	<b>Wed</b> Inc: Year 8 Australian History competition Year 8 2016 Stage 5 Course Information Session, Orchestra Room, 4:00pm Year 10 2016 Stage 6 Information Session and Morrisby Reports, Orchestra Room, 5:00pm <b>27</b>	<b>Wed</b> Inc: Years 3-11 ICAS Science Competition <b>03</b>
	<b>Thu</b> Exc: HICES Debating, Chevalier College Inc: Year 2 Consulate-General of Japan visit Inc: Year 1 Harbison Seniors Visit <b>21</b>	<b>Thu</b> Headmaster's Tour, 11:00am <b>28</b>	<b>Thu</b> <b>04</b>
<b>Fri</b> <b>15</b>	<b>Fri</b> Exc: Year 9 History, Australian War Memorial, Canberra <b>22</b>	<b>Fri</b> Exc: Years 3-6 HICES Cross Country Carnival, Orange <b>29</b>	<b>Fri</b> <b>05</b>
<b>Sat</b> ISA Winter Sport Round 3 <b>16</b>	<b>Sat</b> ISA Winter Sport Round 4 <b>23</b>	<b>Sat</b> ISA Winter Sport Round 3 Year 9 P & F Parent Gathering <b>30</b>	<b>Sat</b> No ISA Sport <b>06</b>
<b>Sun</b> <b>17</b>	<b>Sun</b> <b>24</b>	<b>Sun</b> <b>31</b>	<b>Sun</b> <b>07</b>

## Upcoming events

- + Monday      8 June    QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- + Tuesday     9 June    Year 10 examination week
- + Wednesday   10 June   Immunisations: Years 7, 11, 12, details to be confirmed
- + Thursday    11 June   Inc: Kindergarten, 'Important Persons Morning Tea', P.2  
HICES Debating, TIGS, Wollongong
- + Friday        12 June   Year 9 Rites of Passage – return by bus 6:30pm  
K-2 School Disco, 4:00-5:00pm, Orchestra Room  
3-6 School Disco, 5:00-6:00pm, Orchestra Room  
7-12 School Disco, 6:30-8:30pm, Orchestra Room

# Sport



## PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Kiara Rochaix (Year 9) on her selection for the ISA Girls Football team. Kiara will play in the NSW CIS Girls Football tournament on Monday 25 May and Tuesday 26 May at Valentine Park, Glenwood.

Congratulations to Harry Norman (Year 10) who has been selected as a member of the ISA Open Boys Hockey Team. Harry will compete at the NSW CIS Boys Hockey tournament which will be held at Moorebank on Wednesday 20 May.

Congratulations to Gabby Taylor-Helme (Year 11) who has been selected as a member of the ISA Open Netball Team. Gabby will compete at the NSW CIS Netball Trials and Netball Challenge at Cambridge Park on Monday 17 August.

Congratulations to Kaarina Allen, Jamie Binder, Jen McNaught and Kate McNaught (Year 12) who have been selected for the ISA Open Girls Hockey Team. They will compete at the NSW CIS Open Girls Hockey Tournament at Thornleigh on Wednesday 20 May. Jen and Kate have been named as Co-Captains of the ISA team.

Congratulations to Charlie Dummer (Year 10), who has been named in the NSW Cricket Academy U17 squad. (The only one from the Highlands).

## SPORTS REPORTS

### ISA Boys Football

<b>Firsts</b> Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 2-3 Round 2: Oxley V CCGS 0-7	15s Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 4-0 15s Round 2: Oxley V CCGS 5-2
<b>Seconds</b> Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 3-0 Round 2: Oxley V CCGS 12-4	13s Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 2-2 Round 2: Oxley V [pBYE]

### ISA Girls Football

Firsts Round 1: Oxley V Chev 4-2 Round 2: Oxley V Barker 8-0	Jnr Round 1: Oxley V Chev 0-5 Round 2: Oxley V Redlands 0-19
---	---

### ISA Rugby

1st Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 27-38 Round 2: Oxley V oakhill 5-76	14s Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 22-19 Round 2: Oxley V St Aug 5-53
15s Round 1: Oxley V BMGS 8-10 Round 2: Oxley V St Pats 38-14	13s Round 1: Oxley V CANCELLED Round 2: Oxley V ST Aug 5-56

### ISA Netball

Firsts Round 1: Oxley V Barker 2 57-27 Round 2: Oxley V Oakhill 26-14	Inter B Round 1: Oxley V Barker 8-38 Round 2: Oxley V Chev 30-13
Inter A Round 1: Oxley V Barker 28-58 Round 2: Oxley V Chev 47-20	Junior A Round 1: Oxley V SPGS 14-6 Round 2: Oxley V Chev 13-24

### ISA Hockey

Firsts Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Chev 1 - 1	Junior A Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Chev 4-0
Seconds Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Chev 0-9	Junior B Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Chev 0-2

### ISA Tennis

Oxley 1 Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Oakhill 5 sets- 3	Oxley 4 Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Oakhill 6 sets-2
Oxley 2 Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Redlands 34-35	Oxley 5 Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: Oxley V Oakhill 7 sets-1
Oxley 3 Div 5 Round 1: Cancelled Round 2: TBA	

## MATCH OF THE WEEK

Hockey Firsts



After our first round game against Barker was cancelled, it was great to finally take the field against Chev this weekend. Consistent early morning fitness training clearly paid off, and this, combined with improved skills and tactics, resulted in an early goal from Georgie Wade. Chev came back after half time, motivated to match our score and eventually leveled it, 1:1. Special mention to Billie Coupland for her outstanding performance and a big thank you to Ella Moran for filling in.

By Cate Patterson (Year 11)