

MAGAZINE

PIN OAK

ISSUE 23: TERM 3, SEPTEMBER 18, 2015



DOE



SPORT



K-6

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Thank you to the wonderful Year 12 Pin Oak members. Your commitment, professionalism, talent and enthusiasm was infectious and helped set the tone for a truly fantastic Pin Oak team.

We will miss you so much.



HICES DEBATING

Our Senior Debating A Team have done extremely well this year only getting knocked out in the Semi-Final of the HICES Competition.

Lillian Dalton (Year 10) made a great impression throughout the debates and was asked to be Chairperson of the Senior Grand Final on Thursday 10 September.

This was held at the Powerhouse Museum (now called the Museum of Applied Science).

The Awards ceremony followed and Lillian received a certificate for best debater in her age group across all regions and will be receiving a certificate for being amongst the Best Debaters in the Finals rounds.

K-6 ATHLETICS



HEADMASTER'S REPORT



FAREWELL YEAR 12



Dear Year 12,

You are a special group of people. I have only had the privilege of knowing you for eighteen months but it feels like much longer. You will certainly be missed by all of us who remain here.

You have led the School and been the custodians of its ethos in so many special ways. You ran dancing groups, music lessons and coaching sessions. You launched a school magazine- Pin Oak- with many articles that could have found their place in professional magazines. You fascinated us all with your 'Oxley Intelligence Agency.' Not every year group gets to create a school wide spy system and carry it off with so much panache and wearing of sunglasses. The OIA's spy missions even had me at one point replacing a Year 8 boy all day, doing his work and completing his homework for him. You organised the world's most complicated table tennis competition.

You have worked hard. When I had interviews with each of you earlier this year, you told me about each of your plans and aspirations - you often knew which university you wanted to attend and which course you wanted to do (of course I also appreciated the people who were putting off final career choices until their mid-twenties, or forties). Many of you have grasped with both hands every academic opportunity we have tried to provide. Your mature use of the Year 12 study centre would put several universities to shame. Indeed, the cleaners were often herding some of you out of the Study Centre at 8:00pm or later. Happenstance meant that I became the English teacher to almost half of you this term and I have relished every minute I have spent with you. You have been focused and purposeful - although could those of you who still owe me your redrafted HSC Trials analytic essay please submit it to me by Monday morning at 9:00am. Email is fine.

You have had so many achievements to celebrate. Only yesterday three of you got into the State Athletics Championships. Only last week eight of you - half of the class - were nominated by the Board of Studies for OnStage (the NSW HSC Showcase for Drama) for your group performances for those wonderful group devised pieces. You have made various ISA Finals and been picked for various ISA teams. I particularly remember the heartstopping girls basketball final which you only lost by a point. Your artwork is fascinating and your musical performances are sublime. One of you was crowned the best individual thinker in the State at last year's Philosothon.

Most of all, you have been terrific friends and mentors to each other. I mean that. You have, overwhelmingly, travelled through the tumultuous teenage years cushioned by your regard, respect and support of each other. You have rallied around each other in times of trials and sometimes tragedy. The steadiness with which you were held by each other will, in turn, hold you in good stead for the rest of your life. I have seen a few tears over the last days, and they are well shed, for it shows that you are aware of what it is you are farewelling. Indeed, I think there will be few dry eyes at the other end of the tunnel today. However, you are ready now to embrace the wider world happier, more confident, and more worthwhile for your time spent with each other.

What a terrific group of young people you are. We really are all going to miss you. Go well.

THE YEAR 12 JOURNEY



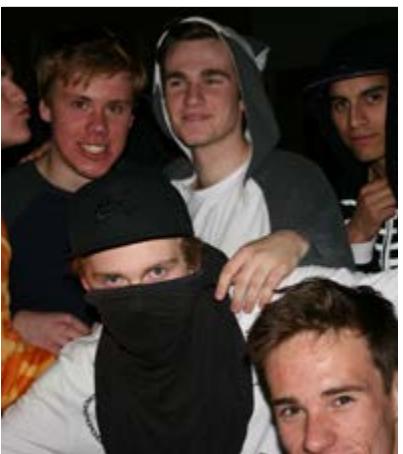


Year 9



Year 10





Year 12



The following pages document the major works of Year 12 2015. Art, Drama, Design and Technology, Music, Extension 2 English and History Extension are all featured. Many students completed multiple major works this year, and while each subject area does not highlight every student's work, at least one major work per student is accounted for.

a rollercoaster both for my head and my vocal cords.

Music

"My final piece, 'Anthem' from the musical 'Chess', was an excellent way to finish as it gave me the opportunity to sing my heart out. Two years of arduous practice by everyone culminated in an afternoon of adrenaline and enjoyment. We all thank Mr Hughes for bringing us this far." – Alex Hughes
Vocal, Piano

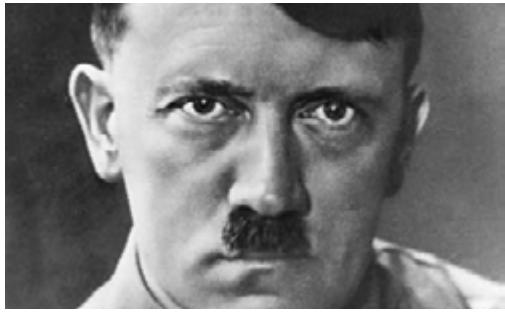
"I was influenced by classical artists, mostly Claude Debussy because of his expressive style. This helped guide my HSC pieces and lead me to success. I enjoyed seeing how my playing and my pieces developed over time. My only challenge was when I nearly broke my finger by slamming the piano lid on my hands in frustration!" – Aly Franklin
Piano, Viva Voce.



"My year 12 music major work has been a rollercoaster both for my head and my vocal cords. I chose four pieces: 'Space Oddity' (David Bowie) 'Gran Torino' (Jamie Cullum), 'Empty Chairs at Empty Tables' and 'Stars' from Les Misérables. Without Mr Hughes, my singing teacher and my peers, the journey wouldn't have been as insanely enjoyable as it has been." – Cameron Allen
Vocal



"I did three performance pieces and one composition. The briefing for the composition was technology and music, and it isn't usually done. It was a challenge to notate an electronic score. Every effect, every change you make you have to graphically represent. I did three vocal pieces, mainly influenced by old jazz. I did a song by the Clovers, from the 1950s." – Nick Isakson
Vocal, Composition



Strive for a better understanding of the past

Extension History

"The Copenhagen interpretation: science or history? This is the central theme of my essay, which looks at whether the Copenhagen Interpretation of quantum mechanics, is purely a scientific construction or was subsequently shaped by the documenters of its formation. This has given rise to a new form of historian: the historian-physicist, referring to the physicist with the intention of documenting the history of their field, using this as a springboard to put forward their own adjustments to the existing theoretical basis. It aims to investigate the extent to which this link influenced the formation of the Copenhagen Interpretation as a theory based on science and shaped by history."

Lucie van der Schalk

"How can we strive for a better understanding of the past? Is it hidden in the dusty catalogues of fading archives? I believed we could find our own historical identity in the beauty of art. A comparative evaluation of the very purpose of history reveals that the art of historiography has been lacking exactly that: art..."

Ruben Seaton

"The role of causation in history is significant. Thus when studying any event, the origins and causes must be considered. The historiographical debate regarding the origins of the Holocaust has been generally divided into two schools of thought since the 1970s, the intentionalists and the functionalists. The intentionalists believe that Hitler played a major role in the planning of the Holocaust. While the functionalists focus on the dynamics of decision-making processes and the institutional pressures of the Nazi system, instead of the central role of Hitler..."

Evelyn Bratchford

"Islam is to submit to God. History is to submit to a perspective that is not one's own. Through the study of Medieval Muslim historians al-Tabari, al-Ya'qubi and al-Ma'sudi one can see the impact of Islam on their writing. The Islamic influence cannot be ignored, but it should not warrant the discarding of a source due to an historian's perspective under the belief that religion irrevocably warps the truth..."

Evangeline Larsen

"History tends to apportion blame to a particular party. The Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941, is shrouded by conflicting opinions as to the responsibility for the attack. My essay examines the contradictory beliefs held by historians, which have shifted over time, to examine the way in which historical writing morphs under the influence of historical distance, to account for new information and perspective, from anti-Roosevelt accounts to an emergence of revisionism and post-revisionism..."

Maddie Thomas

"My History Extension Project evaluated the role of historical literature in the shaping of collective memory, using the case study of the Wars of the Roses, as presented by Shakespeare in the 15th Century and Conn Iggulden's historical fiction series in 2013. It negotiated the popular role of historical literature and its celebration for revitalising an interest in history, to the detriment of historical fact received by the masses, thus blurring the truth and reality of the event..."

Caitlin Scally

"My essay looked at the use of historical fiction in understanding the past and whether this constituted as history and was a valid representation. I focused on late 19th Century and early 20th Century Afghanistan and how the Taliban was portrayed through historical fiction. I worked with both factual news reports and historian accounts and the works of Khalid Housseini and Nadia Hashimi, comparing the factual content with the fictional and evaluating whether historical fiction taught us a more realistic portrayal of this time period..."

...the warmth that enclosed her in the nine previous months.

English Extension 2

For every problem upon this earth you'll have to wear like a hat,
Because theres no turning the tables on nine tales.
Westerners appropriate the drum beat of a bongo,
Whilst there is vulgar throat slits and unwanted conceptions in the Congo,
But we don't worry about that unless it's plastered all over Facebook,
Even when fake self righteous people scream Kony like a song hook,

The Joyful Sorrows of Choice – Antonia Ryman (Poetry)

PP: Sir please just breathe and count to ten.
Quand: 5–9–4–3–2–1–7–8–6–10
Quand is standing, breathing heavily, he slowly calms down.
Why I'm sorry.
PP: That's all right.
Quand: I – don't know what came over me.
PP: I can assure you everything is ok now.
Quand: You're sure I wasn't here a moment ago?
PP: Positive.

Certain Doubt – Edward Bowyer (Script)

Rèmi was supposed to be retiring, handing in his jockey's badge at the end of the month. The trouble is, he refuses to lie down. The kid who couldn't catch horses has come one hell of a journey. He is a tidy and sensible man, but he will forever see lights flashing on the top of starting stalls, because that's the way he is. Rèmi will always be irrepressible.

Racing is an affair of the heart, not of the head. Its about endurance rather than speed, tradition rather than money. Its about scarlet nostrils and flanks that heave like bellows.

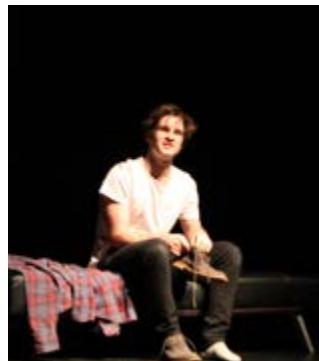
Vale Verema– Lexi Young (Short Story)

"That's just what I needed; more work that drives me up the wall
"Ahhh well, I'm pretty busy, how urgent is it?"
"You're the fourth person I've asked, it's down to you"
"Oh, well, I suppose I can fit it in, let me just double check in the – As I look out the window the plane is headed straight for the tower. I drop the phone. My face is lit up from the bright mushroom of fire that rises from the building, followed by an ear-busting explosion."
Mourning Talks - Oliver Kalde (Short Story)

The warmth coming from within soon disintegrated into the cool air as she was greeted with the harsh smell of bleach and five pairs of brooding eyes. Her little face took form like that of a squished beetroot as she rapidly punched the air, hoping to reclaim the warmth that enclosed her in the nine previous months.'Okay time to cut.' Dr Drason informed the nurse as his watch ticked over a minute.

'Natural Will' – Celeste Cosma (Short Story)

"The hangings grappled with afternoon rays unfurled her body, she rested and sighed withdrawn from her dream abode her yearning abode she dozed to return They came and went came and went... No cloth to help hide her body"
Samara Low (Performance Poetry)



Drama

"It was creepy and crazy at the same time."

Lachlan Soldatic, Frozen

"My monologue is from a Canadian literary journal... it was about a guy who pretends to kill a cat – how is that not interesting? The character is a bit awkward... same as me. I could see myself as that character so easily, it was just like, you could see what the character was going through...everyone's experienced the emotions of a kid...its universal, especially in adolescence, as well as that existential confusion."

Nick Antoniak, Boy in a Hoodie

"I just felt like I could convey the passion I have for rugby into a character that loves footy. I can understand the character's ACL injury...I have friends who have been injured and haven't felt too well mentally. When I did my trials, I was overtime by a minute...I had to cut a lot and make up for that, I had to overemphasise everything... I'm really happy with the end product."

Alex Miller, ACL

"The inspiration for my character, the way I did it, was from the live viewing...from Hugo Weaving. Learning the lines was the easy part....at the start I focused more on my 2nd character and filmed him, and after that I could go off the recording...All that jazz!"

Christian Lake, Waiting for Godot

"My inspiration for this monologue was the fact that so much is unknown about a woman's emotional connection to their womanhood. I wanted to focus on a monologue that really expressed raw emotion about the vagina and how a small girl growing up in a Christian background would deal with certain situations. I was really drawn to how bare the monologue is. There is no fantasy, there is just a young woman and her story about how she came to love her body."

Emma Jones,

Congratulations to the two group pieces that have been nominated for On Stage; "Wasteland" starring Monique Turczynski, Antonia Ryman, Nick Antoniak and Samara Low and "Douglas Gurdal" starring Edward Bowyer, Caitlin McMullen, Caitlyn Bellis and Spencer Stanton.



"It's a lot of work, but it honestly doesn't feel like work if you do something you love." Stevie Evans

Design and Technology

"My major work was a coffee table with a foot rest integrated into it. I would get in trouble at home putting my feet on the coffee table, so I needed to fix that. Wood and plastic leather...I hadn't worked with the medium before. The woodworking part was hard, but the upholstery was easy... Never rush anything, you'll have to go back and do it again. You won't get a quality product." **Charlie Mabbutt**

"My major work is a virtual futuristic apartment. I was inspired by the software associated with it...I tried it and I really enjoyed it. I liked the medium through which I expressed it. The hardest part was using the software for things it wasn't meant for. I was proud of the way it ended up coming together in the end and seeing it come to life. I've picked up working with the software as a hobby and am aiming to study architecture at Canberra University. **Alastair Redpath**

"My dad is a business man and he always complains about having to unpack and repack, he goes from one country to another...so he hates packing. He just wanted everything there and to be accessible. I made suitcase that had draws, a coat hanger, a place to put your shoes and your passport. I also did some laser cutting, which was done externally. I'm proud of it but I would have liked to finish it earlier...there are a things I could fix." **Jake Loiterton**

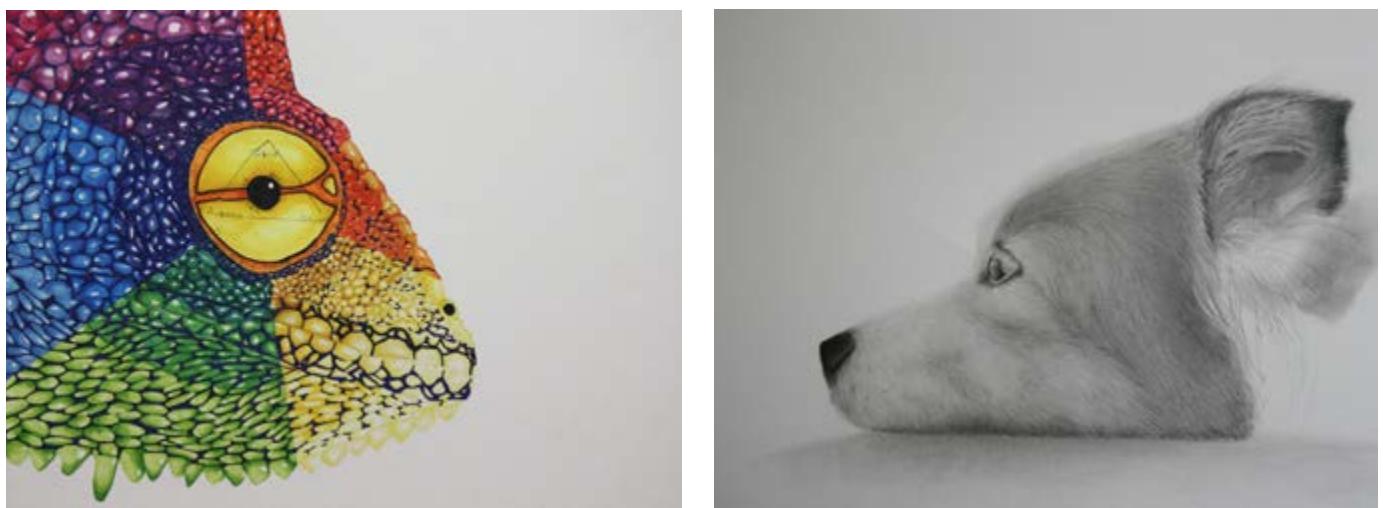
"I was inspired to do a suit due to my interest in my favourite TV show, Suits and the high status that suits reflect. It was a challenging experience and one that I will never forget." **Conor Lynch**



The Butterfly Effect; If America can do it so can we!

If the butterfly effect, get on board and join the ripple, make the world a more equal
for Gay Marriage. We can do it Australia!





showing the progress of our lives and how we stay true to our identity and ourselves

Visual Art

"It came from old drawings I used to do and I just put them all together. I drew inspiration from art in video games...it comes from everything. I didn't really think about it, I just drew it." – Cooper Williams, Drawing

"I enjoyed exploring industrial landscapes for my work." – Cameron Palmer, Drawing

"I took inspiration from past drawings...In class, drawings in my schoolbooks translated into my works. That's what I originally wanted to do – gather all the drawings from my school books and put them together" – Cameron McKenzie, Drawing

"I liked what I did last year and I continued that idea with my Year 12 major. It was showing the progress of our lives and how we stay true to our identity and ourselves. I enjoyed the freedom of being able to do whatever you want. I was with a good group of people in the studio who know the balance between fun and work." – Amelia Worthington, Drawing



Parting Thoughts...

"I will miss cooking in the Food Tech rooms. We cooked a meal every Friday and learnt something new from it. I'll miss my friends because most of them are going to different universities. I'm going to TAFE in Goulburn to do animal studies to be a vet nurse." - Charlie Webeck

"I'll miss sport at Oxley. Even though we're not the best, at least we try and have the fun..." - Oliver Hardman

"Oxley has shown me a different lifestyle, and it's made me want to live in Melbourne more than Sydney to study Commerce...people are more relaxed down here." - River Visser

"First and foremost, I'm going to miss the cohesive spirit at Oxley, from my colleagues, friends and teachers. My next journey, undertaking Commerce, will be another adventure however Oxley has equipped me for the road ahead." - Ryan Tan

"I'll miss pranking Mr Woff... The World Challenge trip to Vietnam inspired me to travel so I'm going on a gap year to China. Oxley has allowed me to thrive in my Chinese studies through their continual support and endless encouragement of my Distance Education." - Hugh Dawkins

"I feel that the teachers have instilled a sense of comradeship within us. For me, Mr Craig was an inspiration, especially as he was my Tutor teacher for so many years." - Angus Blake

"I'm going to study nursing next year. Oxley is such a small community which means that there is support and encouragement." - Tegan Clappham

"I will miss my friends... I'm going to Uni to study Radiography. Oxley has instilled academic rigour within me. PD and Bio have really helped me in aiming to study Radiography." - Kassie Asper

"I was quite astounded when I entered Year 7 at Oxley College and noticed from observing my own year and the years above that in order to be 'cool' or 'popular' at Oxley you really just had to be yourself - sounds corny, I know. But Oxley is really a place where your quirkiness and individualism is admired! This has had an immense impact on allowing me to be able to find and develop myself during my important teen years. It's also what I find the really distinct difference about Oxley College compared to other high schools." - Julia Cavanagh

FAREWELL MR CONNOR



After 17 years of dedicated teaching at Oxley, Mr Connor's spaceship is departing. He has been a great asset to the Maths department and almost every student at Oxley has some memory of sitting in a Maths room while Mr Connor announces the next frontier we will be exploring. His ability to engage a class with space jargon has made every Maths lesson more enjoyable!

Mr Connor has developed strong friendships with other members of staff. Mr Woffendon says "Richard Connor is a kind and generous man with a wonderful sense of humour. He cares deeply about his students and will go to great lengths to support their learning. He is a supportive colleague and I have enjoyed working with him enormously over the past 12 years. It has been a real privilege to have the chance to work with such an experienced and dedicated teacher who is so generous with his time. I will miss working with him. I wish him a long and happy retirement. Bon voyage Mr Connor."

He will be greatly missed as a member of the Mathematics teaching team.

We wish Mr Connor well on his travels next year and hope he enjoys what the future holds.

Evelyn Bratchford (Year 12)



YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY

Riley Kennedy-Moore – I missed the excursion. Which parts of Sydney did you visit?

Saxon Macquarie – Circular Quay, Darling Harbour and Chinatown.

R – What were some the tasks that were set for you?

S – We had to name national and transnational corporations, name restaurants in the Darling Harbour food court, name land uses in Darling Harbour and describe the features of Chinatown.

R – Did you travel in groups or classes or as a year?

S – Mostly we travelled as a year but for the activities we split into groups of two or three.

R – Did working in groups make the experience more enjoyable?

S – Yes, it was good to have less people so you could get through the work quickly.

R – What was your favourite part of the excursion?

S – I really liked the food court activity and the food!

R – Did you enjoy using the ferry to travel around Sydney harbour?

S – Yes it was interesting to see all the famous buildings from the water.

R – Do you think it was a good learning experience?

S – Yes, it made you think about your surroundings and it was good to use your own information for the assignment.

R – Did you speak to anyone in Sydney?

S – Yes, it was for a survey.

R – Was this a good experience?

S – It was very awkward, but it was interesting meet visitors and to see what they had to say.

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

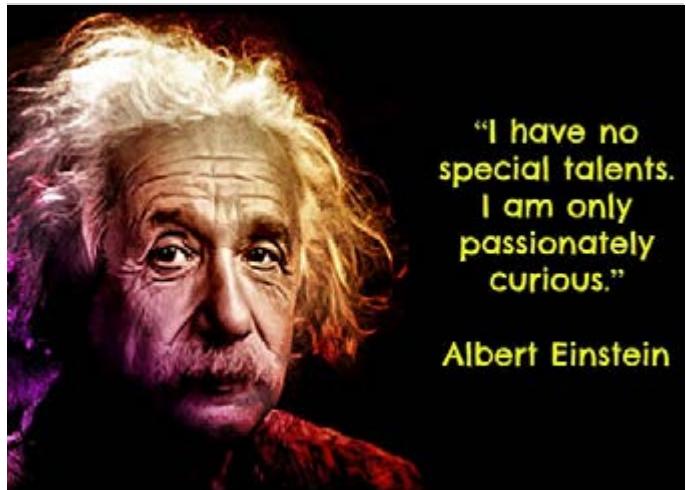
Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich

The time has come to farewell our Year 12 students. After six years it is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to a group of students who have endeared themselves to us in so many ways. In particular this cohort has taken on academic challenge with gusto, showing perseverance, daily exhibiting what we expect in terms of dedication and commitment to their studies. We know that these young people are more than a number, and that while we talk so often about HSC Bands and the ATARs, the true joy has been nurturing these wonderful young minds and inspiring them to the success that will come their way.

The recent HSC Design and Technology Exhibition was just one example of the achievement of excellence: the display was a tribute to students who have had an initial idea and grappled with the design process, encountering many challenges along the way. The final display of highly sophisticated projects was most impressive and all students and Ms Brochard should be congratulated on the extremely high standard of work.

The term has ended well too for our HSC Drama students. We have been notified by BOSTES that two of our group devised pieces, Douglas Gurdal and Wasteland, have been nominated for possible inclusion in the prestigious OnStage showcase of exemplary Drama performance from the 2015 HSC. This means that eight students (50% of the class) have received outstanding results for this part of their HSC course. Congratulations to Ed Bowyer, Caitlyn Bellis, Caitlin McMullen, Spencer Stanton, Monique Turczynski, Samara Low, Nick Antoniak, Antonia Ryman and to their teacher Mr Phil Cunich.

Thus, finally, a personal thank you to the class of 2015. This great bunch of characters leaves a special academic legacy for Oxley. They have embraced the Year 12 Study Centre with respect and have made it a model of independent study, an inspiration for every year group that will continue to rise to the "Heart of the College". We wish them well not only in the remaining weeks of their HSC but also in every pursuit they undertake in the exciting world that awaits them. We know that they leave here not only the skills that will equip them for their future, but most of all with a sense of curiosity and inquiry that will lead them to continue to thirst for knowledge and answers that can change the world.



"I have no
special talents.
I am only
passionately
curious."

Albert Einstein

Deputy Head Pastoral: Peter Ayling

A recent message from the Headmaster of Knox Grammar School:

"I just want to pass on my appreciation for a polite and courteous conversation I had with two of your students at the CAS/ISA Invitational hosted by Knox Grammar at the Blacktown Sports Park.

At the completion of the carnival, two of your senior students made the time to come and thank our staff for hosting an enjoyable day. Of the nine schools in attendance Oxley College clearly stood out as a school of great character."

K- 6 NEWS

Head of K-6: Justine Lind

A place of wonder....a time to celebrate!

Celebrations abound as we come to the end of an action packed term. At assembly this week, we reflected on the diversity of engaging experiences that resulted in significant growth and achievement within our community.

A strong sense of pride still remains after the curtain call on our inaugural production. We acknowledge the collaborative efforts of all children and parents who contributed to the success and experience for our appreciative audiences. We also need to extend our specific thanks to Vinnie McManus who filmed our performance so that parents may have a copy of the DVD available early next term. Mrs Emma Calver, was present at both day time performances to take several photos that are now available on our school webpage <http://www.oxley.nsw.edu.au/news-events/galleries/k-6-production-out-of-this-world/>.

At the same time, several of our students proudly represented the College at numerous sporting events, achieving a range of representational levels that are worthy of congratulations. Winter soccer and netball sports concluded, and smaller teams and individuals attended Snowsports, X-country skiing, SHIPS, HICES and CIS Athletics. These endeavours have been featured throughout the term in the Sports section of the Pin Oak. My personal congratulations go to all members of the Oxley sporting community along with sincere thanks to the staff and parents who assisted in coaching, transportation and team support on the chilly sidelines.

Earlier in the term, we received our annual NAPLAN results which are also worthy of celebration and some reflection to inform future planning. In Year 3, our students performed above the state average in all areas and above the average of other Independent Schools in several areas. Year 5 results were similar, performing above the state average in all subjects except Spelling and above the average of other Independent Schools in Reading and Grammar & Punctuation.

Beyond this I am always interested to see the percentage of Oxley students achieving in the top two Bands for their year level. In Year 3, 70% or more of our students achieved in these Bands for 4 of the 5 subjects. In Year 5, 60% or more of our students achieved in these Bands for Reading and Grammar & Punctuation. Individual achievement was also strong for many and worthy of significant celebration. In Year 3, 14 of our students achieved above the Year 5 state average in one or more areas and in Year 5, 18 of our students achieved above the Year 7 state average for one or more of the subjects. While our results in Spelling point to the work to be done, we can be rightly proud of the results overall.

Weekly Awards:

Students of the Week

- K: Ari Knowles
- Yr 1: Thomas Bladen
- Yr 2: William Gilbert
- Yr 3: Taylor Anstee
- Yr 4: Bronte Johnson
- Yr 5: Finley Miller
- Yr 6: Tom Rapp



Respect Oxley

- K: Cartier Dobler
- Yr 1: Madeline Gordon
- Yr 2: Abi Hunt
- Yr 3: Emma Scott
- Yr 4: Benedict Regan
- Yr 5: Victor Van Der Schalk
- Yr 6: Toby O'Sullivan



Students of the Week

- K: Elke Hunter
- Yr 1: Georgie Marks
- Yr 2: Christian Denington
- Yr 3: Georgia Pride
- Yr 4: Amelia Carpenter
- Yr 5: Patrick Duffy
- Yr 6: Thomas Dunn



Respect Awards

- K: Dakota Winn
- Yr 1: Estelle Fragar
- Yr 2: Annabel Arnot
- Yr 3: Asher Biddlecombe
- Yr 4: Will Bladen
- Yr 5: James Wilson
- Yr 6: Laura Smith



The endeavours of our students in academic, sporting and cultural pursuits have contributed much to the rich tapestry that is the life and learning within the Oxley community.

I wish all our families, a safe and restorative time together during the upcoming holidays.



Out of this World



GALLERY



SEPTEMBER + OCTOBER CALENDAR

 <p>The Shop will be closed in the first week of the holidays. It will open from Tuesday 29 September until Thursday 1 October from 8:30am until 4:00pm. Closed on the long weekend (1st Saturday in October) Open as normal during OLE!</p>	Mon	Mon	Mon
	21	28	05
Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue
22		29	06
Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed
23	30		07
Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu
24		01	08
Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri
18	25	02	09
Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat
19	26	03	10
Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun
20	27	04	11

Upcoming events

- + Monday 12 October: HSC commences
- + Wednesday 14 October: Year 7 Immunisation
- + Thursday 15 October: K - 6 SHYAC "Conundrum"
- + Friday 16 October: K - 6 Mufti Day - Loud Shirt Day

Sport



DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD HIKE

On Friday 4 September, 28 intrepid Year 9 students, set off for the Kangaroo Valley to practice or (hopefully) qualify for the 'Adventurous Journey' component of their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. Following several weeks of preparation which included working out camping and cooking groups, organising healthy menus, and route planning, the students were divided into two groups and assembled with their 'Land's Edge' leaders Brendan and Josh at Fitzroy Falls. Unfortunately, the original hike route had to be changed, owing to fallen trees on the track. Nevertheless, the students successfully negotiated and navigated their way around the landscape surrounding Lake Yarrunga, including some classic bush-bashing! They also enjoyed good weather and time to relax with ball and frisby games around the campsites. On the final afternoon, the groups ascended through dense forest to one of the local peaks, enduring wet, slippery and humid conditions, which for some, provided useful preparation for the World Challenge trek in Thailand! With the closure of Barrengarry Mountain road caused by a landslide, the bus was forced to return via Berry and Picton Road! The students proved resilient, however, and still returned to school with smiles on their faces! Many thanks to Ms Jenni Rees for giving up her weekend to help supervise the hike.



ATHLETICS



ISA Athletic Carnival Results

At the recent ISA Athletics Carnival, Oxley won the Junior Girls Division 2, Intermediate Girls Division 2, Senior Girls Division 2 and the Overall Girls Division 2 and were second overall for Boys Division 2.

CIS Athletics

A record number of 26 Oxley students then competed at the Secondary CIS Athletics Carnival yesterday at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre.

Many students achieved Personal Best results amongst some very tough competition. Three students medalled in their events and qualified for NSW All Schools. They were Michael Zawal for 400m and 800m, Jennifer McNaught for discus and Katherine McNaught for shot put

HICES K - 6 Athletics

Congratulations to the following K - 6 students for their achievement at HICES Athletics:

Harry Jensen – 1st in 12 year boys 800m
Gabby Maples – 3rd in 12 year boys Long Jump
William Cameron – 1st in Junior boys Long Jump
Lachlan Blair – 3rd in 11 year boys Discus
Sophie Dunn – 2nd in Junior girls Long Jump and 2nd in Junior Girls High Jump

Oxley placed 3rd based on the aggregate points for Division 2 and 2nd based on the percentage of students for Division 2.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Recently Sophie Artup (Year 7) competed in an Equestrian Australia Official Competitive medium level dressage test at Sugarloaf Cobbitty Equestrian Club and was very successful, gaining a 2nd place in the 4.2, in the open competition.

