

PIN OAK

ISSUE 36: TERM 2, JUNE 23, 2016



SCIENCE



ROP



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 Head Reports
- 11 In the Spotlight
- 12 Old Oxleyan
- 13 On the Branch
- 14 Gallery
- 15 Calendar
- 16 Sport

Pin Oak Team

Editors in Chief

Kaarina Allen, Cate Patterson and Heidi Bevan

Student Editorial Team

Ella Moran, Isabelle Knowles, Jemima Taylor, Izzy Moore,
Tully Mahr, Tom Hill

Student Photographer

Olivia Donovan

Designers

Emma Croker, Grace Patterson and Lachlan BP

Design Assistants

Bree Feary, Cameron Grice, Tom Whyte, Holly Jefford,
Juliette Swain

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



OXLEY GIRLZ SAVING CRITICALLY ENDANGERED GORILLAS

With over 20 million preloved or broken mobiles sitting in Australian cupboards and drawers, there's a fair chance you may have one or two. Even if it is completely useless to you, it may still help to save the critically endangered gorillas.

This is the message from Zoe Brain (Year 7) who has created the Gorilla Girlz, a team of Oxley College girls (Alicia Brain, Julia Parker, Molly O'Meagher, Ella Jackson, Freya Anthony and Indigo Brain), who are on a mission to collect over 1,000 preloved mobile phones, iPads, Tablets, iPods, MP3 players and their chargers to recycle.

Introducing the campaign into Oxley College as a part of World Environment Week, Zoe said "It's an awesome campaign and it is so easy to do, Oxley students just bring the devices to school and we do the rest."

Zoe was inspired and felt the calling in her heart, after hearing Bindi Irwin speak about 'Never being too young to make a difference' and hearing about the plight of the gorillas.

To date, the Gorilla Girlz have raised approximately \$550 and recycled over 140 devices from Bowral, Burrawang, Avoca and Penrose Primary Schools as well as BDCU Alliance Bank and Robertson CTC.

Mobile phones, iPads etc, all contain a rare earth called Colton and the world's largest Colton mine happens to be in the middle of these beautiful animal's home, destroying the forest and their food supply. By recycling the Colton from mobiles and other electronic devices, to be used in new electronics, we reduce the need for Colton mining, thus reducing the impact on the gorilla's habitat.

"Also the mobiles contain small amounts of precious metals, so the recycling company pays us, on average \$2 per mobile. This money is donated to the Gorilla Doctors, who provide on-the-ground, lifesaving medical care, as well as providing protection from poachers who are hunting them for 'bush meat'" Zoe said. There are only about 250-300 Cross River Gorillas and 880 Mountain Gorillas left in the wild.

Next term, we will be looking for 'Gorilla Champions' from other schools, to join our team to take this awesome, lifesaving programme into other schools within the Southern Highlands. Please help us and together we can make a difference.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT



OXLEY STRATEGIC PLAN

Oxley has had strategic plans for many years, but before now they have not been published to parents. We would like to change that. As a result, we have put the 'one year' and the 'five year' plans on the website for you to have a look at - or at least feel comfortable knowing that they are there.

There are a number of elements to our Strategic Plan:

- a) The seven strategic priorities
- b) The overall goals
- c) How the strategic priorities link to the Vision and the Mission
- d) What the 2020 landscape should look like
- e) What the 2016 action plan is

The seven strategic priorities are:

- a) Rigour in academic education/teaching and learning
- b) Enriched and enlightened learning
- c) Caring for the whole student
- d) Ethical, moral and spiritual development
- e) Infrastructure and development
- f) Enriching Co-curricular Experience
- g) Attraction and retention of people: Staff and students.

The Strategic Plan is linked to our Vision and Mission statements. The Oxley Vision, Mission and Values are the timeless, enduring statements about the sort of College we are and want to be. We believe they are distinctive and powerful. This is why we sent them to you in hard copy. I think of them as 'the light on the hill'. The Strategic Plan by contrast is a more measurable set of goals. To mix metaphors, it is more like the keel of our boat as we travel. You don't see it everyday, but it keeps everything steady as we travel.

The '2020 landscape' section is slightly ambiguous. On one hand it is more concrete than our overall goals and vision. On the other hand it is not so specific to be a set of programmes. Indeed the elements of the 2020 landscape are features that I believe we can also see at Oxley today. The College is not just a 'five year plan' - it has been around for decades and will be around for centuries more. However, the 2020 landscape is a mid-point between specific projects and timeless goals and it serves as a very good marker.

These plans were made by the Executive with the guidance of Eugene Joubert from our Board. They have been discussed with the full staff on a number of occasions and partly changed as a result of their input. The plans have also been discussed and approved of by the College Board and Chairman. They do distil much of what we do. As a staff and Executive we have also talked about how we are going to measure and judge what we achieve each year. The Executive meets once a term off site for the express purpose of going through the goals for that year and measuring our progress against them.

You will not see the Strategic Plan rear its occasionally ungainly head too often in the day to day life of the College. However, we hope you feel its transformative influence in much of what we do here from week to week and from year to year.

You will find the plan at: <https://www.oxley.nsw.edu.au/about/strategic-plan/>

POSTCARDS

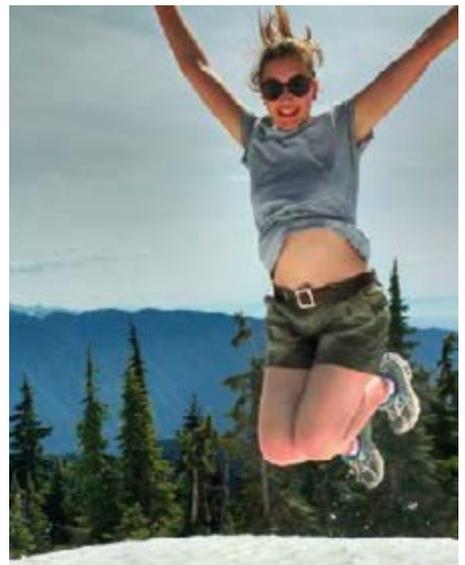
Dear Oxley,

My life since November last year has been busy, full of new ventures and adventures! I began working at various jobs soon after to school in order to build up my travel fund. In February I returned to Oxley to work as a mentor to the current year 12. Although strange to be on the other side of the desk, I so enjoyed sharing what I'd learnt in the HSC with those already in the midst of it. May saw me pack my bags for travel as I headed to Canada to visit my family. My month there involved hiking in the snow, sunny park days, family bbqs with amazing burgers and fries, strolls around lush Vancouver and too much maple syrup! Just a week ago I arrived in London for the first time. My best chummy, Maddie (who has just spent three months au pair in Spain) and I are taking in as much as we can of this glorious city. We even saw the Queen in the flesh at the Trooping of The Colour parade! In just a few days we head to Scotland for some rainy, loch ness, kilt-filled escapades. In July I will make my way to Lyon, France for some au pair and a French course to prepare me for when I begin my two years of university in the south of France in August. The last six months have been quite the ride, but as I sit on my lumpy mattress in a London dorm writing to you...I couldn't be happier!

My love to all at Oxley.
Evie x



CLASS OF 2015:
Evangeline Larson



Hey Oxley,

How's everything doing back home? I can't believe it's been 9 months since I left school and 6 months since I left Australia! I'm only half way through my Gap Year, but already it has been the most incredible experience.

I've been living just out of London, working as a Gap Assistant at a boarding school. During term time I work with 5 other Australians around the school, but the main reason I'm over here is because English schools get a holiday every 5 weeks.

I've skied the French Alps, dived off sailing boats in Croatia, cycled around the canals of Amsterdam, walked through the gas chambers of Auschwitz, kissed the Blarney Stone in Ireland, walked the Berlin Wall in Germany, eaten my weight in chocolate in Belgium, and experienced so many more eye opening and amazing places. If all goes to plan this year I'll visit something like twenty countries! Travelling to so many different places allows for enormous exposure to such diverse culture and history, and it has given me a lot of world perspective that you just can't get in Bowral. I have met so many interesting people from all around the world and will return home with life long friends. I hope you all are considering something similar when you finish your studies, as these have undoubtedly been the best months of my life.

Good luck with everything!
Love and miss you all,
Grace xoxo



CLASS OF 2015:
Grace Naughton



Dear Oxley,

It seems like only yesterday that I was questioning my existence during the History Extension exam, however much has happened since the end of the HSC. 2016 has seen me relocate to Canberra, which is basically a larger version of Bowral if you replace grumpy old people with grumpy politicians.

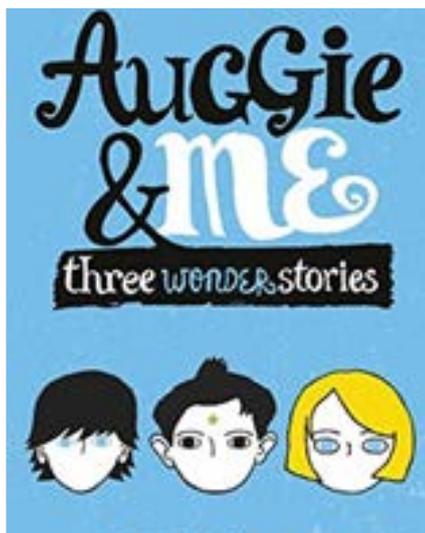
Studying International Relations at the ANU has let me dive deeper into my passions, such as Middle East Politics (I hope Mr Craig is proud), Studies of the European Union (don't vote Brexit) and Spanish (sorry, Madame Hamilton!). Through scary levels of overenthusiasm, I've found myself on the executive board of the ANU Scuba Club, the Students Justice for Palestine, Oaktree Foundation, and most importantly, the Kanye Appreciation Society. I also played my debut season of Ultimate Frisbee - trust me, it's a lot more serious than it sounds - and experienced the wonders of College dining. It includes lots of late-night bowls of two minute noodles.

I'll tell Bill and Malcolm you say hi.
Yours in patience and fortitude,
Ruben



CLASS OF 2015:
Ruben Seaton





Books

★★★★★

Auggie & Me

"There's no rule book that tells you how to act in every given situation in life, you know? So what I always say is that it's better to err on the side of kindness. That's the secret. If you don't know what to do, just be kind. You can't go wrong." Since he was born, Auggie Pullman has had a congenital facial abnormality. His heartfelt story, along with viewpoints of his family and friends is told in the award-winning book 'Wonder'. 'Auggie and Me' is the sequel to this thought-provoking novel. It revolves around the perspectives of three characters from 'Wonder', whose lives have also been changed by Auggie. This book will do what only the best books can: impact the way you live your own life. This book reminds you that behind every tear, every laugh, every frown or smile, is a story. It portrays the impact our actions have on the people around us and ultimately, the power of kindness and forgiveness.

By Izzy Knowles (Year 11)



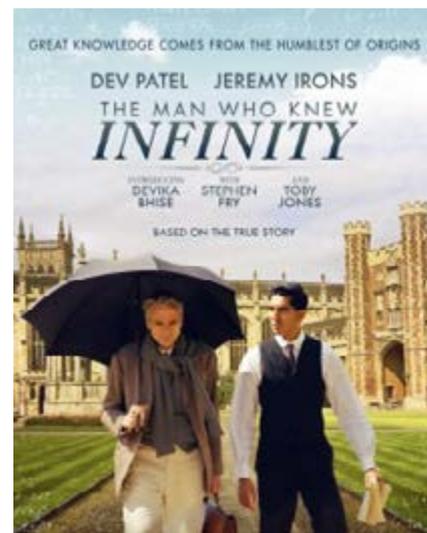
Music

★★★★★

The Wild Youth EP- Daughter

As you put in your headphones and sink in to the gentle atmosphere of this album a number of words come to mind - raw, emotional, soft and a little bit broken. With "youth" commonly known as one of the saddest songs created, it is surprising this entire album isn't regarded as one of the saddest. Elena Tonra's haunting, dreamy voice rules the musical soundscape, used as the main melody and for distant backing vocals. Deep, echoing drums and unrefined guitar, paired with dreamlike synth drones to fill the background, brings about a sense of loneliness and isolation. Lyrics ranging in tone from mindless hopefulness to bare misery make this a collection of songs to conjure up emotions you had long forgotten you had. You will most likely cry. Prepare yourself.

By Imogen Hatcher (Year 8)



Films

★★★★★

The Man Who Knew Infinity

As numbers play a major role in The Man Who Knew Infinity, without a doubt I would rate it 5/5. Following the true story, of a Madras-born man whose mathematical knowledge and understanding could only be properly seen through the eyes of professor G.H Hardy (Jeremy Irons) at Trinity College, Cambridge in England. Srinivasa Ramanujan (Dev Patel) contributed greatly to discoveries of a number of mathematical findings, including mathematical analysis, number theory, infinite series, and continued fractions. Whilst, that is how Ramanujan is remembered, he struggled through years of hardship to reach his successes. The Man Who Knew Infinity draws on Ramanujan's struggle between pursuing his dream and remaining loyal to his family and wife. The story evokes an unavoidable emotional response amongst viewers. It is, without a doubt, a great watch and I'd highly recommend The Man Who Knew Infinity to anybody. Film critic, Sandra Hill encompasses the film in her statement, "It's predictable but poignant."

By Ella Moran (Year 11)

K- 6 NEWS

Head of K-6: Justine Lind

For the whole semester we have been exploring the concept of Journeys as a metaphor for learning and living. It reinforces our notion of the growth mindset, effort and resilience to challenge; that even as adults we are never "finished" or truly expert, that we are wise to have a mindset of inquiring, reflecting and evolving.

Our stunning Drama Showcase last week, brought these sentiments and the wide variety of journeys to colourful life. Journeys in the world, the mind, the heart, our land, our beliefs were expressed through our own consciousness and creativity. Thank you to our appreciative audiences who supported this more rustic production of authentic student collaboration and to our students who gave so generously of their energy to entertain. In addition to our parent helpers, Kylie Hawkes in Kindergarten who created gorgeous butterfly wings for each child and to Michelle Rendell who stepped in to Stage Manage the event from behind the scenes, we appreciate your contribution and expertise.

During the term, our assemblies have focussed on the life journeys of our K-6 teachers as they shared their personal artefacts or talismans of their approach to the journey of life. Each symbol was linked to our own Oxley values to give them a relevance and context for the students. It was a wonderful window into the passions, purposes and pathways embraced by our own extraordinary staff.

I set us off, with my paper chain of eminent people and the advice from their lives that I carry with me in my hope to empower and acknowledge the children I teach and the futures they will create. "Wisdom & Knowledge" are my guiding sentiments that also provide the lens of compassion and tolerance for others.

Mrs Ismay shared her heart and the "Fortitude" and security (like a key in a lock) that love, family and a sense of home give her no matter where she goes or whom she meets.

Mr Loveday made a lego heart – "Love heart – Loveday" the children chanted as though his object could not be more obvious. He shared the role of "Kindness and Compassion" in guiding his daily interactions with others as well as when he journeys abroad and encounters those less fortunate than many of us.

Mrs Cupitt's boundless "Optimism" was epitomised in her Little Miss Sunshine mug and the story of journeying into the Outback with past Oxley students enabling her to embrace challenge, uncertainty and set back with a can-do attitude that inspired others!

Mr Hunt's message of "Kindness, Love, Spirituality & Gratitude" was shown through the humble cross that symbolises the ultimate sacrifice for others but more personally the sense of Sunday fun and fellowship that comes through his church, his family, his friends and his sense of service to others around the world. Miss Sheils was the owner of the much admired charm bracelet that carried all the "Love" she has known.

This love has inspired, supported and reassured her in her pursuit of personal quests and actual journeys of discovery and friendship.

Weekly Awards:

Students of the Week

K: Rory Shedden
Yr 1: Alexander Psarakis
Yr 2: Harry Kean
Yr 3: Madison Walters
Yr 4: Dylan Davis
Yr 5: Jacqueline Worthington
Yr 6: Victor Van Der Schalk

Respect Others

K: Theo Marshall
Yr 1: Estelle Beckett
Yr 2: Madeline Gordon
Yr 3: Christian Denington
Yr 4: William Barnett
Yr 5: Sienna Bellis
Yr 6: Sophie Biddlecombe



Students of the Week

K: Claire Diver
Yr 1: Fraser Findlay
Yr 2: Molly Davis
Yr 3: Penni-Rose Collins
Yr 4: Harry Cameron
Yr 5: Billy Cameron
Yr 6: James Wilson

Respect Oxley

K: Oliver Johnson
Yr 1: Claudia Carpenter
Yr 2: Charlotte Copus
Yr 3: Ava Ritchie
Yr 4: Evie Crowley
Yr 5: Lisa Privalova-Pratt
Yr 6: Bella Osborne



Ms Kearins shared with the children, an heirloom ink well and pens that allow "Reflection" to be recorded in her life. She shared images of the inspirations in her life; the preciousness of nature, wildlife and the example of Nelson Mandela and his journey of The Long Walk to Freedom.

Mrs Apostolatos spoke about notions of "Gratitude & Humility" that allow her to walk her journey of life considering others, as if walking in someone else's blue shoes. She encouraged the children to think about what might be going on in the mind of another, to consider a perspective beyond their own on their journey of life.

Recently, we have acquired our own, more permanent symbol of journeys. The metal tall ship that now sits proudly in our playground is a sculpture from the recent exhibition at Hillview. The piece entitled Full Steam Ahead is a multi-faceted work and one that we will enjoy interpreting next term as we continue our journeys together.

In the meantime, enjoy your family's journey in the upcoming holidays, Stay safe and warm and we will look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 18 July.

K- 6 GALLERY



Plastic – the Silent Killer

Throughout the world's oceans lurks a silent killer. It will outlive us, outswim us, and threatens to undo us. The predator is plastic and it's floating in an ocean near you.



Did you know: Around 11% of household waste is plastic? An adult uses 300 plastic bags every year? Plastic waste kills 1 million animals every year? A plastic cup can take 50-80 years to decompose?

What is a plastic: Clothes, money, phones, furniture, bulletproof vests, photographic film and artworks. Most of you wouldn't believe it, but the items we just listed are all made of some type of plastic! A plastic is defined as a synthetic material made from a wide range of organic polymers. A polymer is a compound made up of a large amount of simpler molecules of the same kind, called monomers.

Types of plastics: There are many types of different plastics that are grouped into two main classes: thermoplastics and thermosets. Thermoplastics are plastics that can soften upon heating allowing them to return to their original form. Thermosets on the other hand, when cooled and hardened, retain their shape and cannot return to their original form, resulting in them being hard and durable. The seven main types of plastics are PET (polyethylene terephthalate), HDPE (high density polyethylene), PVC (polyvinylchloride), LDPE (low density polyethylene), PP (polypropylene), PS (polystyrene) and miscellaneous/mixed synthetics. The most common everyday plastic item used by an average family are plastic bags. Lightweight plastic bags, most commonly found in supermarkets and takeaway stores, are made from HDPE. Heavier plastic bags found in boutique and department stores are made from LDPE.



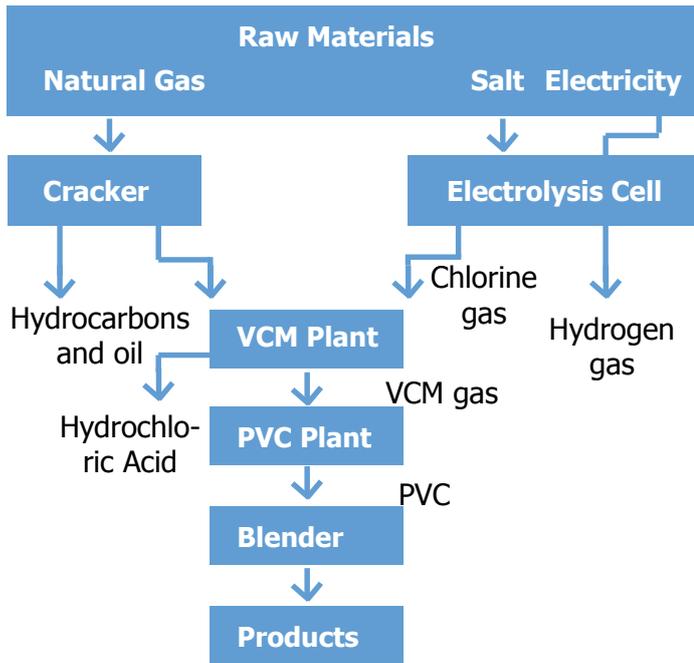
Problems with plastic: The source of all plastic problems is the fact that plastic doesn't biodegrade (it can't be broken down by natural processes). We currently recover only 5-10% of the plastics we produce. Instead, plastic is photodegradable. Plastic will fragment into smaller and smaller pieces, however it won't break into simpler compounds. In accordance with Jacob Silverman's report on Science oceanography, it could potentially take hundreds of years for the plastic compounds to break down. The remains of plastic produced by photo degradation are known as mermaid tears or nurdles. Plastic acts as a sponge and attracts other contaminants similar to a magnet. Plastic has 1000 times the concentration of the surrounding water, resulting in contamination and an increase in danger for the marine creatures consumption. This is a serious problem as we depend on our oceans for food and the healthy ecosystems within that maintain the balance of the green house gas CO₂.



Benefits of plastic: Plastics play a very important role in our lives. They contribute to our transportation, safety, security, health, shelter, communication and entertainment. Plastic has the ability to guard against contamination making it useful in sterile medical environments. Plastic kitchenware is a practical alternative to glass and ceramic dishes as it preserves freshness. Plastic is able to withstand a great amount of heat and is therefore useful for aerospace technology. Plastics are used in the construction industry for their durability and resistance to corrosion. Plastics are used in the design of means of transport such as cars as the lighter weight material increases fuel efficiency.



Process of fossilised plant matter to PVC:



| | Conventional Plastics | Biodegradable Plastics |
|------------------|---|---|
| Definition | A synthetic material made from a wide range of organic polymers | Plastics that can be decomposed by bacteria or other living organisms |
| Categories | Thermoplastics and thermosets | Bio-plastics and plastics that enhance bio-degradation |
| Made from | Fossil fuels, crude oil, natural gas, coal, cellulose, salt and other materials | Petrochemicals, corn starch and other materials |
| Leading producer | China | Asia |
| Recyclability | Only some thermoplastics can be recycled | They can be decomposed |
| CO2 emissions | 1kg of plastics generates about 3-6kg of CO2 | 30 - 80% less compared to conventional plastics |

Suggested Solutions: To use the bath tub analogy, in order to stop the tub from over-flowing, we can either try to make the tub drain faster, or we can just shut off the tap. Previous solutions have involved removing the current plastic debris, whereas, current solutions are focusing on eliminating the pollution in the first place.

Australian Comedian Frank Woodley has started a campaign against the problems with plastics known as the "Give Frank a Break" Project. Within this project, Frank has proposed five ways for us, as individuals, to reduce this problem as much as possible. Woodley suggests convincing your Premier to introduce a 'Cash for Containers Scheme'. Supported by 84% of Australians, a 10 cent refundable deposit on plastic drink containers is believed to be the most effective way to clean up our beaches, rivers and streets.

The other four proposals include: Be a conscious consumer, say no to bottled water and plastic bags, pick up litter and spread the word as much as possible by means such as social media. The Australian Government is in on the action as well, with grants and funding to programmes such as a cleaner environment, the green army and Emissions Reduction Fund. The Cash for Containers Scheme could be a quick approaching solution for the problems with plastic. Only 16% of the Australian population are yet to participate in the scheme which could take anywhere between weeks or years depending on the spark of interest.

What you can do to help: The problems with plastics are global, so what difference can a single person make, right? Wrong! Think about this - if the average adult used 10 less plastic bags (down to 290 from 300) every year, that translates to saving 70 trillion bags worldwide every year. You're not only saving

plastic, you're saving animals and saving the world one plastic bag at a time. There are so many other options besides cutting down on plastic bag usage. Make an effort to purchase products with minimal plastic packaging, use material bags when grocery shopping, reuse plastic containers within your home and recycle anything and everything that you can, you will be surprised what it can be recycled into. Meat packaging can be recycled into office accessories. Peanut butter jars can be recycled into stuffing for pillows. Bottle tops can be recycled into ice scrapers. Bottles can be recycled into insulation. The possibilities are endless!

*This article was written as part of our Year 10 Science assessment to inform a large audience of the issues surrounding plastics. We are being assessed on how well we engaged and informed our audience therefore we would greatly appreciate your feedback.

If you have the time, please take our quick three question survey:

<https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/J1CmBgFE#/>

By Olivia Donovan and Olivia Davies (Year 10)



LEARNING AND PASTORAL REPORTS

Learning: Our Distinctive Curriculum

Global Perspectives

We hope that exposing students to the big issues of the IGCSE Global Perspectives course will help them approach learning with enthusiasm, open minded curiosity and wonder and prepare them for the future in the exciting, dangerous and uncharted twenty first century.

Teddy Houlston lived for a mere one hundred minutes. His religious parents chose to donate his organs. His kidneys were used to save the life of another young child in Britain. This act of generosity prompted a huge surge in the number of people willing to consider or sign up to become organ donors. One baby's very short life was able to draw huge attention to the critical shortage of organ donations. Solving the crisis worldwide is a very complex problem. Many actions are required at a global, national and personal level and these actions will challenge various laws, beliefs, religions and ethics. It is possible for one organ donor to be able to help 10 people. The main issue with the shortage of organ donations is that very few people sign up to government programmes and consent for their organs to be used after their death. Unfortunately with limited numbers of people willing to be organ donors, other issues arise including illegal trafficking of human organs and the associated growth of transplant tourism in some countries. (Opening paragraph, Individual Research Project, Charlotte England, Year 9)

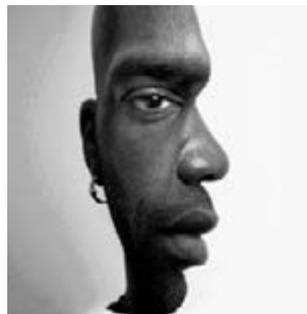
Global Perspectives is an exciting new course at Oxley that offers Year 9 and Year 10 students the opportunity to extend and deepen their understanding of the world through research, critical analysis and collaboration. It has been a pleasure to watch students grapple with the big issues and challenges that this course presents. In Term 1, students completed a unit of work on Organ Transplants and Donations to develop the necessary skills to successfully undertake an Individual Research Project. Students tackled the contradictions of Iranians being paid to donate their organs and the illegal organ harvesting that has taken place in China. This term students worked in groups on the topic of Social Networks so that they could understand the requirements of completing the Group Project. In Semester 2, students will commence work on the Group Project, one of the three elements of external assessment for the Global Perspectives IGCSE. A requirement of the group project is to have an element of cross cultural collaboration and it is exciting to think that when students travel to Nepal or Fiji in September they will have the opportunity to incorporate their experiences into their group project in a meaningful way.

Some parts of our society may feel uncomfortable with change, however, I think that most people do want to help others and would be open to improving the organ donation figures. Young Teddy Houlston showed this –

the people of Britain were overwhelming in their support and commitment to organ donation once they were made aware of his short but generous life. Most people aren't motivated by money or greed, we just need to be aware and prompted to help.

(Closing paragraph, Individual Research Project, Charlotte England, Year 9)

Ruth Shedden, Curriculum Leader, Humanities



Pastoral

Rites Of Passage

Praise for our Year 9 Students

Last week, a member of the general public called us to pass on his feedback from an interaction with Oxley College Year 9 students on Rites of Passage.

He reported that he was on a train when the students got on board at Wynyard and exited at Redfern. He commented on how well behaved, polite and considerate the students were. One of them would always get up when an adult entered the carriage to enable them to have a seat.

He said it is rare today to see students that are that well behaved.

I thanked him for taking the time to call us and assured him that I would be passing on the feedback to the Headmaster, Executive and Teacher in Charge.

I had the pleasure of being part of Rites of Passage last week on a wet and wild Sunday afternoon. Mrs Ritchie and myself took our groups for a walk around Circular Quay and a ride on the ferries. They were an outstanding group of individuals, polite, considerate and soaking up the Sydney life.

There will be a special Rites of Passage edition of Pin Oak early next term.

Rites of Passage Blog: <http://www.rite-of-passage.info/>
PW: adventure

By Peter Ayling

YEAR 12 MATHS

The words "maths" and "excursion" rarely appear together, but an outing for the Year 12 Extension Mathematicians to the University of Sydney last week was our first and most likely last foray. Despite the common catch cry "you'll never use it after school" I can confirm this is actually untrue! Who would actually believe that Trigonometry and other mathematical formulas are actually useful in the big wide world? The day not only revealed some timely tips and tricks for acing the HSC and opened our eyes to the many real world applications of maths, but also gave many of our cohort the opportunity to look around the grounds of Sydney Uni. Thank you Mrs McGregor.

By Cate Patterson (Year 12)

SHORT AND SHARP

Imagine the greatest show you have ever seen. Imagine Leonardo DiCaprio's performance in 'The Revenant'. Imagine the most you've laughed, cried and been amazed. Now imagine all of those things and times them by ten. You are now imagining the Sharp Short finals. Three Oxley students travelled to Paramatta to compete in the final of the 'Sharp Short' drama competition on Friday 10 June. It was a really terrific day, and it was great to see the amazing talent of the other groups. Special thanks to Mrs Bull, who has been really supportive and we really appreciate the time and effort you have put in.

By Ben Hutchings (Year 10)



OLD SKOOL BOOK CLUB

A chance to read a book beyond your normal comfort zone, and to discuss it in a grown up way with students from other years. An opportunity to challenge your thinking, defend your opinion, and have fun eating scrumptious cakes, drinking a bottomless cup of tea, and sharing a laugh. Welcome to the Old Skool Book Club. For our first meeting we read "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Brontë. I loved this book because it shows how women were treated, and covers issues like poverty, madness, and marriage. We had a particularly heated discussion about whether Jane should have married Mr Rochester. Thank you Ms Rintoul for creating this amazing club. I am looking forward to reading "Sense and Sensibility" by Jane Austen for our Term 3 meeting.

By Molly O'Meagher (Year 7)

DEBATING

A report from a Year 7 Oxley Debating team:

During the year you have four debates, three out of four are held at other schools. You normally prep for about three weeks, then you get on the bus. On my team I have Millie Rea and Lachlan Jowett. Millie is normally our first speaker, I am second speaker and Lachlan is our third. My best example of my team shining was at our third debate. The topic was "that drinking alcohol should be banned from all media and advertising". We got to Broughton Anglican College and made our way to the "Swiss cheese" building where the debate was going to be held. After thirty minutes of rebuttal, points and arguing, the debate was judged. My team won!!!! Then we got on the bus home. I would like to thank Ms Rintoul for making debating possible.

By Julia Parker (Year 7)



THEATRE

Identity, cultural upbringing, long term ideas and beliefs, stereotypes and the divergence of culture within one society are all questioned and discussed in Ayad Akhtar's *Disgraced* performed by the Sydney Theatre Company in Wollongong.

This performance was more an incredibly relevant discussion about islamophobia and western culture, than it was a traditional piece of theatre. There was very little action, and only one location was used throughout the entire 90 minute piece - the interior of successful lawyer Amir's house. However, the lack of movement and physicality did not in any way diminish the piece, in fact it elevated it - making the infrequent gestures and actions extremely powerful. The power of a backhand slap or spit on the face reverberated throughout the entire audience, sending a chill down most spines.

The performance was masterfully written. The discussion was not only intelligent and provoking - but the plot itself was enticing. Amir, opposed to his upbringing religion and internally conflicted about his attitudes towards Islam. His wife is an aspiring artist, deeply influenced by Islamic traditional artwork. When colleagues are invited over to a dinner party, it quickly turns from a polite conversation to a controversial dialogue that reveals an unexpected dichotomy in the group that will sever each relationship, one by one. The climax was the most intense and engaging I have seen. The cast of five performed *Disgraced* incredibly well, and left the audience with their jaw dropped, pondering the relationship between cultures in our real world.

4.5 / 5 By Tom Hill (Year 11)

JOANNA NICHOLAS CLASS OF 88



Now that you're off in the big wide world, what have you made of yourself since finishing school at Oxley?

After leaving Oxley College in 1988, I undertook a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) at the University of Sydney and then embarked upon postgraduate studies in the field of Museum Studies. I was enormously privileged to live on campus for much of that time and threw myself into all the extra-curricular activities on offer - music, theatre and sport. I LOVED university and am still in touch with many friends and lecturers from that time, both socially and professionally.

Upon leaving University, I was fortunate to have undertaken an internship with the National Trust of Australia (NSW), working with curator the late Jim Logan. He was an inspirational first manager and mentor. I went on to work as a curator for the National Trust, with its wonderful array of properties around New South Wales, for some years. I also lectured within the Museum Studies Unit, with the legendary Shar Jones, at the University of Sydney.

I have been a Curator with Sydney Living Museums (the Historic Houses Trust of NSW) for sixteen years and have had the privilege of working with many of its sites: the Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Meroogal, Government House, and am at present Curator for Vacluse, Elizabeth Bay and Rose Seidler Houses. My role is diverse: I am responsible for the conservation and interpretation of these wonderful sites and their collections. I am often asked what my favourite museum object is and I don't have one! How can one choose between a chair designed by Charles and Ray Eames and brought out to Sydney by Harry Seidler for his parents in 1948, or the 19th century silver chatelaine owned by Sarah Wentworth? One can't - both objects are significant and help tell different stories.

What is your biggest achievement since high school?

I cannot identify one particular thing, and, to be honest, I don't feel overly comfortable with the question. Whilst there may not be a Golden Globe or World Cup trophy on my mantelpiece, I would hope that the exhibitions, displays, programmes and other public activations at our sites reflect the research and hard work that go in to producing them. What I would say, however, is that these projects - whether they be the annual Fifties Fair at Rose Seidler House, a scholarly article for a journal, or the current Drawing Room refurbishment at Vacluse House - are

predominantly a collaboration. What I love about my professional role is that I work with designers, editors, horticulturalists, architects, volunteers, upholsterers, conservators, horologists - it is a team effort!

Personally, I hope I am a sensitive and reasonable partner, mother, daughter, sister, friend - that is the aim but you would have to ask them whether I am successful in achieving that.

Were these things that during high school you expected you would end up doing?

I certainly hoped I would be involved in the cultural sector in some way. My parents were committed to exposing us (my sister and brother also attended Oxley) to as much of the visual and performing arts as they could - exhibitions, pantomimes, ballet and our family favourite: the annual Renaissance Players Christmas concert in the MacLaurin Hall at Sydney Uni!

Is there anybody from the Oxley community who inspired you throughout high school?

This question is easy to answer- the most inspirational was the very special Ann Lidstone, one of my art teachers. Ann was a wonderful communicator and a very nurturing and creative person. I often think about the way she talked about colour, texture and 'learning to see'. Perhaps the most influential was our Headmaster David Wright. He was an inspirational educator and very exacting. I know my profound inability to understand his chemistry tutorials must have been frustrating to him - but he was enormously patient and not only wouldn't give up, wouldn't let me give up! Not a week goes by when I don't think of something he often recited, and I confess I had to telephone him in Tasmania yesterday to make sure I correctly attributed this: 'you are educated when you know that you know nothing' (Socrates). I have taken that with me - twenty eight years out of school and I still learn something every day.

What would you say you miss most about being at school?

The friendships, certainly, and the physical environment. I live in Sydney's inner west and I miss the four seasons enjoyed in the Southern Highlands.

What would you say to your fifteen year old self?

Keep looking. Keep learning. Care for yourself, your environment and those around you - oh, and have FUN!



THINK PINK AT THE OXLEY COLLEGE TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY 5 AUGUST 2016
Hoskins Hall
7.00pm-10.30pm

GRAB YOUR FRIENDS AND COME ALONG FOR A CHANCE
TO WIN BIG AND BE CROWNED OXLEY TRIVIA CHAMPIONS
OF 2016

COST: \$15.00 a person (10 people per table)
Individuals or tables book and pay at the front office
Judy.loydstrom@oxley.nsw.edu.au

Bring your own supper
Decorate your table from 7.00pm
TRIVIA STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7.30pm

THIS IS A LICENCED FUNDRAISING EVENT
PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN ALCOHOL
BEER, WINE & WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON FOR TABLE DECORATION,
COSTUMES, CREATIVITY AND HIDDEN TALENTS

DON'T FORGET YOUR LOOSE CHANGE



SEWING AND MAKING WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN WITH LUCY TURNER

<https://www.facebook.com/lucyholidayworkshops>
Eight places available for children from 8 to 12 years
old.

Dates: June 27- 29 (three days: Monday- Wednesday,
inclusive)

Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm (classes run 9:30am –
4:30pm. Half hour of play either end)

Fees: \$410 per child, inclusive of materials and
morning and afternoon tea.

Contact: Lucy 0429 413 942 or

lucyturner@ozemail.com.au

Pin Oak Fair - Saturday 12 November SAVE THE DATE



Your response to the call for help for the Pin Oak Fair has been wonderful – thank you to all who have responded.

Early in Term 3, (yes, next term) we will announce drop off days for Nearly New Books, Once Worn Clothing and Good Quality Secondhand Homewares! So get in early and start sorting over the holidays. Your donations will be gratefully received. Keep your eye on the Pin Oak Newsletter for dates to drop off all your undamaged, clean goodies!

Donations for the produce and plant stands will be accepted much closer to the day of the Fair. Further information: janecrowley@crowleyandgrouch.com or <http://www.pinoakfair.com.au/>





DISCO
&
SCIENCE

JULY CALENDAR

| | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------------------|---|
|  | Mon 11 | Mon Term 3 Week 1 A 18 | Mon T3 Week 2B HSC Trials commence (Wk 1 of 2) 25 |
| | Tue 12 | Tue 19 | Tue 26 |
| | Wed 13 | Wed 20 | Wed 27 |
| Thu EXC: Inter-Schools Snowsports Thredbo NSW 07 | Thu 14 | Thu 21 | Thu 28 |
| Fri EXC: Inter-Schools Snowsports Thredbo NSW 08 | Fri 15 | Fri 22 | Fri 29 |
| Sat EXC: Inter-Schools Snowsports Thredbo NSW 09 | Sat 16 | Sat ISA Round 7 23 | Sat ISA round 8 Year 11 Parent Function 30 |
| Sun 10 | Sun 17 | Sun 24 | Sun 31 |

Upcoming events

+ P & F Trivia Night - Friday 5 August 2016, 7:00pm, Hoskins Hall

Sport

SUPER STARS ON THE RISE

I recently had a talk with Amelia Carlisle and Georgie Wade, two girls in Year 11 about their sports accomplishments, both for Oxley and their respective representative teams outside of school. Both are super stars on the rise and I can't wait to look forward to their endeavors in the future.

Amelia has been playing sport since a young age "I played netball, hockey, touch football, oz- tag, tennis, and soccer at school at lunch." She seems to love sport but basketball has always been her passion. She has been playing basketball at Oxley since Year 7 and played in the firsts Girls Basketball last year.

Amelia started playing for Moss Vale Magic Rep team at the age of 13 when she was scouted after playing in a local competition. In her first season playing for Moss Vale, despite being only 14, she was playing at Under 16 level. During the third year in which Amelia played their persistence and patience paid off and the team came second in the southern junior league comp, second in the NSW country comp and second in the state shield comp.

This year they predominately carried on that success with the team coming 4th in southern junior league, 3rd in country. They are still yet to find out whether they made it into the State shield or not.

Unfortunately, This is Amelia's last season playing for Moss Vale Magic however we look forward to seeing her playing for Oxley this coming summer sport season.

Georgie Wade, Year 11, is a budding Hockeyroo. She has been playing many different sports over the years including netball, soccer, tennis, water polo and softball however she has been drawn in by her favorite sport, hockey, which she has been playing since Year 7.

Georgie managed to progress into the firsts in Year 10 and now has tabs in the sport, which she wants to improve to half colors and colors in her future years. Georgie has also made the ISA hockey team this season. Apart from the Oxley Firsts and ISA combined schools team, Georgie plays for Burrawang first grade hockey team and also Illawarra Academy of Sport.

Georgie recently got scouted for the NSR programme. The NSR programme is a programme, which was created in 2006 by Marco Maisano, an ex-professional soccer player with a vision to provide athletes with the opportunity to reach their ultimate potential on and off the field. NSR scouts evaluate and promote athletes from a range of sports to more than 2500 colleges/universities throughout America. From there athletes are offered academic and athletic financial assistance and international grants.

This IS a big opportunity for Georgie as she has the chance to travel to America, study and play the sport she loves.

Georgie is a budding Hockeyroo, and we hope to see her accomplishments for the Oxley Firsts in the years to come, and I am sure we will be seeing her in the news as the next Hockeyroo captain.

By Charlie Beedle (Year 11)



PARKRUN

Checklist to see if Park Run is for you:

- Do you want to kick start your day with a boost?
- Want to feel happier all weekend and feel like you have accomplished something?
- Do you spend too much time in your room watching Netflix and need to get out more?
- Do you want to get in shape?
- Do you not do Saturday morning sport?
- Do you think you would enjoy a social run or walk?

If you answered yes to more than three of these questions, then Park Run is definitely for you. You can even bring along your dog.

See you there, 8:00am Saturday Mornings at the back of Briars Country Lodge and Inn, Moss Vale.

By Emma Croker (Year 11)



PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Kiara Rochaix

Kiara Rochaix, Year 10, has spent the last two days playing in the NSW All Schools Girls Football Championships as a member of the CIS team.

CIS won the tournament for the first time and Kiara has been selected as a member of the NSW All Schools team and will now play in Perth at the School Sports Australia tournament in August.

Oliver Deakin

Oliver Deakin, Year 4, recently played for the Moss Vale Magic Under 12 representative Basketball team against Wagga Wagga in the grand final. The Magics won by two points giving them the title of Southern Junior League Champions.