

PINOAK

ISSUE 49: TERM 1, MARCH 24, 2017
OXLEY COLLEGE



K-6 EXPLORE THE
MOUNTAINS

DUKE OF
EDINBURGH
AWARD

THE BOOK OF
EVERYTHING

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My Rip Rap*

Based on the Year 10 Geography Field work Excursion to the Illawarra Coast.

Sitting on the bus for an hour and a half, everyone talking, the rain pouring, dropping off Mr Spies' students, lots of people walking to watch the rollers breaking, do some drawing, the sea gulls squawking, plants growing (on the dunes), some of them dying...

Warilla beach was windy, the rocks had been falling, we saw the cliff erosion, and heard the noises of nature, waves smashing like a hammer, and we had the best ocean view, but buildings on the cliffs will eventually falter and you will see them no more, and parks on the water, waves are going to eventually destroy them too, and that's the end of my rap review.

*A 'Rip Rap' wall is a type of sea defence

By Thomas Walters-Whyte

Creative Writing : Last Words (continued)

Just one more minute. Just one more minute. I was bouncing in my seat causing the teacher to give me a disapproving stare. But I didn't care. My mind was going in circles. Why was my father there? Why was he smiling? Did he kill the man? God I just wanted to go home. I just want to go home to mum. I'll tell her what I saw and maybe she'll have an explanation. I hope she does. The home bell rings and I jump out of my seat and run for the door, grabbing my bag on the way out. The teacher called out to me, but I didn't care. I just have to get home! I call mum when I run out of the school's big front doors, slamming them behind me. She doesn't pick up. I call again.

"Come on, come on, pick up!" I stop running when I reach the road and look around. The phone goes to voice mail.

"Oh God mum! Please pick up! Please! I, I need to tell you something! Please pick me up!" I feel my eyes watering and I clench my phone, as if I could reach down and grab her. The phone ringing brings me out of my panic.

"Oh thank God mum! I, I was getting worried!" I relax, my shoulders drooping.

"What's wrong sweetie?" The voice shakes me to my core. My whole body tenses as I feel my stomach fill with dread. This isn't my mum.

By Bridget Drewett (Year 10)

HEADMASTER'S REPORT



Last week we staged this year's Senior Drama Production 'The Book Of Everything'. It was outstanding.

The play is based on a novel by the Dutch writer Guus Kuijer and has been adapted for the stage in Australia by Richard Tulloch. It is about Thomas, a nine year old boy living in Amsterdam in the early 1950s. He has a rich internal life, seeing multi-coloured guppies in the canals and Jesus Christ just about everywhere else – indeed a very hip version of Jesus is quite a major character in the play. Thomas lives in a repressive, fundamentalist household where the Bible is the only book that is allowed to be read and the father perpetrates domestic violence on both his wife and his children. We also see hints of what it is like to live in a country that was occupied by the Nazis only a few years beforehand. Thomas writes all of this down in his 'Book of Everything'.

With complex subject matter like this it would have been easy for the play to have become weighty or leaden. But under the deft handling of the director Mr Phil Cunich, it was the opposite. The scenes of great tension and drama were leavened by real slices of humour and whimsy. This was aided too by the assistant directing of Ryan Muir and Madeleine Kalde - both of whom were also veterans of the school's House plays.

Mitchell Latham was a standout as the lead character Thomas. He captured the naïve innocence of childhood brilliantly. He was able to channel the awkwardness, the insight and the rich fantasy life of his character really well. It was his body language, as much as his speaking that set his role apart. His squirming unease yet jubilation as the female object of his childish affections paid attention to him were fantastic to watch.

However, this wasn't just Mitchell's show. There was a strong ensemble cast working really well together. Cedric Healy portrayed a brooding violent

fundamentalist father, Freya Kenay a subservient wife with flashes of inspirational strong will and Ella Moran a feisty, individual sister. They all played their roles with complete conviction and style. Beyond the family there were some other really strong actors and actresses too. Isabella Knowles was the charming love interest (with a false leg), Sophie Capel, the enigmatic neighbour, Rosie Bowyer the determined aunt, James Rapp as a fierce dog and Andrew Dowe as Jesus Christ, in a portrayal which I hope does not go to his head. There was also a strong ensemble chorus that included Brydie Clark, Olivia Davies and Caitlyn Jowett.

A number of the students worked hard backstage as well, and several other students took over the light and sound. Sophie Doughty, Eliza Drysdale, Tom Hill and Tom Tregenza all contributed to making the production as slick and technically proficient as it was.

I must admit I would have liked to see more people, particularly students, in the audience. Although we were close to capacity each night, there were fewer seats out than I would have preferred. These events are not just for family and friends of the cast, but performances for everyone in the school community. I spoke with students on the assembly about this and I do hope that there is a strong movement from a critical mass of our students at the next play. We can do it for the House plays, so I hope we can do it for the whole school productions as well.



BIG ISSUE:

Are we killing our food supply?

The Downfall of Bees

We know them as the stinging insects that buzz around our garden going from flower to flower. Although bees do get a bad rap sometimes, humanity would barely survive without them. You are probably thinking "No way!" or "That's not possible!", as scary as that may be... it's true. You see those little annoying insects are pivotal to ecosystems and agriculture worldwide.

Bees are intrinsic to the supply of around a third of our food crops. These include tomatoes, almonds, apples, carrots, lemons etc. but their good work doesn't just stop there! They also pollinate innumerable species of wildflower and other plants that in turn feed animals like parrots and possums. I asked Greg McLaughlin, President of the Southern Highlands Beekeepers Association why bees are so important. He said "Pollination. I think that they are important for our food supply. And also, they are a good indication for the health of our planet." But while they go about their business doing amazing things for us, we are killing them. We are killing them with climate change, pesticides and other chemicals, a reduction in bee friendly flowers and the introduction of pests and diseases.

Climate Change is a big issue. Even in places that are untouched by man and do not have any of the other threats that are facing bees there is still climate change. Climate change affects bees by altering weather and in doing so not only changes when bees can forage but it also affects when plants can flower. This in turn affects how much pollen and nectar the bees bring back to the hive impacting winter survival rates.

Pesticides, weedkillers and the like are without a doubt one of the main killers of bees right now as their use is common and widespread. Although there are many chemicals that go into pesticides and weedkillers, there is one that is particularly troubling for bees. They are the neonicotinoids. These chemicals affect bees because they are neurotoxins. So, in large doses these chemicals can kill bees, but more commonly bees take in low doses. When bees are exposed to relatively low doses they can become disoriented and cannot get back to the hive. This is why neonicotinoids are killing bees. Some examples of pesticides that contain neonicotinoids are plant care products and even flea and tick protection medicines for dogs! For a large list of products containing neonicotinoids go to this link: http://www.beyondpesticides.org/assets/media/documents/pollinators/documents/pesticide_list_final.pdf

While not having too many flowers in your garden might not seem like a bad thing to people that don't like gardening it is. Bees need flowers to live. And if we are only planting vast amounts of hedges and lawns, where are the bees going to get their food? With no food, how are the bees going to eat, raise young, build honeycomb and survive over winter. The implications are severe and obvious.

Imagine this, you are a bee going about your life when suddenly ants or wasps break into your home and start stealing your life's work! Or a giant blood sucking parasite as big as your tummy latches onto you, lowers your immune system and infects you with diseases! Although these things may seem like something out of a horror movie this is what is happening to bees every day. Faced with the continuous onslaught of innumerable pests and diseases, many die. But there is one pest that is scarier than the rest, it is... Varroa Destructor! It is a mite that looks kind of like a reddish crab but to bees it is a disease spreading, blood sucking killer. It lays its eggs in larva bee's cells (parts of honeycomb). Which then hatch and attack bees by crawling onto them and sucking their blood. This then lowers the bee's immune system and introduces diseases. The varroa mite is scary and what is scarier is the fact that Australia is the only country currently free of Varroa Destructor! But many think it is only a matter of time before it gets here. Because it only takes one mite on one bee on one ship to decimate Australia's bee populations.

What can you do to help? Well, you could choose to plant bee friendly flowers in your garden. Some plants that you could include in your garden are lavender and eucalypts. These are only two examples of a wide range of plants. This helps bees get access to the food they need and by planting a variety of plants you can help them have food all year round. Stop using chemicals on your garden. While they may seem like an easy thing to do they have long-term implications on the environment and bees. Buy local honey. It supports local beekeepers who support local bees! Finally, you could become a beekeeper. That may seem daunting to a lot of you, but I am a beekeeper myself. With some research and the support of the local bee keeper association it is a great hobby. Remember those little bees you see in the garden are out there helping us, so we should help them.

By Liam O'Connell (Year 7)

TAKE INSPIRATION



MUSIC

The Shins - Top 3:

To celebrate the 5th anniversary of their classic 2012 record, Port Of Morrow and the release of their new album, Heartworms, I rated The Shins' top three records.

3. Oh, Inverted World:

While flawed and at times, indecisive, Oh, Inverted World manages to maintain an astounding amount of cohesion and maturity. Taking cues from The Beach Boys and The Beatles, the record makes typical, sunny pop/rock sombre with darker lyrical themes.

2. Wincing The Night Away:

The band pulled off a sound that is polished but still filled with character and created an amalgamation of some of the greatest aspects of their sound on Wincing The Night Away.

1. Chutes Too Narrow:

Chutes Too Narrow is their most confident effort, each song feeling even more ambitious than the last. It highlights a definite peak in The Shins' career and serves as a reminder as to why they are such a loved band.

By Izzy Moore (Year 10)



FILM

★★★★

'Hidden Figures' is about the incredible, untold story of Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson – the greatest minds behind the first major Space-Race of 1962; the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit. These three African-American women were highly underestimated by all their white colleagues, yet they were the ones to achieve the best results. This came to the attention of director Al Harrison, who eventually involved Katherine – his most valued computer – in all top-secret meetings among the space council. It was her genius with mathematics (along with that of Dorothy and Mary) that saw Glenn depart and return safely.

This was recognised as a revolutionary human achievement around the world and the three legendary women finally got the positions they deserved in the ranks of NASA. The movie catalogues ingrained societal blind prejudice in scenes like having a Colored Only coffee pot and Colored ladies' toilets.

This amazing feat of human intellect and persistence restored the nation's confidence, turned the tables of the Space-Race with the USSR and inspired generations to dream big and fight for what they believe in. It is hard to imagine society in the 1960s being so openly bigoted towards all black skinned people and dismissive of talent that can help solve immense problems.

By Hugh Corbett (Year 7)



TEENAGE FAN CLUB

★★★★

Teenage Fanclub @ Twilight At Taronga:

On Friday 10 March, iconic Scottish alt-rock band, Teenage Fanclub lit up Taronga Zoo, delivering a night of nostalgia and shimmering tunes to an audience of all ages. Ploughing through all of their hits as well as some of their latest wonders from their most recent record, the band created a dreamy atmosphere. Even after almost thirty years as a band, Teenage Fanclub are as bright and genuinely thrilled to be on stage as a group playing their first ever gig. The crowd, sloped on a hill all sang along with enthusiasm and looked upon the band in awe and as the night drew to a close, they couldn't conclude the set without a four-song encore and a standing ovation from the audience.

By Izzy Moore (Year 10)

Head of K-6: Justine Lind

For a little while now we have been inviting the students of Oxley, to think, to dare and to dream. At the beginning of the year we encouraged each child to compose ambitious goals that would move them out of their comfort zone and into new lands of discovery. These discoveries may be of the world around them but more importantly, if done well, will be discoveries of the self; of their capacity for curiosity, creativity and ultimately success.

In Kindergarten, where the serious business of learning is just beginning, big dreams are afoot. Miss Kearins and Ms Lees asked their students, what do you think you will learn about now that you are in Kindergarten? What would you like to learn? There were many daring ideas that were worthy but also just the slightest bit predictable. They wanted to learn to read, to count to infinity and to write big stories. Then there was a quiet yet grand dream proposed by Ava Kroll. "I want to know how rainbows are made so that I can make one." Such admissions are the pot of gold in any teacher's rainbow; the revelation of the wonder of the world perceived through a child's eyes. This week, with the help of Mrs Tregenza in the Science Department, we went about answering this audacious quest. Documented by a visiting film crew, our grand journey of discovery took the students on a shared quest from their classrooms to the Senior School Science Labs and to the end of one such rainbow. We look forward to sharing this with members of our wider community soon. To celebrate the safe passage of Kindergarten children to this stage in Term 1, we invite all friends and family of the students in Kindergarten to a special presentation at our normal assembly next Friday 31 March at 9.00am in the PCC.

Seek the wisdom of ages but look at the world through the eyes of a child. Ron Wild

In our other Year Levels ambitious endeavours are inspiring our older students. Last week I met with all our new students for an informal check-in over morning tea. Mr Loveday, Mr Hunt and I were interested to know three main things;

1. How are you settling in? Have you made some friends?
2. Have you noticed anything different about the learning at Oxley? and
3. Do you have any worries or concerns; things you need help with?

From the feedback we received things are going along swimmingly. Firstly the students were overwhelming in their praise of the rest of the school for making Oxley such a Place of Welcome. The students commented that "Everyone is so friendly here", "There are no groups, everyone plays together and includes everyone", "Students from all year groups say hello to me" and "By the end of my first day I had made two friends." It takes a sense of community co-operation to achieve what we set out to in this regard. Everyone has played a part in extending the hand of friendship to our new students.

Weekly Awards:

Students of the Week Learning Journey

KK: Hamish Ashton
KL: Sapphire Sparke
Yr 1: Coco Sewell
Yr 2: Emma Barnett
Yr 3: Imogen Gair
Yr 4: Ava Ritchie
Yr 5C: Gemma Lee
Yr 5H: Hunter Ritchie
Yr 6: George Dummer

Oxley Values

KK: Asher Lawler
KL: Elijah Winn
Yr 1: Ollie Johnson
Yr 2: Claudia Carpenter
Yr 3: Jaxon Nonnenmacher
Yr 4: Madison Walters
Yr 5C: Carter Evans
Yr 5H: Elizabeth Hamilton
Yr 6: Lexie Kennedy



Learning Journey

KK: Oscar Johnson
KL: Jemima Anson
Yr 1: Rory Shedden
Yr 2: Fraser Findlay
Yr 3: Georgie Marks
Yr 4: Abi Hunt
Yr 5C: Gloria Waters
Yr 5H: Emily Rodger
Yr 6: Bridget Schereck

Oxley Values

KK: Lachlan Stanners
KL: Samsara Pout
Yr 1: Ella Wallace
Yr 2: Cartier Dobler
Yr 3: Molly Davis
Yr 4: Chilli Sparke
Yr 5C: Georgia Pride
Yr 5H: William Barnett
Yr 6: Will Bladen

In terms of the learning, I was most inspired to hear from our new students in Year 5 who have the greatest frame of reference. They were erudite in their descriptions. The first response was simple, "At my old school the bar was set so low. Here it's been raised a bit and I'm enjoying the challenge." (Cameron) "Learning seems a lot more specific here but here we actually learn something. At my old school it was like separate subjects and you didn't get to dip into something. Here we're studying Beauty. It's about different cultures and I'm learning things I didn't know." (Carter) "I've been having a lot more fun with it. There are so many different options. You can learn the way you want to, challenge yourself and learn from it. It's just a lot more fun." (Ilana) "The learning is so much more active. At my old school there was just a big work sheet put in front of us. We didn't really interact and here we go outside and explore." (Sophia)

We're thrilled that our new students are settling in so well and enjoying the flavour of friendship and learning at Oxley. We're also really proud of the way that everyone in K-6 is working together to make our place of welcome, wonder and wisdom sparkle so brightly.





There are two ways to view equality for women's sport: you could look at how far we have progressed or, how far we still have to go.

It is hard to believe that less than sixty years ago, women's football almost disappeared in Australia. After finding its feet during the roaring twenties, the state ruling bodies in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales began forcing female players off the field. Now, the W-League has just finished its ninth season, representing the pinnacle of the women's game in Australia. The pathway for women's football to take young female players from grassroots to national premier leagues and the W-league has been further developed in recent years. This gives young girls the chance to grow and develop in their game, and gives them the chance to become a professional athlete with better facilities, competitions and coaching staff. However there are still problems. Women's football is still at a level where the value of a single contract for a junior male squad member in the A league can equal the set up and running costs, including salaries, for an entire elite female squad.

It may have taken more than a century, but football is now officially Australia's number one club-based sport, as of 2016. Whilst this may not be surprising in many other countries, in Australia our sports news is dominated by rugby league, AFL, rugby union and cricket.

Both of our international football teams, the Matildas and the Socceroos, are beginning to rise in the FIFA World Rankings. Despite the men taking out the AFC Asian Cup in 2015, the women are still dominating on the world rankings. The Socceroos sit at 55th, whilst our Matildas are currently sitting in 6th. Our women

are the equivalent of the men's French team, who are renowned as being one of the game's most successful nations. There was an uproar in 2015, addressing the the pay gap between the Socceroos and the Matildas. The pay gap, for the first time gained media attention and made people aware of the severe equality problem. During the 2015 Women's World Cup, the Matildas became Australia's first senior team to win a World Cup knockout game with a 1-0 win over Brazil. However, the celebrations were dampened by the pay disparity. The Matildas would have been paid less in match fees if they reached the World Cup final, than the Socceroos received for simply turning up for a single group stage game.

This problem is not just for Australian teams, look at the USA. The women's team are currently ranked number one in the world, compared to the men, ranking at number 30. In 2015 the US women won their third world cup, whilst the men's team have not progressed past the quarter finals in the modern football era. Many would argue that men are simply paid more because they make a greater profit, and they are simply better athletes. In 2016 the US women made 5.2 million USD in profit, whilst the men, they lost 1 million USD. If people continue to put forward the argument that men are better athletes than women, how can young girls feel confident to participate in a sport growing up, when they are constantly bombarded with comments that they will never be as good as their male counterparts. Women have every right as men to make a living in their chosen sport, but at the moment, for many professional female athletes across a wide range of sports, this is not possible.

Despite these Differences



U.S. SOCCER PAY DISPARITIES

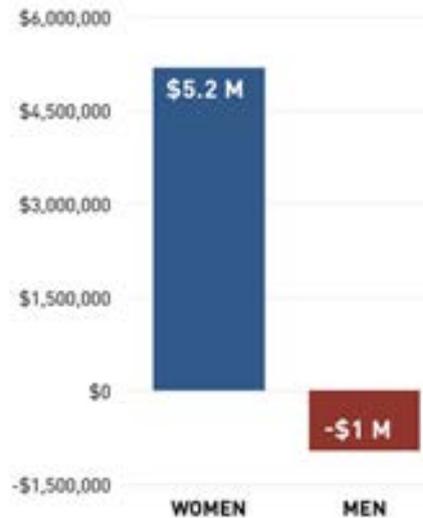
BONUSES	MEN, 2018	WOMEN, 2015
Make World Cup roster (per player)	\$76,000	\$15,000
Qualify for World Cup (team)	\$2.5M	\$345,000*
Reach round of 16 (team)	\$3.6M (min.)	0
Reach quarterfinals (team)	\$5M	0
Reach semifinals (team)	\$4.5M (min.)	N/A
Finish in 4th place (team)	N/A	\$240,000*
Finish in 3rd place (team)	1.25M	\$480,000*
Finish in 2nd place (team)	\$6.25M	\$780,000*
Win World Cup (team)	\$9.3M	\$1.8M*

Men's team performance bonuses aggregate; women receive amount of final finish, starting with round of 16.

*Approximate, based on 24-player roster

Source: NY Daily News, U.S. Soccer

TOTAL PROFIT PROJECTED FY 2017



PER DIEM INTERNATIONAL

WOMEN
2013-PRESENT

\$60

MEN
2015-2018

\$75

Source: Sports Illustrated

However, there is no point arguing for equal pay without being prepared to take the steps necessary to give women's sport greater exposure and better pay. For example, the women's AFL has been in the media a lot recently, due to the great exposure it is receiving and the crowds that are attending the matches. The inaugural AFLW match made a statement. A capacity crowd of 24 500 packed into Princes Park to watch Carlton v Collingwood, with the stadium being forced to impose a lockout at quarter time to avoid overcrowding. Many of the men's clubs had scoffed, nobody would watch a bunch of girls playing football. But they were wrong. For women who love the game, and women who love sport, this was an absolute game changer in achieving equality for women's sport. The games received TV exposure, and great media hype. Whilst the quality may be lacking in comparison to some other women's professional league, it is only on its way up. After finishing such a successful inaugural season, the AFLW will now look to improve every aspect of their competition in the coming seasons.

At the age of 12, Penny Cula-Reid took her case to court when the AFL hierarchy said girls had to stop playing at the age of 12. Now fourteen years later, she is playing for her beloved Collingwood in the AFLW. It is stories like these that really

demonstrate how far we have progressed in the past 10, 20 and 30 years.

Whilst there is no denying that the road to achieving equality for women's sport is well on its way, the journey is far from over. The disparity in pay for the men and women for many sports is still far too great. But with greater media exposure on the issue, information being leaked and more being put into women's sport from a young age, women's sport is most certainly improving. Possibly more than ever before. Serena Williams, Cathy Freeman, Katie Ledecky, Sally Pearson, Lisa De Vanna, Ellyse Perry. All world class female athletes, who deserve the same respect, same admiration and same pay as their male counterparts.

By Kiara Rochaix (Year 11)

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

Deputy Head Pastoral: Peter Ayling

It is pleasing to see so many of our students taking the initiative to become involved in such worthwhile causes helping others. Below are several examples of students who have decided to make a difference and help those less fortunate. These are not College driven fund raising ideas. These are student driven projects and we continue to be proud of their empathy and compassion towards others.

Shave For A Cure

On Friday 17 March a group of 16 students from Oxley College, took part in the World's Greatest Shave. The two weeks prior to the shave, we were out fundraising and on the day we walked around the school collecting donations raising over \$400. This contributed to the \$12,000 raised between Oxley College and a group of friends from Chevalier College in the past month. We decided to undertake the World's Greatest Shave, to support a mate of ours from Chevalier whose mother was diagnosed with cancer. Our friends thought it would be a good idea to raise funds and raise awareness for the heart breaking disease, so we did. The fundraising continues until the end of June; we encourage you to keep donating. We have currently exceeded the goal we originally set as a team and we intend to keep fundraising, to raise as much money as we can. For those that may wish to donate, ask one of the 16 boys with shaved heads on how to do so. Thank you to those who donated to a great cause.

By Oscar Moran (Year 11)



Rare Cancers Australia

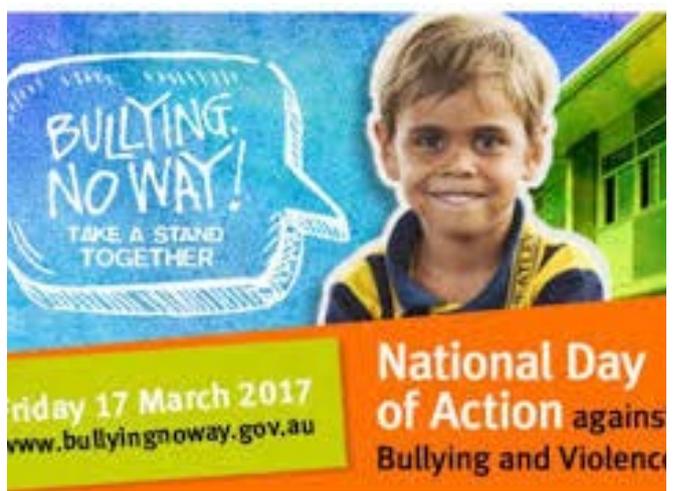
Rare Cancers Australia is a charity whose purpose is to raise awareness, funds and provide treatment for Australians with uncommon cancers. Their annual event, the Kosi- Challenge is a gruelling trek that 320 participants braced over the weekend. The event raised over \$142,000. This money will contribute to the support of 42,000 Australians diagnosed each year with a rare cancer.

Climbing the 2,228 metres above sea level to reach Mount Kosciusko's summit was a breathtaking journey. The physical beauty made the hike like traipsing through a postcard. One thought kept this energetic, supportive, panting group of strangers walking: these moments where you're truly alive must be gifted to everyone. And that is why we walked.

By Maya Chance (Yesar 10)

National Anti Bullying Day 2017

Last Friday was National Anti Bullying Day and due to wet weather we postponed our event to Friday 31 March. Isabella Davies (Year 12) has come up with an idea to recognise the day and make Oxley students aware of the importance of getting along with each other. As Mr Parker often states Oxley is a kind place because our students are kind. Isabella has organised for K-12 to have lunch together encouraging students to sit with students they don't usually associate with. We are then going onto to oval to spell out the word OXLEY and then UNITY using every student K-12. It sounds simple enough so let's hope we can achieve this goal. We will also run a BBQ for Bostwana and hand out wristbands that students can wear until the end of the term.





LIBRARY

Screen Reading

Recently The Conversation featured an article written by two university academics titled:

“Children prefer to read books on paper rather than screens”.

They were commenting on research, confirmed by our own experiences in the library, indicating that students in Years 4 to 6 prefer paper books. Additionally, it would seem that the more devices a young student owns the less they read.

While this may be true for junior students, our seniors have a completely different relationship with text. Our data indicates that there is a sharp drop in borrowing from Year 10 and certainly, at that age, student devices are all consuming and pervasive. This takes its toll on their reading.

It makes sense then to use the cause of the problem to provide a solution via any of the many different apps that facilitate high level, entertaining and academic reading. Serial Reader, for example, is an ingenious app that will deliver free daily bite size doses of classic texts to a phone. An invaluable option for our senior students, this app puts the book in their pocket and ensures it is accessible at all times. Online text in Serial Reader can be annotated, highlighted, resized and shared. Serial Reader can ensure that Joseph Conrad’s “Heart of Darkness” is always in the palm of our Year 11 student’s hands.

By Elizabeth Antoniak

OXLEY COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN DAY 'SUPER 50' RAFFLE

OVER 50 PRIZES TO WIN! ALL PRIZES VALUED OVER \$50!
TICKETS WILL BE DRAWN AT THE OXLEY EQUESTRIAN DAY - 30 APRIL 2017
FUNDS TO BENEFIT THE OXLEY CHARITY PARTNER SCHOOLS IN NEPAL, BOTSWANA AND FIJI

- GRAND PRIZE -
SIGNED 2017 SYDNEY SWANS JERSEY + 5 TICKETS TO A SWANS HOME GAME

OTHER AMAZING	PRIZES INCLUDE:
ShowGirl Equestrian apparel	\$500 voucher
Jennifer Gill Design	\$400 interior design consultation
Anytime Fitness	x3 one month membership + x5 PT sessions
Shed Fitness	x4 Personal Training sessions
Artemis	Cases of cider
Nina Leon Shoes	\$200 voucher
Canary Meats	\$100/\$75/\$70 vouchers
Endota Spa	\$180 organic facial + gift pack
Joh Bailey Salon	\$155 shampoo/cut/blowdry
Tertini Wines	3 x gift bottle of wine
Glam	\$150 gift hamper
The Vogue Room	\$135 energising facial
Babilonia	\$100 voucher
Rabbit Trap Timber	\$100 voucher
Bistro Officina	\$100 voucher
Coffee Culture	\$100 voucher
Imperial Hotel	\$100 voucher
Horsewerks	\$100 voucher
The Potting Shed	\$100 voucher
Bowral Bookshop	\$100 voucher
Freedom Hair Design	Gift hamper
Country Accent	Gift hamper
Bowral Cook Shop	Gift hamper
Bowral Mowers	\$95 garden shears
Ludo Restaurant	\$80 gift voucher
Shibumi Equestrian Centre	4 riding lesson
Margaux Le Guay - Level 4 Instructor	1 riding lesson
Susie Webster Wearable Art	\$55 bangle bracelet
Bowral Co-op	\$50 voucher
Dirty Janes	\$50 voucher
Suzie Anderson Home	\$50 voucher
The Moose Hub	\$50 voucher
Raw and Wild Market & Cafe	\$50 voucher
Palate Pleasure	\$50 voucher
Highlands Merchant	\$50 voucher
We Know Pets	\$50 voucher

plus more prizes from Horseland and other generous Southern Highlands businesses.
THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL SPONSORS - PLEASE GET OUT AND SUPPORT THEM!!

AUTUMN FOOTBALL CAMP @ OXLEY

APRIL Wed 19th - Fri 21st 2017

COME TO OUR FIRST FOOTBALL CAMP @ OXLEY FOR 2017

Our vision for the camps is to provide an environment that builds confidence and encourages both boys and girls of all abilities to have fun playing football. We will promote the importance of respect and improving their individual skills.

EARLY BIRD PROMOTION

All camp participants who register prior to 31st March 2017 will go into the draw to **WIN** 4 tickets to Sydney FCS last home game on Saturday 15th April.



- Cost \$70 per day or \$190 for all 3 days
 - 10% discount for siblings
 - 15% discount for 3 siblings
- Boys and girls training, ages from 5-13
- All camps run from 9am-12pm at Oxley college
- Players will play indoor competitions and outdoor sessions which include playing in the blowup field
- Children need to bring boots, shin pads, sunscreen, morning tea and lunch

All coaching sessions will be run by Alex Prophet who has a UEFA B licence plus overseas playing experience. Alex has coached at Sydney United and Wollongong Wolves and has also worked in Academies in the United Kingdom, Liverpool, Reading and the Wolverhampton Wanderers.

COME AND LEARN THE SWFS WAY

**For all enquiries please call SWFS on
0438 096 644 or email swsoccersessions@gmail.com**

Rory MacDonald

CLASS OF 1987



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

What have I made of myself? That's an interesting question to pose thirty years after leaving Oxley College. I am a happy, contented father of three wonderful boys and a stunning English born wife, which is remarkable considering my dating record during my high school years! I always had a very strong interest in radio throughout my school years. 2WKT highland FM at the time had its studios just 1km from Oxley. This was the springboard into my radio career which now sees me as Content Director for ABC Radio Sport. This came after jobs in country radio in Cooma, Queenstown (Tasmania, not NZ unfortunately) and Grafton. Then travelling the world as a freelance sports journalist, I was at Old Trafford in 1993 to see Shane Warne bowl the ball of the century, and at Ellis Park in Johannesburg in 1995 to see Nelson Mandela walk out on the pitch in a Springbok jersey for the Rugby World Cup final. I have also worked for the Austereo/Triple M network and the BBC over the years as well.

What is your biggest achievement since high school?

My family is my biggest achievement. On a working level, my current job at ABC Radio Sport. For the last six years playing a lead role in the Cricket, NRL, AFL and Olympic/Commonwealth games coverage has been a great experience. Every job comes with highs and lows and radio is no exception. But it's an exciting and interesting time to be involved in media, as the audience expectations are changing, and changing rapidly.

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

Yes working in radio was always what I wanted to do. It has always been my life's dream and I have been able to work for some pretty amazing media companies all over the world.

How did Oxley prepare you for your future?

It was great school, very small when I first started in Term 3 of 1983. It was a wonderful learning environment. It was a place that taught me that I could do anything if I put my mind to it and to never give up.

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

The friends who I went through school with, those who I leaned on and supported me, plus all the teachers, Peter Craig, David Wright and the many others who provided those life lessons. I may not see most of them now, but you do hear bits and pieces of news now and again, and it's wonderful to see some of the careers my former school mates have carved out. We have also tragically lost a couple too early in life and when you hear about that you think back to those school days in the mid 80's and reflect with fondness on the time we spent together.

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

I have three boys going through school now and I am glad that my time is done and dusted. I enjoyed school, don't get me wrong, but I am very glad that I am no longer a student. Having said that, I would have been very grateful to have all the technology that students today now have. Oxley in the mid 80's - there was no computer in sight!

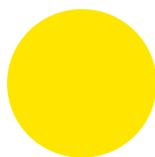
What would you say to your fifteen year old self?

Buy houses in Sydney now (lots of them) and buy shares in Apple and Facebook. What am I saying? Neither of them were around then!

Not to over think things, enjoy life and really think about your twenties, explore the world during that decade, spend a lot of time overseas and don't get too tied down until your thirties.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

IN THE WORLD...



NATIONAL

This week the 'gay panic' law was axed in Queensland. A man was bashed to death and his killers claimed they did it because he made an unwanted homosexual advance on them. Under the 'gay panic' law, they had their punishment downgraded to manslaughter. This is a defense that has been used by a number of alleged killers, and until now has been legal. Queensland has now abolished the law, with campaigners hailing the move a victory for equality. A petition at change.org against the law gained 290,000 signatures, causing action for the "homophobic, archaic and outdated law" to be abolished. South Australia is now the only state still allowing the "gay panic" defense.

By Gracie Phelan (Year 9)



INTERNATIONAL



A river gains human rights

"New Zealand's Whanganui River granted legal status as a person after 170-year battle." Ummmm what??!! The Whanganui river flows 145km from the central north island to the sea. Not only does the river flow through some spectacular scenery, it is sacred to New Zealand Maori Iwi people. The river will now be represented by a member appointed by the Maori community and the government. This means that the river has legal rights and can be represented in court, the government will also be giving \$100 million to help restore the health of the river. Negotiations about the river have been going on since 2009 and finally The Whanganui River Deed of Settlement was signed in 2014 and legislation was introduced in 2016. Gerrard Albert, a spokesperson for the local Maori people, told the Telegraph the community had been very concerned about the government's impact on the "health and wellbeing" of the river. He then went on to talk about the spiritual importance of the river, saying it was seen as "indivisible" and a "living whole".

By Jemima Taylor (Year 10)

LOCAL

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Wingello State Forest

For the majority of the 39 students who set off for their hike last Saturday morning, this was less a baptism of fire than a baptism of flood! It rained incessantly for the entire weekend. However, spirits were not to be dampened by the weather. Armed with maps and compasses, the three groups set off cheerfully into the forest, along muddy trails and across swollen creeks. There was a brief respite from the rain for lunch, but upon arrival at the campsite the heavens opened again, so tents had to be erected hastily and tarps spread through the trees, to afford at least a modicum of cover. Dinner was cooked beneath these shelters, the culinary delights including a variety of sausages (some flambéd!) and pastas.

The evening entertainment consisted of the creation and use of a mudslide, both on a tarp and freestyle. Gracie Phelan won the prizes for longest slide and muddiest appearance. Swallow-diving into a flooded field soon removed most of the muck! Then to bed with the prospect of leaky tents, flooded groundsheets and wet sleeping bags. For some, not much rest was had, but cheerful banter helped to pass the night. More rain greeted the early morning risers, but spirits were still high, especially with the thought of hot showers later that evening. Groups completed the route with mixed success, one group managing to walk 360° before realising they were back where they had been several hours before! At least the sun came out at the end to reveal a lovely pastoral landscape and dry us out a little. Nevertheless, the bus was a welcome sight to all! Many thanks to Jenni Rees and the team from 'Land's Edge' - Meg, Josh, Tyler and Paul. By Tim Dibdin.



GALLERY



MARCH & APRIL CALENDAR

	Mon 27 House Music Week	Mon 03 House Music continues	Mon 10
	Tue 28 Short Sharp Drama Night, Hoskins Hall, 6.30pm	Tue 04	Tue 11
	Wed 29 ISA Swimming Carnival, SOPAC K-6 Kindergarten Open Morning for prospective parents, 10.30am	Wed 05 Music Night, Orchestra Room, 7.00pm K -6 and 7 -12 Cross Country Carnivals	Wed 12
	Thu 30 Canvas Information Session for Parents, 4.00pm - 5.00pm, Room 12, De La Salle Building	Thu 06 K - 6 Grandparents' Day and Easter Hunt Trial Football Match vs Chev TERM 1 ENDS	Thu 13
Fri 24	Fri 31 Fundraising B'que for Botswana	Fri 07 Drama Tour to Melbourne departs Botswana Trip departs	Fri 14 Good Friday
Sat 25 2018 Scholarships exams at Music School	Sat 01 Chev Rugby Day Pipe band to Brigadoon OXLEY SHOP OPEN 8.30am - 10.30am	Sat 08 Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Hike departs	Sat 15 Easter Saturday
Sun 26	Sun 02	Sun 09	Sun 16

P & F NEWS

K-6 Grandparents Day:

The Oxley College K-6 Grandparents' Day is on Thursday 6 April from 10.00am-2.00pm and includes Morning Tea & Lunch Buffet for all of the grandparents. Grandparents will be able to visit their grandchildren in their classrooms and enjoy their morning tea and lunch together. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt for the K-6 children in the afternoon. We look forward to welcoming all of our grandparents to Oxley College to share in this special day with the K-6 students. (Invitation coming shortly).

We are asking for volunteers from all of our K-6 parents to assist with baking, food provision and helping out on the day. Please contact your P & F Year Rep to offer any assistance you are able to give. We welcome any help you can give! Many thanks,

By Kate Gair (P & F Vice President K - 6)

Full list of P & F Year Reps and contact details <https://www.oxley.nsw.edu.au/about/parents-friends/>

Active Kidz

Ages 7-12

@Oxley College

In the first week of the April school holidays, The Shed will be running it's school holiday fun fitness programme 'Active Kidz' for children aged 7-12. There are 30 spots available for each of the four days with different activities on each day. Go online to see the timetable and to book: <http://www.theshedfitness.com.au/activekidz/>



NEWSFLASH



SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Science Challenge @ Mittagong RSL

On Tuesday, a group of Year 10 students headed off to Mittagong RSL to compete in the Science and Engineering Challenge, a competition designed by the University of Newcastle and run by the local Rotary clubs. Students work in teams to compete with schools from across the Southern Highlands in many small competitions that pushed each student to use skills acquired from Science classes to complete each task to the best of their ability. Oxley College won the Robotic Hand competitions and successfully designed a tall building that withstood an "earthquake". Oxley placed second in the competition.

By Bronwyn Tregenza, and Izzy Moore (Year 10)



NSWCIS Swimming

Congratulations to Tamalyn Boese (Year 5) who has been selected to represent HICES at the NSWCIS Swimming Carnival for three events, 11 years Girls 50m Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Annabel Arnot (Year 4) has also been selected to represent HICES in the Junior Girls 50m Butterfly event.



MATCH OF THE WEEK

You could say the 2016/17 Softball season was smashed right out of the park. Going into the Semi Finals the Firsts knew they were up for a fight against Central Coast. Electing to bat the first innings placed the team in a strong position with seven home across the plate. The team's fielding had never been so strong with several catches to Clare and Sacsha in the second and third innings. The girls fought hard coming away with a well deserved win of 9-8.

With a short break and tactical team talk, the team was ready to play Barker in the Finals. Although previously losing 22-0, we held our head high and played the best we could. Several powerful hits allowed bases to be gained, placing pressure on Barker. In the end Barker's fast pitching and skills of the sport, crowned them champions, coming away with a win 13-7.

Not only was it a successful day for the Firsts, Oxley was awarded the softball shield for the most successful school in the competition, well done to all teams.

Thank you to Mr Woff for making the season so enjoyable, we wouldn't have been as successful if it wasn't for your knowledge and passion towards softball.

Georgie Wade (Year 12)



KINDNESS

Laugh often! It is said to relieve physical tension and stress. The stress of schoolwork and assessments is not unimaginable for the majority of us, so the recent Random Acts of Kindness initiative has been just the right cure, or pick me up for all Oxley students mid term. Separated into Mind Matters groups, each student received the name of one of their peers, and set out on a quest: to perform an act of kindness, and hopefully brighten someone's day. The experience has had domino effects around the school, benefiting both the giver and receiver of the kindness, and making us as a whole, a nicer and more accepting community. By Grace Patterson (Year 11)

