

# PINOAK

ISSUE 68: TERM 1, APRIL 12, 2018  
OXLEY COLLEGE

CANBERRA

BRIGADOON

GRANDPARENTS'  
DAY

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All too often when we read the news, we are bombarded by negative stories and none more so than those about environmental issues. It seems that in recent months, issues surrounding plastics and their impact on the world's oceans have dominated news headlines. Indeed according to renowned naturalist, Sir David Attenborough "the wildlife in our seas is facing its greatest threat in human history as it struggles to survive against warming temperatures and unprecedented quantities of plastic waste." This was the warning made by David in the final episode of the BBC Documentary series Blue Planet II which aired in Australia in February. A recent article from the Telegraph on Friday 6 April claimed that "a sperm whale washed up on the Spanish coast was killed by plastic pollution". I read on to discover that the whale had ingested 29kg of plastic waste including plastic bags, raffia sacks, pieces of nets, ropes and a plastic jerry can! Furthermore, research by the World Economic Forum and Ellen MacArthur Foundation estimates that by 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the sea!

With such negative coverage it is all too easy to feel powerless to do anything about these problems so it was encouraging to read "Drop in Plastic bags in Britain's seas linked to 5p charge". The article explained the link between the introduction of charges for plastic bags in many European countries since 2003 and the 30% drop in the number of plastic bags littering seabeds around Britain. This has got me thinking about the positive impact we can all have on our environment when, from Sunday 1 July 2018 single use plastic bags will disappear from Woolworths, Coles and Big W.

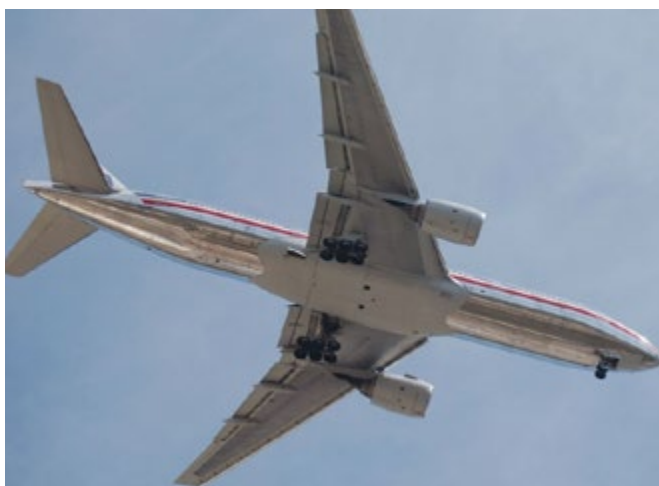
The newly formed Oxley Environment Group has been discussing what we can do to make a difference and I have been impressed by the determination of students to get going with a number of projects. Thank you to those who supported the 'old fashioned cup and saucer' initiative at the Senior Production. By drinking your interval coffee in a china cup, we saved several hundred disposable cups from going to landfill.

The theme of World Environment Day on Tuesday 5 June is "Beat Plastic Pollution" and our initial environmental projects will have a plastic theme. At the beginning of Term 2 we will officially launch the plastic recycling initiative linked with the NSW Container Deposit Scheme that I wrote about in Pin Oak Issue 66. Also, as of Term 2, the canteen will provide wooden cutlery appropriate for all meals ordered via Flexischools or bought across the counter. For those who bring food from home, washing up facilities are now provided in the beautiful Pavilion so that students can wash their own utensils rather than using single use plastic knives, forks and spoons.

I started this article by saying that too often we are bombarded by negative news stories which make people feel powerless to make a difference. It was so refreshing to hear about some of the work that our younger students were doing as part of their 'Sharing the Planet' unit of inquiry. Thank you to Phoebe Mooney in Year 3. Your well written letter to the teachers at Oxley College giving us practical tips on saving energy in our classrooms was thought provoking. We will all endeavour to play our part to make a difference. By Ruth Sheddon



# HEADMASTER'S REPORT



I have written about leave twice before at Oxley, but I am restating much of it here for the benefit of parents who have joined our community over the last two years. In 2018 Oxley College students have fourteen weeks of holiday. This is about four weeks longer than Government schools and almost four times as much as the average adult worker. Students no doubt see the length of their annual holiday time as an advantage. However, it does come with a disadvantage; they don't get to choose what time of the year to take them. School holidays fall at the same time for everyone.

Given the length of school holidays at Oxley we feel that family holidays can be organised wholly within these dates. The dates are advertised well in advance. They are found via this link: <https://www.oxley.nsw.edu.au/news-events/terms-college-dates/>. In particular, the availability of seats on frequent flyer points and/or shoulder fares is not a reason to miss school time. The reason why fares are more expensive in holiday times is because that is when students should be travelling so they do not miss school.

In addition we feel that it is important that students do attend, where possible, all of the lessons that have been organised and are set. This becomes more pressing the closer that the student gets to their senior years of study and the HSC in particular. If classes close to holiday time were thinned due to people taking extended holidays, it sends a negative message about the importance of the classes to those students still at school.

This is linked to the 'floodgates' effect; as more families went on leave, the last days of term would become less valuable, leading to more families feeling justified in asking for leave. If we simply 'wrote off' the last few days of term, there would then be in effect a new last day of term: a day that would then be prey to more applications for leave.

There is also the question of 'where to draw the line'. If Oxley College in Term 1 grants a special 'once in a lifetime' request to ski Mount Kailash in Tibet, it then becomes a little more difficult to decline a Term 2 request for a once in a lifetime opportunity to ski at Aspen. Once the School grants a skiing trip in Aspen, it becomes a little more difficult to decline a family in Term 3 who have a special opportunity to ski in New Zealand. Or Thredbo. And so it goes on.

There are a number of exceptions of course. Some families have many or all of their relatives overseas. It is quite possible that they want to attend weddings or major family reunions that fall outside of our holiday time. This is very understandable and we would like for Oxley students to be able to attend these events with their wider families. (However, this would not include either an extended holiday that was added onto a wedding, or a family reunion that was triggered by the fact that the Australian wing of the family had travelled overseas). On a sadder note, as some of our parents and grandparents reach the end of their lives we would want Oxley students to be with their families during these critical days, and sometimes weeks.

Some Oxley students compete at a very high sporting level indeed and we would want to support our students' aspirations, even if it means taking some class time. We would consider the level of eliteness of the competition, the amount of time needed and the age of the students when deliberating on these requests.

On a procedural level for Senior School all applications (in the first instance) should be made to Mrs Kellie Henderson in Senior Student Services [kellie.henderson@oxley.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kellie.henderson@oxley.nsw.edu.au). Any leave for one, two or three days will be reviewed by your child's Head of House, and leave requests greater than three days will be reviewed by Mr Mark Case, Deputy Head Pastoral, Senior School. For Junior School all leave requests should be forwarded to Ms Kिर्रिली Hope via the Junior Student Services at [kirrily.hope@oxley.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kirrily.hope@oxley.nsw.edu.au) for review by Mr Peter Ayling, Deputy Head Junior School. The College Executive and I have clarified a common set of expectations for leave, and the standards will be similar regardless of which year your child is in. The pre-purchase of airline tickets will not be a factor in the deliberations. Any applications that includes the first or last days of term, for any year group, will be considered by Mr Case or Mr Ayling respectively.

These expectations were not established in a few arbitrary moments. They were refined deliberately, carefully, and fully cognisant of the extraordinarily thorny comparative issues that arise without clear guidelines. We also know that the community grapevine can lead to false comparisons being made without knowledge of the full individual circumstances - this is why we have tried to make our expectations as clear as we can whilst still leaving room for each unique case. We are bolstered by the fact that similar expectations have existed at Oxley for years and that most (if not all) comparable schools have similar expectations.

Our protocols and expectations for leave are outlined on in the student diary.



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR BAGGY GREEN?

I woke up on Sunday morning to see my parents glued to the TV with the jaws dropped. Australian cricketers had been caught ball tampering in the 3rd test match in Africa was the headline on every news channel. Three players: Steve Smith, David Warner, Cameron Bancroft.

It all started when footage on the Big screen at the cricket ground showed Cameron Bancroft putting something into his pocket. The coach caught sight of this and sent out the 12th man to tell Cameron that he had been caught. Cameron then put the 'thing' down his pants. The umpires had taken notice of this and called Cameron over who then said it was just his sunglasses case. After the game, the players involved knew they were in trouble.

Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft then held a press conference and admitted that they had tampered with the ball. They claimed that they used sticky tape and dirt. They also admitted that the 'leadership group' had planned the cheating during the lunch break. In the following days, they admitted that they had lied again and the sticky tape was actually sandpaper which was used to tamper with the ball. Lies after lies were spilling out everywhere. Ball tampering has occurred many times before but has never been so premeditated and involved with so many people at once.

Cricket Australia banned the players involved with the tampering - Steve Smith was banned for a year and lost his Captaincy and is unable to be a captain for two years. David Warner was banned for one year and will never again be a captain or vice-captain and Cameron Bancroft was banned for nine months.

The bigger issue is that the captains encouraged a junior player (Cameron Bancroft) to go out and tamper with the ball, making him do the dirty work instead of themselves. Being a junior, Cameron Bancroft would have wanted to impress the captains and so he did as he was told and tampered with the ball.

Cheating happens in loads of sports but in Australia, cricket is known as 'The Gentlemen's Game' always

played fairly and in the spirit of the game. Many people in Australia regard the cricket captaincy as the 2nd highest job in Australia. 1st is the Prime Minister. This is why Australia is devastated to see the captain involved with cheating.

To wear the baggy green in an honour and a privilege, that many people don't get to have. A cricket tragic like my dad saw Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft sitting at the press conference with their 'Baggy Greens' and lying to Australia.

Australia was furious and the public was demanding for action to be taken. As soon as Steve and Cameron landed in Australia they gave an emotional press conference where they admitted everything and Steve Smith took responsibility for his actions.

After seeing how emotional Steve was at his press conference, Australia had changed moods from anger to empathy. As Steve poured his heart out on national TV with his dad in the background for support.

At the end of the day, we are only human, lots of people have made mistakes in their lives but the difference is these young men have had it all played out on TV for the world to see.

Steve Smith has lost millions of dollars from sponsorships and has been humiliated in front of the world. Not to mention not being able to play the game he loves so much.

In NRL and other sports in Australia there is cheating but players are penalised or suspended for one or two games. But because cricket in Australia is held in such high regard, cheating is unacceptable.

Should we be punishing these people to the extent we have? Because at the end of the day it is only a game, they haven't broken laws or committed any crimes. They have made a serious mistake and one which effect their lives forever.

Is it time to forgive?

Have they already paid a big enough price?

By Lily Magill (Year 9)

# TAKE INSPIRATION



## BOOKS ★★★★★

### The Natural Way of Things

Charlotte Wood's unforgettable dystopian novel, *The Natural Way of Things*, is a gripping tale of survival. When 10 women awake from a drug induced sleep, they find themselves jailed in the middle of the Australian outback. Guarded by two vicious jailers and a so called 'nurse', these women are forced to wear strange uniforms, shave their heads and work all day long in the sweltering sun. The girls all have something in common, a so called 'crime' that has brought them here from the big city.

Wood's novel is savagely and unapologetically an exploration of contemporary misogyny and corporate control. However, the storyline does take a turn, when the food shortage strikes, the women are left to hunt for themselves, turning some of them more feral and crazed than the others. It soon becomes clear, that the jailers have also become jailed, and it is only up to the girls to rescue themselves. Although the ending is somewhat of a disappointment, the intriguing storyline makes up for it. A thought provoker and truth teller; Charlotte Wood creates a dark and brave piece of writing, so real and full of fury, it's scary. If you like *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Lord of the Flies*, I can assure that you will most definitely like *The Natural Way of Things* too.

By Jade Gillis (Year 11)



## MUSIC ★★★★★

### Echoes in Blue by City Calm Down

Released in April 2018, this album is a must - listen for fans of Simple Minds and The National. In listening to this album, be prepared for an absorbing, swelling soundscape with the breathtaking baritone vocals of front-man Jack Bourke.

Prominent from the get-go are the personal, honest lyrics which involve themes of social isolation, our increasingly digital age, as well as love, pain and redemption. Sometimes worryingly dark, the dreamy, husky, sometimes overpowered vocals are accompanied with upbeat soaring melodies, driving drums, hypnotic warped synths and cohesively added brass instruments. The dreary lyrical content is transformed by the atmospheric, paradoxically vibrant 80s pop beats which truly makes you want to dance.

The must-listen on "Echoes in Blue" is opening song "Joan, I'm Disappearing". Perhaps most representative of the band's sound of elegance and emotion, capturing a heartbreaking story with a heart-racing, spine tingling swell of synth and post-punk style guitar lines. Atop is an acceptance of a loss of not just a love but himself as Jack repeats again and again "Joan, I'm disappearing." Listen to this album to relax, to feel connected to another's experience, to dance, to cry, to run straight into a kaleidoscope of emotions.

By Maya Chance (Year 11)



## FILM

★★★★★

### Peter Rabbit

*Peter Rabbit* is a well-loved childhood series which you can never get enough of. Fortunately, this much enjoyed series has been turned into a movie. Starring the all-time favourite James Gordon (the voice of Peter Rabbit), this movie is a fun, loving, family adventure seeking movie and would definitely draw everyone's attention.

*Peter Rabbit* is in trouble for giving his caregiver Miss Beatrix Potter's neighbour, Mr McGregor a heart attack. All was fun until the long-lost, horrid nephew of Mr McGregor has to move in. The beautiful Beatrix Potter falls into a heart locked affair with Mr McGregor's nephew and Peter and his family try to break it.

The music creates an amazing suspense of mysteriousness, laughter and enjoyment and that is what I look for in a movie.

It's one of my favourite movies and I highly recommend it for all ages.

By Hannah Zupp (Year 7)



## Head of K-6: Justine Lind

Later this year we will farewell our Year 6's as we do every year however this year we will do so for our foundation Kindergarten students. Taylor Anstee, Will Barnett, Harry Cameron, Dylan Davis, Oliver Deakin, Georgia Pride, Emma Scott and Sienna Soster hold the precious collective memories of the inception years of the Junior School. We are planning a special acknowledgement later in the year for these human time capsules as we send them on to the next leg of their Oxley journey.

They have shared some of their reflections below.

### Earliest memories of the Junior School...

"When they first opened the Primary School, they had a huge picnic on Elvo Lawn. I remember meeting all of the new kids in the class and seeing some friends from pre-school." Taylor

"We played Duck Duck Goose." Dylan

"I remember I was so nervous I was shaking, we were all sitting in the room listening to Ms Syrros and being too nervous to listen. I didn't know anyone apart from three people from pre-school. I am glad that I made friends that are still my friends today." Will

Emma shared, "I remember in Kindy how I was the first one to get to choose something from the golden box" and then the others in unison...."Oh yes, the golden box!"

"My earliest memory was when I was coming, because I started in Term 2. At the time I was obsessed with super heroes, witches and wizards and I was nervous to meet new teachers. At first I thought Mrs Syrros might have been a witch but she was actually very welcoming and turned out to be one of my favourite teachers." Harry Cameron

### Changes we've noticed...

"We can see the transition from Mr Williamson to Mr Parker because Mr Williamson was the first Headmaster I ever knew. I still have some certificates that he gave me." Emma

"We didn't even have morning lines. We just had a Friday morning assembly under the veranda and Mr Armstrong just got straight into it and gave out our certificates." Harry

"When we first started – we weren't that sporty. In HICES we have moved up in divisions in all sports. In learning it is definitely better. We have upped the rate of learning. It is more interactive than in other schools. We have so much co-curricular that makes everything fun and everyone loves it." Sienna

"I remember the Kettle Block where they are building the new courts now. We went over there and climbed trees. There were a few trees together and we could all climb them. Then they cut them all down." Dylan

## Weekly Awards:

### Students of the Week

#### Learning Journey

KL: Euan Shedden  
Sophie Hutchison  
Yr 1S: Thomas Berry  
Evelyn Hammond  
Yr 1W: William Matar  
Oscar Choo, Oscar Le Guay  
Yr 2: Rory Shedden  
Ollie Johnson  
Yr 3: Zali Walters  
Yr 4: Noah Byrne  
Molly Davis

#### Oxley Values

KL: Oscar Jones-Lumetzberger  
Yr 1S: Samsara Pout  
Yr 1W: Eli Winn  
Yr 2: Will Kennedy  
Yr 3: Fraser Findlay, Heidi Malouf  
Yr 4: Molly Davis



"As we've grown we know that there are more people to make a difference within the school or the community. At Oxley, there is never constant bullying, we share and we are a much more friendly and generous community. We give more than we take." Sienna

"The technology has really improved – we don't do everything on computer but we have a good balance". Will and Oliver added, "Learning feels very free and you can make your own choices. Dylan. You can use your own path and work at really different levels and still all be in the same class."

### Hopes for the future...

"I'm really proud that no matter how big we are we all still know each other. We know people in the high school and we know many of the teachers before we get there." Georgia

"I sort of hope that not just for us but for everyone in the school that the school doesn't get too big. We love that everyone knew each other and it was like one big family. It still feels like that but we don't want it to get too much bigger. I'm proud that we've grown to be part of a huge community. That if someone makes a mistake it doesn't matter but we just support each other and learn from it." Oliver



# Time & Memory

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The attic is airless. She's probably too old to be up here now. The ladder seemed steeper than usual and the drop seemed further. But pieces of the past calm her. Today's box of relics sit shrouded in a cloudy floral veil of dust. The peeling label is printed in a swirl of familiar slanted writing; her mother.

"Jane- years 2-5 primary school."

An aged slip of paper floats lightly to the ground - she was wondering when she'd come across this. The newspaper clipping. She can just make out her own tiny face looking up at her, curiously, uncertainly, a flicker of something unusual, although that could just be the faded ink.

**"Stranger danger strikes on our Sydney streets."**

The bold font is still a slap, just as it was that first morning. She waits. Here they come, although what is memory and what are the worn fragments of a hundred stories woven over time is impossible to tell.

Nameless faces flash past her. Umbrellas jostle one another above her, fighting for a place on top. Steamy rain in Pitt Street Sydney. Her hand slipping from her mother's is the last thing she fully remembers. The rest is a wet hazy smudge of grey concrete. But she knows what happened. Her parents have grimly recounted the story to her. Abduction.

At six, spoken of in hushed voices, the words give her life a sudden shape they didn't before. Her parents move them from the city to the country, where she begins to tiptoe, only ever brushing the surface of life. The attic is her favourite place, somewhere to bask in the warm sunlight of the familiar. Years pass, the story is the only thing of interest she remembers from her city life. "snatched". Even now the word gives her chills, remembering her mother's face. Her father's grim stare, the way he shook as she was placed into his arms.

The box, today, yields other wonders- an old school ribbon, a self-portrait, an old report card that looked like it had been hidden at the bottom of a school bag, "the cat sat on the mat" written in round, knobby letters over and over again spilling forth from the box- once vibrant colours now faded.





She stumbles across a piece of paper. It feels forgotten.

This time the font is unsophisticated and simple. The paper is rough and torn, it feels untouched; she doesn't remember ever keeping a diary. Her smile quickly vanishes as her eyes are drawn to the date crammed at top of the page. It matches that of the newspaper.

Her brain deciphers the youthful squiggles

*"Dear Diary,*

*Today I was lost and wet. I let go of mummy's hand like she told me not to. Then I felt squashed by the city and the rain. I felt small. I wasn't sure about him at first, but then he smiled. He calmed me down and held my hand to take me to get hot chocolate. He told me jokes and stories, and I got to play with his dog! He said he didn't have a house, but that the city was his home. After my hot chocolate I wasn't sad anymore and he got me help. The police were very worried about me, I tried to tell them but they said I was just confused. Everyone keeps asking me if I'm okay, and saying that something very scary happened to me. But I saw him smile."*

She sits. And sits. The words on the page – silent guardians of a truth bent out of shape over forty years of ignorance and prejudice – look back at her. She tries desperately to summon the memories her six year old handwriting promises through a damp distortion of car horns and shadows. They do not come. Only the words of her parents – at bbqs, family dinners: gone all afternoon, filthy clothes, hardly string two sentences together, terrified. No charges laid.

The smile though. That rings true.

Something bubbles up towards the surface, something powerful. And for the first time in a long while, the attic feels small. She reaches across. And although it's not much, she opens a window to pollen filled air and bird chorus.

By Jemima Taylor, (Year 11). A creative writing peice for English.

# DEPUTY HEAD REPORT

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Deputy Head Pastoral:  
Mark Case

## **Batyr – 'Look Out for Your Mates'**

Batyr is an organisation that promotes mental wellbeing through training young people to share their personal stories. This week, students in Years 11 and 12 participated in the workshop 'Look out for your Mates', which built on the programme in which they participated last year. The workshop emphasised the importance of students supporting each other, provided them with skills to start a conversation about mental health and identified the services available to them should they need support. Batyr will be returning to Oxley later in the year to speak with students in Years 9 and 10.



## **Honour Our Fallen**

Students involved in this project are invited to attend a ceremony at Bowral Cemetery at 10.00am on Monday 23 April, when flags will be placed at each of the graves of the 19 armed services veterans who students have been researching this term and who are buried at the cemetery. Students should wear full winter uniform. Local media will covering the event.



## **Anzac Day Parade**

Oxley College has always been well represented at the ANZAC Day Parade in Bowral. This year, ANZAC Day falls in the school holidays, but it is hoped that as many K - 12 students as possible will still be able to attend. Students are to meet in full winter uniform outside Gloria Jeans at 10.00am on Wednesday 25 April.



## **Parent Drop Off/Pick Up**

Parents are reminded that there is no drop off or pick up of students in the staff car park (second entrance). The speed limit on site is 10 kph. These rules are in place for the safety of all members of the school community.



## **Winter Uniform**

Term 2 commences on Monday 30 April. Students will be required to wear winter uniform. The Oxley Shop will be open in the school holidays from 8.30am-4.00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of both weeks (except ANZAC Day).



## MENTAL HEALTH WITH BATYR

Out of every 30 students in Australia, seven will deal with a mental health illness. Two of those students will reach out for help, while five will suffer in silence.

These shocking statistics served as a wake up call about the severity and reality of mental health illnesses for many of us sitting in our Batyr seminar. The session mainly focused on what could be done to help friends who are going through a hard time and taught us about warning signs and things to look for in our peers. We heard a personal story that offered us some insights into what it's like to experience a mental health issue and were then given concrete tips and advice about how to approach and help out a friend.

This session was animated and fun and didn't tip toe around the issue, but also managed to be sensitive and convey the severity of the issue of mental health. If you'd like to know more about some of the things they taught us, come and have a chat to a Year 10 or 11 student or have a look at their website!

<http://www.batyr.com.au/>

By Jemima Taylor (Year 11)



## BRIGADOON

Hello Everyone,

As I sit here, writing out this week's schedule, I am watching a wee video of our band marching down the street at Bundanoon last Saturday and I am bursting with admiration of you. You performed so very well. You held a lovely band sound and one can ask for little more than that. What a credit you are to your school. Well done.

You are all very dear to me and when I heard the special announcement coming over the PA on Saturday afternoon, I suddenly realised the magnitude of what you have done. You are the first School pipe band in the Southern Highlands, nobody can take that away from you and your performance was well worthy of the accolade. You did both Oxley and most of all yourselves, oh so proud.

Thank you too to all the parents who kicked in and created our on field branch of Oxley for the day. The catering was superb and relieved great pressure, enabling band members to relax between events. Thank you so much. True treasures Kate and Bronwyn for the organising of all the catering.

Thank you too, to the people who helped with band organisation. Mary Lou, very special, thank you. Rod Parker and Dave McKay for your help setting up our sound for the day. Col McKay for your organisation and training of the drum corps.

Thanks to each and every one in the band.

Drum Major, soon to be piper Cameron Regan

Oxley Banner Bearer, soon to be piper Hunter Ritchie.

Pipe Major Tom Tregenza. Professional job Tom.

Pipe Sergeant Connor Philpott-Tyson, Well done Connor, stand proud.

Pipers Toby O'Sullivan, Yanni Psarakis, Elena Parker, Ally Cavanagh, Cameron Wood, great job.

Drum Sergeant, Saxon Hilkemeijer, supported your pipe major very well indeed.

Drum Corporal, Hamish Tregenza, Great work Hamish.

Tenor drum, Saskia Hilkemeijer, Fabulous addition to our team Sas', welcome.

Bass Drum, James Blissett, First parade James and you carried us as if you have been doing so for years. Very big thank you.

Email sent by Oxley Pipe Band Master, Mr Rob Parker, to his wonderful Oxley Pipe Band after Brigadoon.



## Timothy Kime CLASS OF 2007

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

I completed the HSC in 2007, left for the UK on a gap year in 2008 and until 2017 I have been living in Wollongong, studying education and then was teaching at Illawarra Christian School. This year, my wife Bec and I are living in Cambodia, teaching at a school called Hope International School. The school is a non-profit missionary school that seeks to provide quality education to mainly missionary children whose parents are serving God in Cambodia.

### **What are your favourite things that have happened since high school?**

Getting married to my wife Bec has to be one of the best things that I've done so far. Together, we served our church in Wollongong for many years together, and really enjoyed participating in helping maintain a culture there where serving each other was seen as the most important thing. I lead a 'home group' for many years, where we ate food together, read the bible and sought to encourage each other through the ups and downs of life. Deciding to move to Cambodia was a massive change for us, but I think that it's been a reflection on the culture that our church created.

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

At Oxley, I was seen as the 'Christian guy' in my senior years. I didn't really know what the plans before me were. It is probably not surprising that I am serving in a missionary capacity, however I didn't for a second think I'd be living in Phnom Penh 10 years after school.

### **How did Oxley prepare you for your future?**

Being a teacher myself now, I think Oxley really

gave me a wonderful experience as a student. There were plenty of opportunities, and I see what is happening in other schools in Australia and around the world, and I'm really thankful for the opportunities I had that equipped me in small ways for what was to come next.

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

I really enjoyed captaining the Oxley 1st XI Cricket for two years. I currently coach a bit of soccer at the school where I'm teaching and have coached cricket in the past. The team, under Mr Craig aimed for excellence, but I think the culture of winning was overridden by the desire to have fun and mateship. Some of these friendships have lasted, and I seek to embed the same culture in all sporting teams that I have a hand in creating.

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

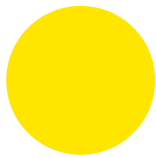
Well in some ways I've never left 'school'. I see the same struggles, the same hardships, the same achievements in students at the schools I've taught at since leaving Oxley. Oxley was a great place, and I miss being able to arrive at school and be surrounded by peers and share the experience. There was something freeing about this, rather than as an adult, sharing openly with friends seems to get harder.

### **What would you say to your fifteen-year old self?**

Being a teenager isn't easy. Try to show some love to at least one person every day (and try to make that your mum as much as possible).

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## IN THE WORLD...



### NATIONAL



#### Integrity in the Cricket

As most of you will remember, a few weeks ago, Mr Parker discussed with us the importance of integrity. Although some may dismiss it as a useless topic used to fill in 30 minutes of a school assembly, it is imperative to realise just how vital our integrity is to us both as individuals and as a society. As Australians, we have witnessed many recent examples of our "responsible" organisations and leaders disgracing our nation and betraying our trust. A major example of this includes the Australian Cricket scandal, in which three players received periodic suspensions from the game for their role in ball tampering. This affected much more than just their career. It has disgraced our nation in sport, it has ruined their public reputation, it has horrified players' families, and contributed to our embarrassing 492-run loss against the Proteas.

The integrity of players is under scrutiny by the nation, and rightly so. We need to have confidence that the people chosen to represent our nation do so with honesty, sportsmanship and pride. Only then can we truly be proud of our players, and by extension, ourselves – win or lose.

If children and aspiring athletes look up to these players as role models in life and inspiration in their own lives, how will these revelations affect their future goals? Will they become disillusioned by the "win at all costs" mentality?

Despite all the public remarks, professional opinions and authoritarian contradiction towards the situation, only Steve Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft can answer whether or not the price of winning a match was worth the cost of their reputations. By Hugh Corbett (Year 8)



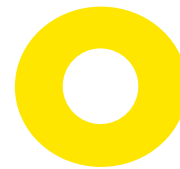
### INTERNATIONAL: Winnie Mandela

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was born in South Africa in 1936. During her early childhood there were two major events, that shook Winnie deeply, her sister died of a disease, which then caused her to question God as she had continuously prayed to God during her sister's illness. Winnie had to experience another tremor, shortly after that, that no young child should have to. Her mother died while giving birth to her younger brother, so she was left to care for him. In the year 1945, she had already developed strong views on social segregation, a result of the racism shown towards black people. In 1953, Winnie moved to Johannesburg and completed her degree in social work, later completing her Bachelor's degree in International Relations at the University of Witwatersrand. She began to study the infant mortality rates and was determined to lower the death rate. At age 22, she met Nelson Mandela, who was 16 years older than her. On the 10 March 1957, Nelson Mandela asked Winnie to marry him and their engagement was celebrated on the 25 May in 1958. Even though Winnie had suffered many hardships throughout her life, she continued to fight for the greater good of humanity through many different causes. She passed away on the Monday 2 April 2018 at the age of 81. May she forever rest in God's arms and be remembered for her contributions to humanity through her life.

By Isabella Pether (Year 9)



### INTERNATIONAL



#### Justine Damond shooting

On Saturday 15 July 2017, Minneapolis police man Mohammed Noor, shot Justine Damond. Justine had called 911 to report a possible rape in the back alley behind her house. Minutes after she called, the police arrived, she went up to the car only to be shot by Mr Noor. Mr Noor has turned himself in and is currently being charged with third degree murder and manslaughter. It was on Tuesday after a warrant for his arrest, that he handed himself in. His bail is set at \$500,000USD. He is now booked in at the Hennepin County Jail. Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman, while announcing Noor had been charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter charges, offered new details and a timeline of the lead-up and aftermath of Ms Damond's shocking death. "There is no evidence Noor encountered a threat, appreciated a threat, investigated a threat or confirmed a threat that justified his decision to use deadly force," Mr Freeman told reporters. "Instead, Officer Noor recklessly and intentionally fired his hand gun from the passenger seat in disregard for human life." Unfortunately Mr Noor has pleaded the fifth amendment. So we don't fully know what happened. By Toby Mcerlane (Year 8)




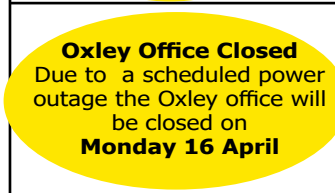


# GALLERY





# APRIL & MAY CALENDAR

 <b>HOLIDAY SHOP HOURS</b> Tuesday 17, Wednesday 18, Thursday 19 April; Tuesday 24 April, Thursday 26 April 8.30am to 4.00pm	Mon 16	Mon 23	Mon 30 Term 2 Commences Apeldoorn KSG Visit (all week)
	Tue 17	Tue 24	Tue 01
 <b>Oxley Office Closed</b> Due to a scheduled power outage the Oxley office will be closed on <b>Monday 16 April</b>	Wed 18	Wed 25 ANZAC DAY	Wed 02
Thu 12 Junior School Grandparents' Day End Term 1	Thu 19	Thu 26	Thu 03
Fri 13	Fri 20	Fri 27	Fri 04
Sat 14 Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver/Gold hikes Drama Tour to Melbourne	Sat 21	Sat 28	Sat 05 ISA Round 1
Sun 15 Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver/Gold hikes Drama Tour to Melbourne	Sun 22	Sun 29	Sun 06 Oxley Equestrian Day

## P & F NEWS



Open to all school age riders in Years 7 - 12

**OXLEY COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN DAY** Sunday 6 May

"Wyeera", Bong Bong Racecourse, Bowral  
 All entries via: [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au)  
 Entries close: Sunday 22 April 2018

Dressage | Show Jumping | Show Horse

Enquiries:  
 Alex Wansoy - 0411 047 070  
 Holly Kramer - 0408 299 462

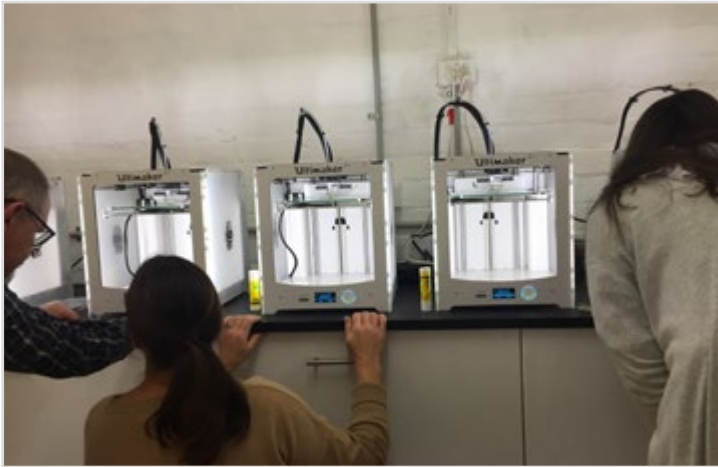
## EQUESTRIAN DAY - SUNDAY 6 MAY

The Oxley P & F are seeking donations of baked goods - ideally cupcakes, biscuits, muffins and slices - to sell at the canteen on Equestrian Day - Sunday 6 May 2018. Baked goods can be dropped off on the day directly to Bong Bong Racecourse between 7.00am - 10.00am on the day - or on Saturday 5 May 2018 to the Pavilion at the College between 10.00am - 12.00pm. Please note we must adhere to the strict no nut policy on all goods. Our wonderful canteen is always a major draw card on the day. All Equestrian Canteen enquires to Kate Fair- [midwifesremedy@gmail.com](mailto:midwifesremedy@gmail.com). All Oxley families are encouraged to come to the Equestrian Day even if you are not involved in the horse world. There is a fantastic community atmosphere at the Bong Bong racecourse and people can drop in for a short or long time.

### Oxley Equestrian Day Raffle Tickets

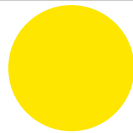
3 for \$5, 7 for \$10, 20 for \$20  
 WIN!!!! WIN!!!! WIN!!!!  
 Gift baskets, vouchers, premium Australian wine, Equestrian clothing and gear, shoes (human!), horse rugs, Stockfeed and produce, hardware supplies. Over \$1,500 worth of great prizes from our generous sponsors:  
 Gubbins Home Hardware  
 Bowral Co-op  
 Thomas Cook Clothing  
 The Barrel Thief  
 Horserwerks  
 Winton House  
 Knowles Stockfeed  
 Show Girl Equestrian  
 Nina Leon Shoes  
 Wallaby Hill  
 Horseland Moss Vale

# NEWSFLASH



## 3D PRINTERS ARRIVE

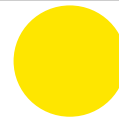
We have just had delivered and installed a bank of five new 3D printers last week. The Technology and Applied Science department is looking forward to using these exciting tools with students from Year 7-12 in Technology, Design and Technology, Graphic Technology, Engineering Studies and so much more!



## RUGBY TOUR ACT

The Oxley Rugby 1st XV headed off for a training camp to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra on Friday 6 April, with the aim of returning as a better skilled group of rugby players, and more importantly with a developed mateship throughout the team. Each morning of the Camp began with a stretching and mobility session, followed by a nutritious breakfast in the food hall. On Saturday morning, the team had an intense training session with Damien and Pete, two of the ACT Brumbies youth coaches, which all players found very helpful. After the session the boys were lucky enough to use the professional recovery centre. We then watched The UC Vikings VS The Canberra Royals, and then headed to GIO stadium to watch the ACT Brumbies beat the QLD Reds in an entertaining game of Super Rugby. On Sunday, the boys had another great training session and then returned home. The training camp would not have been possible without Mr Combes and Mr Gauchat, and we thank them for organising the camp and joining us on the amazing experience.

By Tom Whyte (Year 12)



## SHORT AND SHARP

Short and Sharp is an opportunity for Drama students in Year 10 and 11 to showcase their talents in a ten minute play they have written themselves. This year's Short and Sharp contestants covered a wide range of themes and ideas. From a hilarious exaggeration of mothers shopping in a supermarket to very serious issues of mental illness, struggling with one's identity and sexual consent, our beloved Drama teachers have their work cut out for them in choosing just four plays to go to Sydney. The winners will work in a professional environment to perform their plays alongside other competing schools, a taste of the luxurious and stressful lifestyle of Hollywood actors and directors.

By Brydie Taylor (Year 7) and Maya Chance (Year 11)



## SAILING - Louis Maxwell

**Q: What was the competition you went in?**

A: I went in the Spiral New South Wales Championships which was held in March this year. It includes five races around a series of different courses at Lake Illawarra.

**Q. How did you go in this event?**

A. I was awarded NSW State Spiral Sailing Dinghy Junior Champion.

**Q: When did you start sailing?**

A: I've been sailing my whole life and try to sail as much as I can during the term, almost every weekend.

**Q: What do you like about it?**

A: You can have a lot of fun with friends and I find it quite relaxing.

**Q: Where do you hope sailing takes you in the future?**

A: I hope to keep improving my sailing and hopefully continue to do it when I am older. In terms of other competitions, I'm not exactly sure what the future holds.

By Lucie Drysdale (Year 11)