

PINOAK

ISSUE 75: TERM 3, AUGUST 31, 2018
OXLEY COLLEGE



BOOK
WEEK

NAIDOC

MOCK TRIAL
+
MUNA

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Book Week, "Find Your Treasure"

Our library vision and mission contains statements that describe our goal to promote lifelong reading for leisure. In support of this goal the Book Week Parade is a Junior School event where the students, the staff and the families celebrate reading by reading together.

Mr Parker read to us from Zen Shorts, a gentle book with powerful messages about resilience and we were delighted to have Gloria Waters and Madeleine Grill from Year 6 share their treasured books, Sunday Chutney and Pippi Longstocking. The Book Week Parade was a great reminder to us all of the joy of shared reading.

Reading and writing go hand in hand and the Book Week Parade was a fitting event in which to announce the winners of the Oxley Young Author Competition.

It is our privilege to support and promote the efforts of Oxley's aspiring authors by making their work available on library shelves for other students to borrow. We received numerous entries which were all worthwhile additions our collection and we'll ensure that they are copied and placed in special binders on the shelves. The winner's stories from each year level will be professionally bound.

After the excitement of parading and competition announcements, the school community met in the library to read books together while they filled in their "Treasure Maps" with details of the books they chose to bring to the parade.

Hannah - Year 5H: "My book Alice in Wonderland is a treasure to me because my grandmother always used to read it to me when I was little."

Anna Clark - Year 2: "Because Alice Miranda is a very nice and extremely brave and courageous and faces her fear."

Andy - Year 1W: "Because when I was little I wanted to go to Paris like Mr Chicken."

All our junior students left the library with a gold, foil wrapped, chocolate coin "treasure" but the real gold was contained in our shared experience which I know will become a treasured lifelong memory for our students. Our thanks to all those involved, Mr Parker and Ms Lind, the staff, the families and the students.



HEADMASTER'S REPORT

Netball

Many congratulations are in order to our Netball squad this year. Four of the five teams made the finals. Even better, three of the four teams won their finals! It was certainly a big day for Oxley at the Genea Netball Stadium up at Homebush.

We started the day with the Junior Bs. This team had pulled together quickly as a group of young people who had never played together before and came from a variety of different schools. There was a lot of tenacity and willingness to defend. The accurate shooting from Goal Attack and Goal Keeper helped us pull away from Chevalier to win 28 – 22. Congratulations to all of the excellent girls on the team and to Ms Bernadette Norton their coach.

At 11:30am there were two games - the Firsts and the Seconds. Unfortunately we went down in the Firsts, against a team (Central Coast Grammar) who had beaten us by twenty points earlier in the season and beaten everyone else in the competition as well. Nonetheless we were able to get to within one point of being level with them and were ultimately defeated by a handful of points 40 - 44. It was better news two courts down where the Seconds defeated Barker in a closely fought nail biter. We ultimately won by one point 33 - 32. We were seven ahead at the beginning of the fourth quarter, and it seemed for a while that the momentum was really going the other way. However, the team dug in, defended strongly and managed to hold off a concerted Barker offence. It was a great way for several of the girls, such as Brydie Clarke and Abbey Barraclough-Franks to finish their school sporting career. Natacha Brochard, their coach was proud of them all.

At 1:00pm our intermediate team took to the court and confidently saw off a challenge from Blue Mountains Grammar School. There was some remarkably fluid attack and a real sense of confidence with the ball and with each other. Lily Magill even got an early birthday present with some great passes and shots. A very enthusiastic parental cheer squad buoyed up the girls' spirits and we won comfortably, 37 - 29. Congratulations here too to Mrs Allison Marcolin, their (ex parent) coach.

All of the games were played with verve, determination, passion and dignity. The speeches after each game from the various captains speak to how well the teams came together and worked cohesively. They all deserved to be proud of each other, as the College is of them.

Year 12 Events

In addition, this week has seen Year 12 putting on their Music and Art showcases. In both cases I have been impressed with the quality and the breadth of the work. Without mentioning individual names here, each music performer was skilled, (sometimes virtuosic), passionate and deeply connected to their pieces. There is a good range of piano, violin and voice amongst the group. In the case of Art, there was such a lot of thought, ethical sensibility, purpose and vigour in the pieces. The way in which each of the students exhibited a real craftsmanship too was quite extraordinary. The young men and women are well taught to give visual expression to what really matters to them. The Drama and Design and Technology events are to come. I do hope that a good many of you, particularly parents in Year 12, get a chance to come and see them.





IS THAT REALLY A GOOD IDEA?

You may have seen those photos of nude farmers dancing with delight for the small amount of rain we've had in recent weeks, but much of the country still lies in drought. This is one of the hardest hitting dry spells we've had in many years and with it, one idea has been doing the rounds on social media sites: no more foreign aid until we help our farmers!

In some ways, the call seems sensible. Why would we send Australian money overseas when our own people do it tough in the agricultural industry?

Like many ideas, this is one that requires a bit of deeper investigation.

First, if a wealthy country like Australia were to decide to look after itself first every time things got tough domestically, it would be our own farmers who would be among the first to suffer. That's because the decision to cut foreign aid would not only reduce the capacity of our neighbours to trade with us, it would trash our international reputation. And that is very bad for business. Agriculture is one of the sectors most exposed to international trade – a fact recognised by the farming community itself. David Littleproud, Agriculture Minister who represents a huge farming community in QLD, recently put it this way: "We're a nation of 25million people. We produce enough food for 75 million. Let me tell you that if we don't trade with the world, if we don't engage the world, then I don't have communities like mine."

Second, Foreign Aid is not simply about being 'nice.' The Australian Government is quite open about the fact that our Aid is strategically designed to help our neighbours overcome poverty, develop education, fight extremism, combat contagious diseases, prevent natural disasters and foster good leadership. Most of the aid we give goes directly to the Pacific and Asia – countries close to Australia. Why? Because as a nation, Australia wants to help create stability in this region. We don't live in a bubble. Withdrawing aid would leave Australia open to war, the spread of disease, terrorism and increased refugee flow.

Third, when people suggest targeting the Foreign

Aid budget as a source of cash to help out farmers, they're assuming that it's a major money pot – a budget black hole into which hundreds of billions of dollars are poured annually by the government. Study after study of Australians shows that most people have no idea what Australia actually gives to people overseas through foreign aid, believing it to be 10 to 12 times as much as it is. The real amount of aid we give is tiny at less than 1% of our Gross Domestic Product (everything we earn as a nation). That amounts to a little more than \$4 billion. Compare that to what we spend on Defence - \$36 billion – or Welfare at \$175billion.

While the Aid budget might be tiny, the good it does for people living in absolutely desperate situations – where children die simply because they drink dirty water – is incredible. Australia should be proud of the fact that we've been part of a global movement to halve the number of people living in absolute poverty; eradicate polio; save lives by preventing malaria. In our own region we've helped rebuild after Cyclone Pam and Winston and provided hope to hundreds of thousands of families through very simple start up loans so they can work their way out of poverty. All this is achieved on tiny amounts of investment.

Where does that leave our farmers? A few ideas. Instead of pitching one vulnerable group of people against another, and increasing suspicion and dislike of people of different races, why not encourage our Government to take a look at other areas of expenditure where money could be found to assist people during drought? Donate personally to any number of charities for farming communities (or Coles!). Organise a fundraiser in your own community. Investigate some of the deeper issues behind sustainable farming in Australia and the ongoing problems that cause drought and how your lifestyle might be contributing to long term changes in climate. However you decide to respond, think carefully before hitting LIKE and SHARE on ideas that look great on Facebook. Many require a bit more investigation.

By Jemima Taylor (Year 11)

TAKE INSPIRATION



CROWLEY'S CONSPIRACY CORNER

Welcome back, ladies and gentlemen, to Crowley's Conspiracy Corner. I was told, by some of my biggest fans, that last issue's CCC was not up to par with some of my best work, and to remedy this, I have uncovered one of the biggest coverups of all time. Australia, the country that we all call 'home,' doesn't exist. That's right sheeple, Australia is a fake, a fabrication. You may be saying, "that's just silly, I've lived in Australia my whole life, my dad said Australia is real, so it must be." Well your dad is wrong. Haven't you ever been overseas and said, "I come from Australia," and received a completely blank look, well no, that's not just because that's the day to day expression of most Americans, it's also because they haven't ever heard of it. And that's not even the biggest piece of evidence, on a map, we are told that Australia is at the bottom of the globe, but that's silly, because if Australia were on the bottom, wouldn't it just fall off? But why? Why would people do this? Go to all that trouble? Well dear readers, that is something that you're going to have to wait until next issue to find out. And just so you know, I'm using a cliff hanger here as an intelligent literary device, and not just because I'm running out of ideas and have a word limit, so, until next week, question everything.

By Sam Crowley (Year 11)



MUSIC

In honor of Oxley's celebration of NAIDOC week and to celebrate art currently being created by our First Nations people, here are four emerging Indigenous acts from across Australia that you'd be stupid not to give a listen...

Baker Boy: If you're a fan of Aussie hip-hop, you should've already wrapped your ears around this bundle of talent. In case you haven't, Baker Boy is making some incredibly vivacious music that, even in its infectious nature, doesn't skip on smarts and serious subjects. For fans of BROCKHAMPTON, A.B. Original & Hilltop Hoods.

KIAN: After taking out the top spot in Triple J's Unearthed High competition this year, KIAN is about to do some huge things at only 16 years old. With his palliative vocals and acoustic-pop stylings, you're going to be hearing a lot more from this young gun soon. For fans of Dean Lewis.

Alice Skye: Wergaia woman Alice Skye is making the kind of music that soundtracks both moments of despair and sunny afternoons. Her soft folk stylings and husky vocals are as captivating as they are the perfect background music. For fans of Missy Higgins & Regina Spektor.

Tia Gostelow: Queensland's Tia Gostelow has been moving ever since she was 16 and her quirky, sunny sound has brought her far over the last couple of years, now gearing up to release a debut album through her own label. If you're in for some top-notch songwriting and beach day jams, Tia has you covered. For fans of Matt Corby & San Cisco.

By Izzy Moore (Year 11)

PINK!

On Sunday the 12th, I got the opportunity to see Pink live on her 'Beautiful Trauma' Tour. This is one of her many tours to Australia but on this particular tour, she got ill with a gastric virus. She cancelled 4 of her Sydney shows. Many fans gave her so much hate on social media about how mad they were about the cancellation of the show and how the timing and notice for the cancelled concerts were outrageous.

Pink was very disappointed because of her absence and wanted so much to be on stage and performing to the Sydney crowds but she knew her health was more important and had to get better before she could perform.

"On Monday, we were absolutely planning on going ahead with the show, and about 20 minutes before I left for soundcheck, I was rushed to the hospital, in excruciating pain.," Pink explained to her disappointed fans.

After her recovery, many anxious fans waited for the news to see if the concert they had booked would be on or not. Luckily for me, the concert I booked was after her recovery when she was feeling much better.

Her concert was amazing she sang songs from her new album 'Beautiful Trauma' and some of her old but gold - all-time favorites. Some of these included: 'Let's get this party started', 'Rockstar', 'Revenge' and 'Perfect' just to name a few of her amazing performances that night and she wasn't just standing in front of a mic no, not Pink she is known for entertaining and entertainment did we get! Pink was flown around the room multiple times during the concert and most of the flying included her upside down, doing backflips in the air or even flying on a bed over the audience. While all this was going on she was still singing every word of her songs as well as costume changes for nearly every song. Overall Pink's concert was incredible. If you ever get the chance to see her in concert, you must go!

By Lily Magill (Year 9)

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Head of Junior School: Justine Lind

In recent weeks Junior School classes have been gazing beyond the classroom walls and college gates to satisfy their sense of wonder at the wider world. The International Baccalaureate aims to nurture a sense of international mindedness in learners across the globe. "An internationally minded person is open-minded about the common humanity of all people and accepts and respects other cultures and beliefs. The internationally minded person takes action through discussion and collaboration to help build a better and peaceful world." (www.IBO.org)

At Oxley our units of inquiry are intentionally designed to allow our students to explore the universality of human experience and physical phenomena, oftentimes grounded in a specific local or global context as a case study. Our students appreciate their humanity through explorations and comparisons with other places and other times through a wide variety of sources to provide this significant perspective for the young and innocent. Last term our K-2 classes connected with essential community services as part of their PDH unit on Health and Safety with thanks to parents in our community Lauren Blom and John Arnott who brought the Mounted Police and local Fire Brigade to Oxley for a few hours which delighted students and teachers alike with a close-up view of these intriguing heroes of our community. This term, Stage 1 will visit Shoalhaven Zoo to enhance their appreciation of animals, life cycles and ecosystems. They will get up close and personal to hone their skills of observation, hypothesis and collaboration for vital scientific inquiry.

Earlier this term Years 3 and 4 journeyed to Sydney's China Town and Japanese Garden to stimulate their wonderings about Asia and more importantly the connections between many countries as an early provocation for their unit on 'Interdependence'. Last term their series of visits to local mining and historical sites provided an incredible depth of knowledge and insight into their unit on 'Progress'. The student themselves could articulate the power of seeing the mining conditions first-hand in helping them to write with insight about the experience and working conditions of the miners.

Stage 3 have been exploring naturally occurring disasters for their unit 'Survival' and have been the beneficiaries of significant parent expertise during in-house presentations. Mrs Wendy Smith, ably assisted by her computer savvy children Lily and Harry, provided awe inspiring insight into the emerging research around fire events, latest hazard reduction and fire-fighting technologies. Ms Sarah Manglesdorf, shared her experience of the Boxing Day Tsunami and contribution to the rebuilding effort. Mr Daniel Shields will also speak to the students about his professional experience in risk mitigation and response. In this unit, the students will collaborate to create documentaries on one type of natural disaster including an extended imaginative text from the perspective of a survivor inspiring them to tap into their empathy and intuition to explore the human experience first-hand.

Last week we celebrated the power of literature to provide a window to other worlds and the rich characters

Weekly Awards:

Learning Journey

KL: Euan Shedden
Yr 1S: Thomas Berry, Teddy Blom
Yr 1W: Aari Poole
Yr 2: Livie Marks, Charlotte Bissett
Yr 3: Neeson Greene
Yr 4: Noah Byrne
Yr 5C: Eva Duffy
Yr 5H: Chiara Shannon
Yr 6A: Alannah Mansour

Oxley Values

KL: Jacob Reeves
Yr 1S: Lachlan Stanners
Yr 1W: Charlotte Holmes
Yr 2: Ella Wallace
Yr 3: Miranda Hunter
Yr 4: Madeline Gordon
Yr 5C: Ava Ritchie
Yr 5H: Siena Todorcevski
Yr 6A: Tom Santo
Yr 6L: Greta Perin

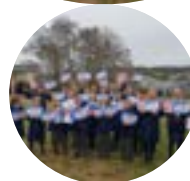


Learning Journey

KL: Charlotte Byrne
Yr 1S: Hamish Aston
Yr 1W: Charlotte Holmes
Yr 2: Claire Diver
Yr 3: Joel Sheezel
Yr 4: Sabine Garton
Yr 5C: Bryn Wiseman
Yr 5H: Hannah Thomson
Yr 6A: Dylan Davis
Yr 6L: Harry Cameron

Oxley Values

KL: Leo Le Guay
Yr 1S: Lexi Mendes da Costa
Yr 1W: Aari Poole
Yr 2: Will Kennedy
Yr 3: Zali Walters
Yr 4: Amber McGlynn
Yr 5C: Sasha Pratten
Yr 5H: Evie Bissett
Yr 6A: Laura Hamilton



ICAS Spelling Distinction Awards:

Carter Evans
Madeleine Grill

that awaken the vital insight that empathy brings. Quality literature is frequently a part of the learning landscape that broadens the students' experience of a unit's content to deepen their understandings through vivid narrative. As part of our Book Week programmes many Junior School students transported us to the high seas and beyond. We are extremely grateful to Ms Robinson, Mrs Antoniak, Ms Rees and Ms Everingham who provided such joyful and memorable moments for our community and of course to the parents who supported this initiative providing costumes, a supportive audience or indeed generous readings for groups of grateful children gathered around in the library on a wintery Wednesday morning. In a time when we wish for our children to develop wisdom, rich experiences provide lasting life lessons and perpetuate a love of learning, that enable us to be wise without the harsh lessons that history has dealt those of us who are also old. Glimpses beyond the here and now into enduring human experiences nurture our students to learn with hearts and minds in a way that can't help but support deep understanding both of the subject and the vibrant human experience we call life.





REFLECTIONS OF OUR NAIDOC ASSEMBLY 2018

Extract from Julia Parker's speech: Who is Oodgeroo?

We need to be open to the fact that reading texts from another culture is awkward. Be open to the fact that we might get it wrong. Be open to fact that we might not understand the writing the first, second or even third time. Be open to the fact that some people may even be angry about our ignorance.

Tough as it may be, I feel that any of those options is better than just stopping. Because the ultimate failure is to stop trying.

The theme for NAIDOC week this year is 'because of her, we can!' We can what? What does Oodgeroo let us do? You can put your own word there, whatever you feel is fitting. But, I will share my words with you.

I think 'because of her, we can see': see the suffering of the indigenous people; see the importance of her home people and land; see her passion for the education of Aboriginal children; see her longing for the conservation of land and culture.

Also, I think 'because of her, we can talk.' I hope that, on the long mission to understand each other's cultures, we will remember women like Oodgeroo, who showed us the power of dialogue. Her poetry invites us to talk to each other, to have a cultural dialogue.

Extract from Bodhi Matthews' speech: Gundungurra History

I hope that each of you can come away from this assembly feeling as if you have a better understanding of Aboriginal culture, specifically the Gundungurra people's culture, on who's land we meet today. Moving forward I ask that each of you to reflect on history of this land and if are so inclined, learn more about the traditions and stories of the southern highlands.

The history and culture of Aboriginal people is the history and culture of all Australians, no matter of ethnicity.

Feedback from various groups.

Members of the local Aboriginal community:

I have attended many NAIDOC events over my life and Oxley College event I thought was excellent. It had a good balance of young and old, I especially loved Dobby and his enthusiasm for his culture it was very infectious. I myself am Yuin woman from the South Coast and the Yuin Nation is a mighty nation with 12 tribes that come under it, my 2 tribes being the Dharawal & Waddi Waddi tribe it was nice to learn some of the Gundangarra history.

Sharon Randall

The event was wonderful respectful and informative. I'm sure every student learnt something on the day and will be enriched by a deeper understanding of local Aboriginal culture.

Jo Albany

Staff:

Extremely engaging for students, pitched at multi-levels and interests, yet honourable and respectful. Highlights were by far Julia Parker's speech and the indigenous rapper- what a star!

It was really special to see both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students up there celebrating Indigenous culture together. It tied in with Bodhi's point about how the history of Aboriginal Australia is the history of all Australians, which is a thought provoking point for us all to contemplate. I was pleased to see students embracing this and think it will connect really well with some of the ideas we cover as part of our curriculum and also on OLE camps. And I certainly have developed a deeper respect for Oodgeroo as an activist after hearing Julia's speech.



Student Reflections:

- The NAIDOC assembly, I felt like the school really made an effort to connect with the aspects of Aboriginal culture, and it did so. I also loved how they brought in an Aboriginal rapper to mix with the culture today. From Anonymous, Year 8
- I have struggled with personal identity for years. The question of who I am has haunted me, but my heritage has helped me find out more about myself and my family. My great grandmother was an aboriginal woman, who I unfortunately have never had the pleasure of meeting, all I know about her is that she came from somewhere along the south-western region of western Australia. I was especially proud to be a part of Oxley's first NAIDOC week, the celebration of Indigenous culture is so vital in our society, recognising those that have been cast aside in our society for so long is imperative. Although I still have many questions about who I am, I find solace in the fact that I am part of an extraordinary culture. I am proud of my heritage and I hope to continue to learn more about Indigenous culture, I still have much to discover but I believe that the future will hold more answers as to who I am. Georgia Hutton, Year 11
- The local indigenous community, including Aunty Trish, set the assembly mood perfectly using the traditional didgeridoo music, smoke cleansing and ochre. I learnt a lot about the history and who Oodgeroo was through Julia, who I felt spoke passionately and beautifully. I now have a new perspective on the words 'brave', 'strong' and 'true' and the school song. – Breanna Billett, Year 7
- I learned that you can be whoever you want to. I felt like i was listening to music. I wondered if I could be a Gundangarra person. Ella Wallace Year 2.
- I thought the NAIDOC assembly was awesome! This assembly opened my eyes to the rich Aboriginal culture and the need for our generation to continue to learn more and more about this amazing culture. After attending NAIDOC, I have a growing desire to learn more about Aboriginal culture and to play my part in ensuring the stories and legacy are kept alive. The NAIDOC assembly was very inspiring and should be continued in the future. Anonymous also liked
- I liked learning the Gundangarra words in the school song because we got to learn new words. Dobby's speech and songs. Grace, Year 2.
- I liked it when we got ochre on our heads. I loved Charlotte G's speech, I liked Dobby the rapper! I wish we could do a dance. Anna, Year 2.
- Oxley's NAIDOC assembly was extremely special. I thought there was a perfect balance of student and guest input. The atmosphere during Dobby's performance was incredible. The way the Gundungarra words were incorporated into our school song was especially significant as it gave a sense of connection.
- I think the inclusion and connection between Oxley College and NAIDOC week was good and important. It provided the students with information and an interesting learning experience of the house Oodgeroo, Kath Walker (Oodgeroo), and her background and culture.
- The NAIDOC assembly brought the often overlooked traditions of the Aboriginal community to the forefront of my attention. It made me realise how rich and deep this over 50,000-year-old culture is and how we should honour its traditions in our everyday lives.
- I love being exposed to Aboriginal traditions and stories because every time, I am learning something new about the culture - not only the life of Aboriginals in 1788, but their life now in today's modern world. It was also incredible to see a genre of music through Dobby that is so influenced by western sounds, but, at the same time, holds traditional indigenous elements within it. Ben Canute, Year 11
- I learnt about the meaning of the celebration. About how positive aboriginal people can be with all the traditions of smoking/ochre and the welcome to country. The respect contributed by everyone showed the true inner beauty of the Aboriginal arts we should never forget.
- For Oxley to be part of NAIDOC Weeks Celebration was something that was extremely special. I enjoyed every part of the celebration in particular the smoking and ochre ceremony. I believe that it is so important to learn about our heritage as Australians, and by being part of a celebration like this, it is something that you don't get to experience often. I hope that Oxley continues to celebrate NAIDOC many years into the future.

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich



Year 10 Course Selection Interviews – 2019 Year 11

This year we have introduced an additional step in the provision of guidance on subject choice. Year 10 students were able to meet individually with their Head of House for a scheduled interview. During the session, Heads of House worked through career directions, the Morrisby results, academic data and provisional choices. There was a buzz in the room as students visibly “stepped up” to articulate to an adult the reasons and motivation behind their selections. Mrs Ritchie, Career Advisor was also available for consultation, as was Mr Case. We thank Mrs Pugh, Mr Clewett, Mr Bollom, Mr Bevan, Mr Gauchat and Mr Cunich for their contribution to the process. As a result, our first draft of 2019 lines will be published shortly.

Year 12 HSC Showcases, Projects and Marking

It is that time of year again when we celebrate the many hours that goes into creating a project or performance for the HSC. The past week has seen the work of our talented Year 12 students on display in Drama, Visual Arts and Music. Extension 2 English projects have also been handed in. Without exception, every year, parents and visitors to our Showcase evening comment on the high standard, the diversity of choice and project, the obvious connection with the work, and the palpable excitement of both student and teacher as they near the end of the journey. The “real” HSC looms for practical courses, with these dates fast approaching:

HSC Drama Marking: Tuesday 4 September

HSC Music 1 Marking: Wednesday 19 September

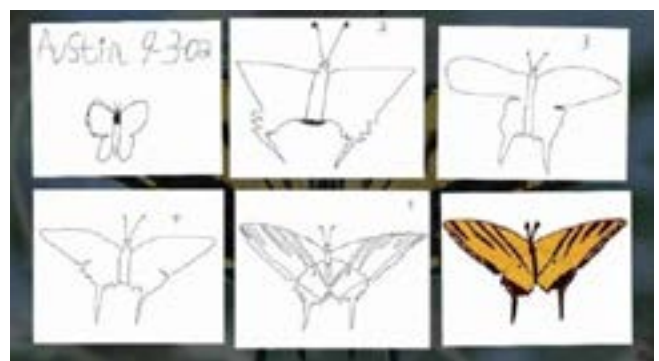
HSC Music 2 Marking: Thursday 20 September

HSC DT Marking: Friday 21 September



Staff Professional Learning Update: The Feedback in Action Project

Last week, our consultants from Melbourne University were once again with us. They spent time in both Junior School and Secondary classrooms, conducting a walkthrough and talking to students about their learning, and in particular the feedback that they receive from their teachers and peers. Interestingly, Grahame Nuthall’s seminal work, *The Hidden Lives of Learners*, found that most of the feedback that students receive from their peers is not correct. Thus we are very conscious of building knowledge and skills that contribute meaningfully to progression. If you are interested, one of the great resources we are using is Austin’s Butterfly. Here is the link: <https://vimeo.com/38247060>





SPORTS COACHES REQUIRED

Due to the increased number of sporting teams in both the Junior and Senior schools, we are seeking enthusiastic coaches for our school sporting teams for the 2018/19 Summer Season.

Coaches are sought for the following sports:

Basketball, Cricket, Softball, Touch Football and Water Polo

Junior School Training is usually conducted on a Monday and Wednesday afternoons between 3.30pm and 4.30pm with most fixtures played midweek.

Senior School Training is held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 3.45pm and 5.00pm with most fixtures played on Saturdays. Teams play at Oxley College and venues in Sydney, Blue Mountains and the Central Coast.

For further information contact the Sport Department at Oxley College on (02) 4861 1366 or email your expression of interest to:

nicholas.wansey@oxley.nsw.edu.au

or
kim.mcnaught@oxley.nsw.edu.au

Child protection legislation requires preferred applicants be subject to employment screening.

MUNA



Model United Nations Association is an event in which school teams represent a member of the UN and debate current global topics in a mock general assembly. After two Oxley teams competed in the regional event earlier this year, it was with great pride that one of the teams got accepted to MUNA Nationals. The event, held in Canberra, went from Friday 17th August, until Sunday 19th, and it was truly an incredible experience. Representing the Russian Federation, the Oxley team, consisting of Natasha Thomas, Claire Allan and Jay Combes, led by the wonderful Ms Rintoul, had the incredible honour of receiving Highly Commended, or fourth overall!

On the Friday evening, we arrived and you could immediately feel the positive energy radiating as countries organised themselves in our Blocs to begin discussing global issues. It was wonderful to be surrounded by such dedicated people, who were truly invested in the event. Moreover, it was encouraging to see that our generation, the future leaders, are already so invested in current global topics.

The next two days consisted of debate sessions held in the House of Representatives, within the Museum of Australian Democracy (or Old Parliament House). We discussed various global topics, ranging from nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula, the situation in Syria, and global climate change to name a few. These sessions were invigorating, as we combined our well researched knowledge with on the spot ideas and rebuttal, arguing these topics in the view of our country, completely disregarding all personal opinion. These sittings challenged us immensely, however, they also taught us a tremendous amount which will stay with us for the rest of our careers.

One of my personal favourite events was the dinner at ANU on the Saturday evening, where the team was lucky enough to meet two Russian diplomats. We had previously communicated with them through email however, meeting them in person really enhanced our experience at MUNA, and provided first hand insight into a completely different culture. At the same event, we heard an inspiring speech, regarding the current refugee crisis, made by an official from the UN High Commission for Refugees. This was extremely stimulating, and most definitely provided food for thought.

MUNA Nationals was a truly incredible experience, allowing us to develop a deeper understanding of global issues, an appreciation of worldly events from an entirely new perspective, and gave us the opportunity to form friendships with like-minded individuals. For anyone who has an interest in global affairs, and wishes to expand this in an exhilarating and enjoyable environment, I would highly recommend being involved in MUNA next year.

A massive thank you must go out to the organisers of the event, Rotary International, and of course Ms Rintoul, who without the support of, we would have never been able to experience MUNA.

By Natasha Thomas (Year 10)

HICES MUSIC FESTIVAL

The HICES, Music Festival is a wonderful time for students in Years 7-12 from different schools around NSW, to creatively come together and share a common interest, Music. With many different musical groups such as the Symphonic winds, Honour Choir, string ensemble, World music ensemble and a Symphony orchestra, HICES music has something for everyone. Not only did we grow our love for music, but we also took part in a physical activity such as go-carting, team-building games or the giant swing. As a night-time game everyone got their boogie on and played Just Dance, while others participated in the student concert. Whilst building new friendships and seeing old friends from previous years the 2018 HICES participants had the honour to work with guest conductor Mr Paul Jarman. Paul had written a song titled INVICTUS taking inspiration from the poem "Invictus" written by William Ernest Henley; in honour of the Invictus games. Whilst being accompanied by the symphony orchestra, students could sing as a mass choir being led by Paul Jarman. The song Invictus means unconquerable and this was a message that Paul taught all of us. HICES was an amazing experience to grow musicianship, try something new and be part of something greater.

By Isabella Pether (Year 9)

Fergus Hanson CLASS OF '98



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

About a year ago I came back to Australia to Head up the International Cyber Policy Centre, which is based at Australia's main defence and national security think-tank, ASPI. I've been lucky to have been able to try a few different things: working as a diplomat, setting up the Freedom Fund and Global Fund to End Slavery for a philanthropist and most recently working for a UN Agency. I've spent most of my time at think tanks though.

What is your biggest achievement since high school?

I don't know it's an achievement, but I have really enjoyed having the opportunity to work in public policy. It involves solving big problems and working in a hugely diverse range of areas with a lot of freedom.

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

I didn't really have any idea what I'd do when I left high school. I did get some great advice though from Oxley teachers: to study something general and work it out from there.

How did Oxley prepare you for your future?

Plenty of ways. Probably most importantly though, by providing foundational knowledge in enough areas to allow me to dig into and get across whatever issue I've needed to since leaving school.

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

There were plenty of teachers who made a big mark. There were some – like in economics – that made subjects I had no natural interest in, fascinating. Maybe most inspiring was the dedication so many teachers had. They were asked to do a lot of arduous things – like get up at 5am to travel to Bathurst to watch us get comprehensively whooped in football – yet had an endless amount of time to help you learn. That was very impressive.

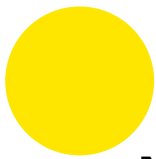
What would you say you miss most about being at school?

In hindsight, I've realised how much freedom you have during high school. Sure, you might not be able to (legally) drink, live wherever you want, etc, but you do have a freedom you won't get back once you leave. Having someone else paying all your bills and expenses and all you have to do is learn and hang out with friends doesn't happen in the post high school world. Even at university most people have to work a side job or two and other pressures start imposing on the massive freedom you have now. So, I'd enjoy it (even) more.

What would you say to your fifteen year old self?

Get a haircut.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? IN THE WORLD...



NATIONAL

Scott Morrison - who?



Unless you've been living under a rock for the past week (possibly a good idea considering the state of things) you would know that Australia has a new Prime Minister ... another one. Who IS Scott Morrison you may ask? Many of us didn't know a great deal about him before last week and in all honesty, we don't feel inclined to get too attached because judging by the way things tend to go in Australian politics, he won't last long. Australia's inability to keep a Prime Minister for a whole term has become something of a joke internationally – many wonder if our politicians have the ability to put national interests over their own political interests (and desire for revenge). We shall look forward to a thrilling election next year where the Australian people can give their opinion; meanwhile Scott Morrison has a tricky path ahead - uniting a nation and his own party while trying to maintain the tenuous position of the Australian Prime Minister.

By Jemima Taylor (Year 11)



INTERNATIONAL

The South Korean president, Moon Jae-in, has called for the creation of road and rail links between his country and North Korea by the end of the year. Moon Jae-in proposed creating a "Northeast Asian rail road community" between the two Koreas and several other including Russia, China, Japan and Mongolia. However, this proposition is complicated due to the economic sanctions placed upon North Korea to punish them for the development and continuation of their nuclear weapons project.

Moon had said, "Even though a political unification may be a long way from here, establishing peace between the South and the North and freely visiting each other, and forming a joint economic community is true liberation to us".

Moon is anticipated to have a third meeting with Kim Jong-un this year as South Korea increases its pursuance of better diplomatic relations as the U.S.A has stalled its attempts.

By Brad Worthington (Year 11)



NATIONAL

Australia Reaches a Population of 25 Million

Australia has a lot of people.

How many? Well, late last Tuesday Australia's population hit the 25 million mark. That's a lot of people especially considering that when I was born in September 2004 Australia had a population of 19.9 million. But who was the 25 millionth person to be welcomed into our great nation? Well in short, we don't know. However, it was most likely to be a young, female Chinese student or a skilled worker. The fact that this person was most likely a migrant shouldn't surprise you as migration accounts for 62% of net population growth (arrivals and births minus departures and deaths). But if we stopped all migration then we would have the problem of a falling population as Australia's birth rate is currently below replacement level. So Australia is getting bigger and the question of how big we can get will only be answered with time. Liam O'Connell (Year 8)



GALLERY



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

	Mon 3 Junior School Parent Interviews	Mon 10 2019 HSC Information Session	Mon 17
	Tue 4 Junior School Parent Interviews	Tue 11 Oxley Shop closed	Tue 18
	Wed 5 Junior School Parent Interviews	Wed 12 Oxley Shop closed	Wed 19
	Thu 6	Thu 13 Oxley Shop closed	Thu 20 Supper Club: David Wright in Conversation with Michael Parker
Fri 31 Father's Day	Fri 7 Junior School Assembly Senior School Assembly DoE Bronze Hike	Fri 14 DoE Bronze Hike	Fri 21 Year 3 – 12 Headmasters Assembly HSC D&T Major Work Exhibition
Sat 1	Sat 8 DoE Bronze Hike	Sat 15 DoE Bronze Hike	Sat 22 "Made in 1983" - 35 Year Anniversary Celebration
Sun 2	Sun 9 DoE Bronze Hike	Sun 16 DoE Bronze Hike	Sun 23

P & F NEWS

Thank you to Megan Moore and an army of (familiar) and dedicated parents and staff, who made this year's Hungry Ox another great success.

Funds this year will be directed to the new air conditioning system being installed in the school canteen.

On the last day of the Hungry Ox, Mark Case and Megan Moore co-ordinated a cake stall to raise money for 'Buy a Bale'. Thanks to those who donated cakes, slices and biscuits. This donation was made last week and \$1080 was transferred to this very worthwhile cause.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time this year, to help with this P&F initiative.



NEWSFLASH



NETBALL

First on the court was the Junior B team who had been undefeated all season. With a winning score of 22-28 against Chev, it reflected these Year 7's magnificent first season as a team. After the Junior B's had played it was Seconds and Firsts turn to play. The Seconds played a close game against Barker at the beginning but eventually were ahead by 8 goals at the end of the 3rd quarter. In an absolutely nail-biting last quarter, Barker began to close the point gap, but thankfully the timer ran out, leaving Oxley Seconds as the winners with a score of 33-32.

The Firsts were in the lead at the beginning but were unfortunately beaten by Central Coast with the score of 34-44. Nonetheless, they played amazingly and worked together as a team brilliantly. Intermediate A's played their toughest opponent, Blue Mountains. Throughout the whole game, the Intermediate A's managed to keep a steady lead with a 6 to 10 point difference at any given time during the game. In the end, they won with a score of 29-37. The cheerleaders on the sidelines with their colourful pom pom's and signs were such great support for the teams and definitely helped build up the atmosphere, which overall really helped in all the wins. On the behalf of Netball at Oxley, we would all like to say a huge thank you to all the coaches. We have learned so much and without you, we wouldn't have got as far as we did. We appreciate all the time and effort you put into our teams. By Lily Hogan and Ruby Zupp (Year 8)

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS PROJECT

Jemima Taylor, a talented, Year 11 Drama student has the exciting opportunity of having her script professionally produced as part of the Young Playwrights Project.

What is the Young Playwrights Project?

The Young Playwrights Project is a competition where High School students have the opportunity to submit their scripts to be assessed by professionals. Some of these scripts are then selected and the student works with a mentor over four weeks to develop their play. After this, actors from The Drama Studio perform the scripts and the playwrights are able to see their scripts brought to life.

What is your play about?

My play is about three children who are dressed up as trees for their school play. They are getting ready to go on stage when disaster strikes causing them to explore issues of sexual consent in fairy tales.

Is it exciting to be able to see your work come to life?

Yes, it will be exciting! It is also terrifying as I have no control over how they interpret the script and it could be completely different to my interpretation. However, it will be an interesting experience to see the different ways plays can be interpreted.

How will this experience help your playwrighting in the future?

Hopefully this will help my writing in drama, and give me some experience I may want to take out into the world.

By Lucie Drysdale (Year 11)

MOCK TRIAL

"Your honour, if you please would allow us some leeway I will quickly make this relevant"

The 2018 mock trial team was led by Ms Cox, all the way up to the second elimination round, when we were defeated by Barker College. Mock trial is a fun and supportive space to try something new and experience a prestigious profession of law. All mock trial teams around the state were given a carefully designed case for either prosecution or defence. We then had to prepare our case hoping that we could convince the judge. We built on our public speaking skills and problem solving. Being part of the mock trial team allowed us to visit the Downing Centre for a full day and see a real court at work. We learnt that the lower down in the building the worse your offense. It has been a privilege to be part of the Oxley Mock Trial team and learn about law. By Isabella Pether (Year 9)

U TURN THE WHEEL

Getting your P plates is a rite of passage most Australian teenagers go through (some much sooner than others). Most families can relate to the harrowing car rides with new learners, the hand flying to the hand brake and the arguments that always follow, and before we know it we're driving around on our own. Year 11 experienced "U-turn the Wheel" last week at the Mittagong RSL club. The program aims to educate not just young drivers, but whole communities about road safety. We heard from Sue (a bit of a legendary name amongst the learner driver community in the Highlands) from Highlands Drive Safe; the police about the risks and consequences (and very heavy fines) associated with irresponsible driving; a paramedic about what happens in a car accident; engaged in an educative session about drugs and alcohol involving tennis balls thrown around (and dropped) and finally listened to a sobering story of a mother who had lost her son in a motor bike accident. We came away from these sessions a little shocked and thinking a little more about our driving. By Jemima Taylor (Year 11)

