

PINOAK



ISSUE 84: TERM 1, MARCH 8, 2019
OXLEY COLLEGE

MEDIEVAL
FEAST

THE
CRUCIBLE

SPORT RESULTS

Contents

- 3** Head of College's Report
- 4** Big Issue
- 5** Take Inspiration
- 6** Junior School News
- 7** More Junior School News
- 8** Feature Article
- 10** Deputy Head Reports
- 11** On the Branch
- 12** Old Oxleyan
- 13** What's happening...in the World
- 14** Gallery
- 15** Calendar
- 16** Newsflash

Pin Oak Team

Student Editorial Team

Jemima Taylor, Jade Gillis, Maya Chance, Lily Magill, Ava Lambie, Eva Mackevicius, Izzy Moore, Brad Worthington, Peggy Holmwood, Bridgett Drewett, Lily Hogan, Lucie Drysdale, Pearl Bendle, Breanna Billet, Meg Gordon, Evie Crowley, India O'Brien, Tika Conway, Luca Shannon, Jill O'Connell, Emilie-Rose Westlake-O'Dwyer, Liam Verity, Isabelle Wright, Daisy Macdonald

Designers

Bree Feary, Amelia Davis, Jaz Irving, Ally Brain, Holly Hutchings, Claudia Brady, Claudia Fisk, Luca Ritchie, Soph Moore, William Nash-Smith

Head of Marketing and PR
Emma Calver

Staff Editor
Beattie Lanser

Oxley College
Railway Road, Burradoo, NSW, 2576.

Ph: 4861 1366
office@oxley.nsw.edu.au
Front Cover photo by AJ Moran



2019 Senior School Swimming Results

Age	Gender	Runner Up	Champion
12	Girls	Isabella Leahy	Laura Barnsley Adams
12	Boys	Harry Cameron	Cameron Wood
13	Girls	Ilana Sheezel	Tamalyn Boese
13	Boys	Matteo Perrotta	Thomas Fraser
14	Girls	Lilly Spring	Ellanora O'Connor
14	Boys	Hamilton Barber	James Kim
15	Girls	Grace Ayling	Olivia Bow
15	Boys	Hamish Tregenza	Victor van der Schalk
16	Girls	Mia Gillis	Lucy Cavanough Quince
16	Boys	Alex Webb	Nicolas Milner
17	Girls	Lauren Howes	Philippa Kettlewell
17	Boys	Bryce Wellman	Archer Kalde
18+	Girls	Sophia Dummer	Jade Gillis
18+	Boys	Finn Ottaviano	Lachlan Coleman

2019 Junior School Swimming Results

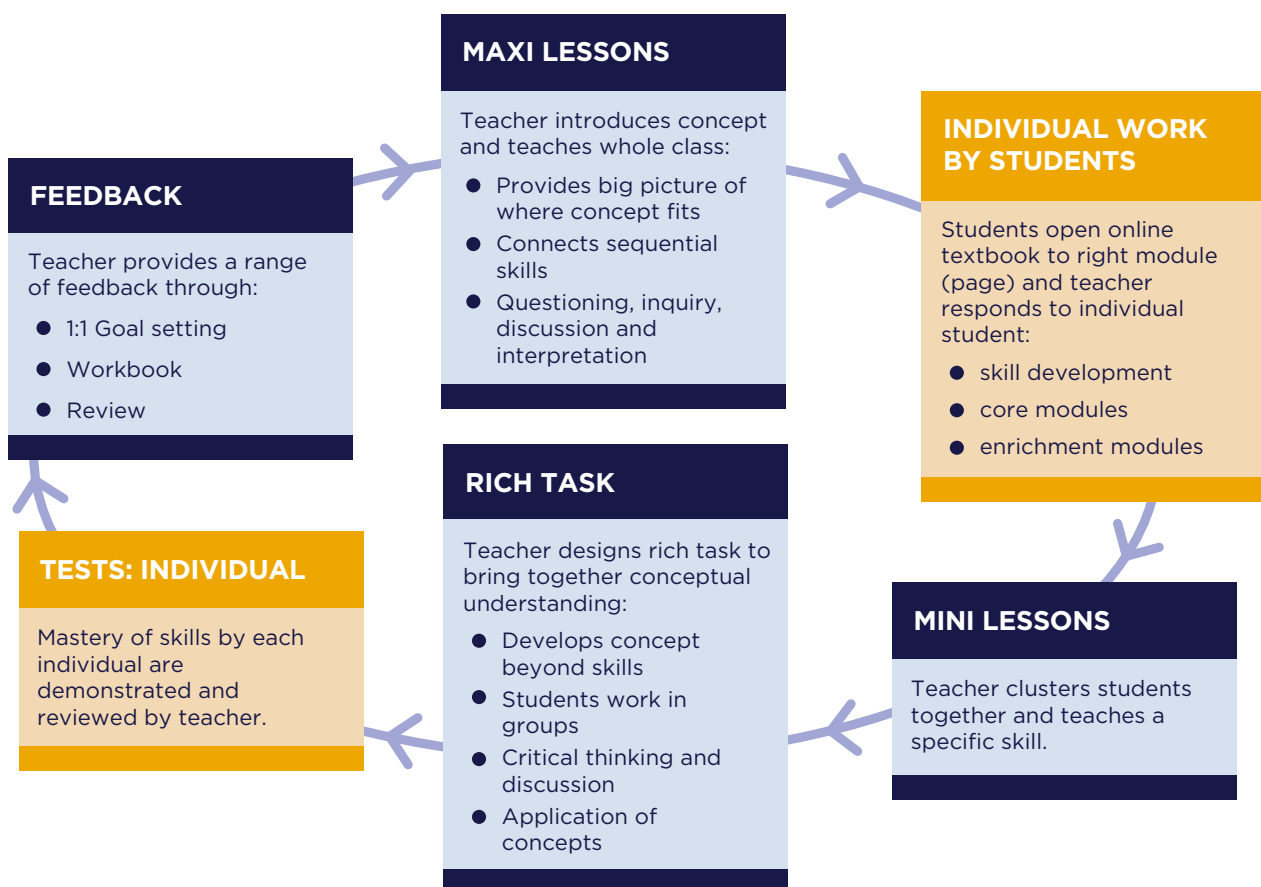
Age	Gender	Runner Up	Champion
Junior	Girls	Imogen Gair	Georgina Marks
Junior	Boys	Oliver Johnson	Joel Sheezel
11 Years	Girls	Chiara Shannon	Madison Walters
11 Years	Boys	Hamish Murray	Charlie Ryan
Senior	Girls	Sophie Spring	Siena Todorcevski
Senior	Boys	Luca Colloridi	Zane Todorcevski

HEAD OF COLLEGE'S REPORT

Over the past six weeks I have spent considerable time learning about all things 'Oxley' with numerous members of the Oxley community including staff, parents and students. As part of this the Executive team have reviewed the parent survey which was completed last year. One of the areas which was of most concern for parents was the Mathematics programme and teaching in Year 5-10. As a Mathematics teacher myself, I have been able to get into some classes to see exactly what is happening and together with Mrs Cunich and Ms Dobner we have made considerable changes and tightening of the framework we are using to re-inforce and highlight the importance of the relationship between the teacher and the students. Teaching Mathematics at Oxley is taught in cycles based on topics and each of these involve different learning experiences. We have developed the infographic below to explain the cycle of learning for Mathematics for each topic. These cycles of learning are dynamic and the length are dependent on the age and development of the students being taught and will change as the students become more mature mathematical students. Oxley College is using Pathways and Maths Space as our online interactive text books in the same way as many primary schools use Mathletics for individual development. Providing differentiation for students is really important and by providing clear core and enrichment modules it allows each student to progress through the core elements of a topic, whilst providing an opportunity for further enrichment where required. We will continue to monitor our Mathematics programme along side all our other academic offerings.

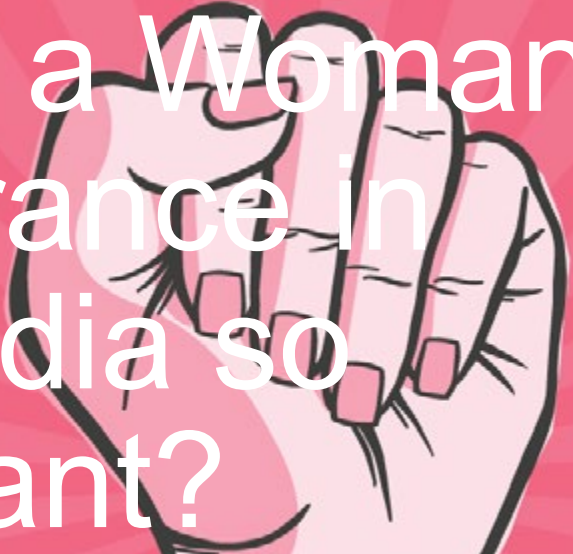
CYCLE OF LEARNING FOR MATHEMATICS AT OXLEY COLLEGE

Mathematics is taught on a topic based approach from Year 5-10.
The cycle of learning experiences for each topic include:



This cycle allows the important relationship with a teacher to flourish whilst also allowing a personalised journey for students where enrichment and support are provided for every child.

Why is a Woman's appearance in the Media so Important?



The common expectation for women in the media is that they are sophisticated, attractive and simply perfect. This puts enormous pressure on these women to be to be flawless whenever the camera is rolling. They can often feel the need to wear makeup always and be unhealthily thin. Essentially, they can become obsessed with their appearance and image, leading to an unbalanced lifestyle. Unbalanced lifestyles can sometimes lead to serious illnesses such as depression, anxiety and eating disorders.

Why is a woman's appearance in the media so important? Who cares if the news reader is wearing makeup or not, or whether they are as attractive as a model? Aren't we watching the news to find out what is happening all around the world? Is it the producers that insist on such perfection? Or is it the news reader that chooses to put that pressure on themselves? Most likely, the answer is that both parties are to blame. I look forward to the time when our society realises that beauty is not just skin deep. What you are like inside is much more important.

Although the women in media are doing unhealthy things to get the physique that they have, the influences that they have on young women and girls are also incredibly shocking. Young women and girls are often exposed to a large amount of media, and often young women think that that is a normal look for people to have because there is an overwhelmingly large number of women in media that are incredibly thin. So, in turn, the result is that they bodily shame themselves. They become unhappy and even guilty about the way that they look, sometimes to a point where it affects their lives on a major scale. The way that women look is a large part of media that

people often don't acknowledge, only thinking about how beautiful they are, or how their dress is from a certain designer. Often girls don't acknowledge the image either, instead, they subconsciously take it in and then express what they have "learnt" through bodily shaming. While bodily shaming is how the girl or woman thinks she looks, another huge part is how she thinks others will perceive her; fat, too skinny there, or that's too big.

"Somewhere in the timeline of the human race, we as women created a checklist of how we need to look, and while I don't disagree it is important for people to be healthy, the image that is being portrayed is unnatural and unhealthy"

Somewhere in the timeline of the human race, we as women created a checklist of how we need to look, and while I don't disagree it is important for people to be healthy, the image that is being portrayed is unnatural and unhealthy. The loop that was created goes on and on, with women entering the media knowing the way they "need" to look. Here's a piece of advice; embrace the way you look. You don't need a manicure or plastic surgery to be beautiful, you don't need anything except you to be beautiful, and the lie that women in media tell themselves and the message they give doesn't help anyone.

By Isabelle Wright and Evie Crowley (Year 7)

TAKE INSPIRATION



MUSIC

Stay Young

Maisie Peters

Maisie Peters is a young British singer-songwriter, who captured the hearts and minds of a loyal fan base with her tuneful acoustic folk-pop music. In 2015 when Peters was 14 she began uploading her songs to YouTube and quickly earned widespread accolade. In 2017 her debut single 'Place We Were Made' became a viral hit, amassing millions of streams worldwide. Nowadays Peters has 11 singles, each as impressive as the last, and her new single 'Stay Young' is no different. Returning with a brand-new single that altogether sounds more polished and pop-oriented, 'Stay Young' is an incredible song that highlights Peter's phenomenal voice. Altogether Maisie Peters is an artist worth listening to.

By Claudia Brady (Year 9)



MUSIC

THE ELDER SCROLLS V: SKYRIM ORIGINAL GAME SOUNDTRACK

Jeremy Soule

'I used to be an adventurer like you. Then I took an arrow to the knee.' Those words are most recognisably known from the highly acclaimed Skyrim video game. Skyrim is a game where you exist in a place and time where dragons have returned to your land and must be stopped before ruling the world. The game focuses on large dungeons and domains to explore in order to progress through the literally infinite number of quests one can undertake. The game itself lives up to the hype, but for me it's the soundtrack, composed and written by Jeremy Soule, that lifts the screen-played world of Tamriel into something far more immersive. Soule's work on the Skyrim soundtrack is bold and supremely confident and is inextricably tied to the game that it accompanies. The biggest addition to the game's soundtrack is the inclusion of some choral work which varies from powerful and almost intimidating in the main, 'Dragonborn,' theme, to delicate and serene in tracks like 'Secunda.' The Skyrim soundtrack is all about atmosphere. Strings do the major lifting on many of the exploration, combat, and city themes as mentioned above, but the dungeons and night time themes are much more textural. Whether you are studying, unwinding, or in the words of Skyrim, "lollygagging", Soule's original game Skyrim soundtrack is the most mesmerising, immersive, atmospheric, gentle soundtrack yet.

By Breanna Billett (Year 8)



FILM

"On the Basis of Sex"

On the Basis of Sex is a biographically based movie on the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who is a lawyer born in the early nineteen-thirties and went to Harvard law school, and graduated top of her class. Ruth Bader Ginsburg then proceeded to go through several job interviews and ended up at a law school as a professor. One thing in the film that is profoundly clear is that her expertise is in the laws behind gender discrimination, she is consistently fighting for it. In her lectures she discusses the unfairness towards both men and women in the legal system. At the time men couldn't be nurses or teachers, just like women couldn't be doctors, or lawyers, or own a bank account under their own name. Ruth Bader Ginsburg went to the Supreme Court fighting the discrimination laws in the Constitution of the United States of America. I saw this movie and it immediately became my favourite film. Anyone who likes any movie should watch this or read more about Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Currently Ruth Bader Ginsburg is the Supreme Court Judge of America at the age of 86 and has vowed not to step down or even pass away until Donald Trump is no longer in presidency. Recently, she had a fall and broke two ribs, two weeks later and she was back in court. On the Basis of Sex portrays her story with no extra drama or romance. Her story is a story of strength, and the film shows it incredibly.

By Evie Crowley (Year 7)

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Head of Junior School: Justine Lind

If we wish for our children to be agents of good and champions of change in the world we have to show them the power of influence, the scope of their capacity and the strength of small wins for the greater good. These sound like audacious goals and they are, but also they aren't. They can be the "million little things" that we've been talking about as a community that combine for big impact.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not!

Dr Seuss

Already this year we are seeing evidence of student action and individual agency. In Circle Time in several classrooms the students share the joys and burdens that they bring to school each morning; some as small as a butterfly or two about something that is planned for the day, others carry a justice issue about a personal mistake or lie told about them by a sibling and then there are the traumas that any of us would feel at the loss of a much loved family pet or similar. At other times there are great joys to be celebrated; a birthday or upcoming visit from a grandparent, a playdate or special occasion on the horizon. In each case though there is empathy writ large as the classmates collaborate to problem solve strategies to mitigate the distress of their friends or to share in their joy. The proverb, "a problem shared is a problem halved" is often true at Oxley.

In Kindergarten the students are expressing their own needs through a Greeting Menu. They choose from a handshake, hug, fist-pump, high five, thumbs up or wave as they enter the classroom. Next term, the students will take turns to greet their peers in this way, actively extending the hand of welcome each morning in an individual way that respects each person's preferences and comfort level.

Our 2019 Student Leaders are "walking this talk" in force. Each week they are devising an initiative to inspire more of the "million little things" that each can do to add to our collective dream. Already we have had Flynn's Kindness Contagion that has well outlived the more sinister bodies to infect our community. Yesterday was our first Thankyou Thursday where students expressed their gratitude toward each other in a visible way as smiley stickers populated many shirt fronts. Today in assembly, the Chisolm House Captains launched "Friday Fix It" to celebrate the important step that mistakes take in moving us from our current level of development or mastery into zones of new learning and growth. There is more to come so ask your children about what they are noticing about the "million little things" that make Oxley a place of welcome and while you talking, ask them too about Circle Time in their classroom. Ask what they're learning about Mindfulness and Kindfulness and the power of listening to themselves and others for their own sense of calm and wellbeing each day.

Weekly Awards:

WEEK 4

Learning Journey

K: Zoe Choo
Yr 1: Tatenda Jamba
Yr 2C: Victoria Feetham
Yr 2S: Charlotte Stirling
Yr 3: Livie Marks
Yr 4: Yr Hayden Zupp
5C: Ruby Pettaras
Yr 5H: Hamish Tully
Yr 6A: Chilli Sparke
Yr 6W: Edward Connell



Oxley Values

K: Stella Bacon
Yr 1: Harper Anstee
Yr 2C: Ava Kroll
Yr 2S: Thomas Berry
Yr 3: Freddy Florida
Yr 4: Aiden D'Iorio
Yr 5C: Harry Kean
Yr 5H: Ava Steyn
Yr 6A: Charlie Byrne
Yr 6W: Siena Todorcevski



WEEK 5

Learning Journey

K: Hannah Cochran
Yr 1: Ollie Coram
Yr 2C: Will Kean
Yr 2S: Lisa Mussett
Yr 3: Cecilia Vild
Yr 4: Javier Poole
Yr 5C: Sienna Wimborne
Yr 5H: Gabrielle Dobson
Yr 6A: Tristan McIntosh
Yr 6W: Sasha Pratten



Oxley Values

K: Lilly Mansour
Yr 1: Charlie Hammond
Yr 2C: Hamish Aston
Yr 2S: Oscar Johnson
Yr 3: Orson Francis
Yr 4: Estelle Beckett
Yr 5C: Flynn O'Brien
Yr 5H: Henry Adamson
Yr 6A: Sophie Spring
Yr 6W: Grace Pettaras





PILL TESTING & LIVE MUSIC

We all have our flaws, and the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, and her governments, happens to be their acute distaste for Australian music festivals.

There have been five drug related deaths at festivals over the past five months, this has left the government of New South Wales to ponder how to best ensure this is prevented from happening again. The government has come to the conclusion that the preservation of young life resides in the slow elimination of major music festivals in New South Wales. It seems that Hon. Berejiklian and her government have never looked into what these festivals promote. They're meant to be a celebration of music and youth, and are set up to resemble an escape from normality. She hasn't heard the music that's played live, and the freedom and excitement that graces so many of these events.

Unfortunately, many of these festivals are a feeding ground for dealers of MDMA and other hard-core illicit party drugs. Hon. Berejiklian said in a statement, "Unfortunately, we know that pill testing won't work because it'll give people a green light to taking drugs, which in the end could still kill them,". If pill testing was introduced to festivals, I, and many others, would still feel no need or further desire to ingest drugs. Festival organisers and attendees don't always vouch for pill testing because they intend to take illicit substances, they vouch for the safety of others and for the piece of mind that their mate is informed when taking these pills. Keep in mind that bins are provided in the pill testing tents. At the trial at Canberra's leg of Groovin the Moo - a two week long travelling music and arts festival - last April, five of the 125 people whose drugs were tested, chose to throw out their pills. This number seems small, and makes up for 4% of people on the first trial, it can only go up from there, plus, if that's five people who has reconsidered their decision, which is what Hon. Berejiklian wants.

The NSW government's tax of \$200,000 to Mountain Sounds Music Festival, that was set to take place in the Central Coast on Friday 15 February and Saturday 16 February, was charged with the intent of 'additional licensing conditions', forced the festival to cancel a week out from the event. Right now it's looking like Hon. Berejiklian's solution to the growing issue is to shut down, or put heavy restrictions on NSW's music festivals, which although is logical and understandable, causes the music scene – both musicians and listeners – to suffer a major blow.

The Australian music scene is one of creative diversity and inclusiveness, and the music festivals that host these artists have an aura of acceptance and safety. Bands no longer make the majority of their profit off album sales, so touring is their main source of income in most cases. If Hon. Berejiklian and her government continue to raise regulated costs on these festivals, some of the bands that participate in a few of the major summer season festivals (eg. Groovin the Moo, Mountain Sounds, Lost Paradise...) could loose not only part of their livelihood, but also their reach to new listeners, this is particularly devastating for smaller bands on the smaller stages.

Mountain Sounds, which was set to be headlined by powerhouses Courtney Barnett and Angus and Julia Stone, was cancelled a week out from the event. Hon. Berejiklian responded to the backlash regarding this by saying that "If you can't spend money making your event safer, well that's a decision for you, but it's not fair to blame the government." Many music listeners and ticket holders were left to question whether the issue was an attack on the festival, an example of governments intent to shut down more festivals as they did to Defqon.1 in September (where the first of the five overdose related deaths occurred), or the government's legitimate concern for the attendee's health and safety.

Canberra duo, Peking Duk, who headlined the festival last year, released a statement regarding the government's decision, in what was probably the most reasonable response to the issue, in their post they said, "We don't force roads to close because of road fatalities, we don't ban alcohol due to (much higher) deaths from alcohol, we don't shut down casino's because of the trauma and grief they cause to the addicted. So why are you targeting music festivals like this? Why are you targeting the events that give so much back to the community?" Peking Duk raise a massive point, while Hon. Berejiklian's government allows casinos to be open 24 hours a day, they feed into gambling culture, which is the cause of hundreds of suicides per year.

"The Australian music scene is one of creative diversity and inclusiveness, and the music festivals that host these artists have an aura of acceptance and safety"



Why is the NSW government okay with the pokies, but angry with music festival organisers for their 'lack of initiative'? Maybe the revenue that the government makes off casino profits is worth more than the facts and statistics regarding gambling addiction. Revenue isn't generated as greatly by festivals like Mountain Sounds.

This is not to say that Hon. Berejiklian is a bad person, or a bad Premier. She's racially inclusive, she's a strong woman in a position of power, she understands the importance of green energy, and you've got to give her some credit for her ability to ignore the thousands of offensive comments being directed her way. Hon. Berejiklian does not hate young people, I just think she doesn't understand them. This government has always been based upon regulation instead of education. Hon. Berejiklian ignoring the facts is a prime example of this, and a prime example of the government's attitude towards young voices speaking up for issues the effect primarily young people.

The Hon. Berejiklian isn't making new regulations to spite music festivals, she just doesn't understand the culture. She is still only the public face of a party which has a large amount of control on what she says and does, and I don't understand politics, so I actually have no idea of how much authority she has in her party beyond being the face of it. Personally I feel that Hon. Berejiklian tries to do right by the people that support her, as all politicians should, but the fact is that she has shown no interest in the opinions of others regarding this issue, or more specifically, she has shown no interest in the opinions of the people who attend these events, whether they are drug-takers or not. I personally feel like her immediate dismissal of the pill testing proposition is narrow-minded, and perhaps if she or the person in her government who deals with issues such as these would reach out to the organisers of festivals like Lost Paradise, where one of the deaths occurred, or to Mountain Sounds, where the unobtainable fee's were applied, she could gain a better understanding of the intent of these people, and their ideas into what could be done to prevent more deaths at their events.

Eighty five substances were tested at last years Groovin the Moo, two of these tests ended up showing that the drug contained lethal ingredients, that on any other occasion would have been ingested, that's two young lives that could've ended, or been permanently changed. It's pretty clear that most of the people who attend and organise festivals like Defqon.1, FOMO, Lost Paradise and Knockout Games of Destiny want pill testing to be available, not only in their own interest, but for the safety of the other attendees, and the safety of their friends.

Although we know and understand that drugs like MDMA are bad, saying 'don't do drugs' obviously isn't working. Allowing pill testing to go forward at festivals isn't encouraging or "Giving the green light" (the government's main reason she opposes the idea) to young people to take drugs, it's simply making it safe for those who chose to do so. Like anything, it's better to be safe than sorry, so why is the government letting the festival organisers, doctors, and law enforcement agents always say sorry? Why can't the government try better to ensure the safety of young people, whilst also taking notes of the type of pills being tested. Why isn't the government making more efforts to find the major manufactures of MDMA? Why does it appear that all she can ever say is say "Sorry"? If they're so apposed to pill testing, why isn't the government trying to find alternative solutions? The NSW government is the only thing in the way of 'giving the green light' to something like pill testing, that may have had the opportunity to save those five people's lives if it had been allowed.

By Ella Jackson (Year 10)

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

Deputy Head Pastoral: Mark Case

Service Learning - supporting our local community

Service Learning is an important part of an Oxley education. Throughout their time at school, Oxley students will have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference to the lives of others, whilst learning to care for other people. Hands on and practical service opportunities also foster gratitude and a greater appreciation of those things that many of take for granted from day to day. Bowral Uniting Church provide a weekly lunch for members of the community who are experiencing homelessness, displacement or loneliness. As in previous years, people are invited to take a meal away with them for the week ahead, which has been prepared for them by Year 7 Oxley students. Students will be rostered on twice a year and will be provided with empty containers when it is their turn on the roster. We are exploring the possibility of enabling students to also attend the lunch each week, to assist in serving food at the church. The programme is organised by Mr Bollom, Head of Mawson House and Year 7 Co-ordinator.

Year 10 students will also commence their Service Learning programme in the coming weeks. Students will be rostered in small groups to attend one of the aged care homes in Bowral, where they will meet with some of the more active residents and engage in activities in common areas, such as playing board games or providing assistance in using technology. Students with particular talents such as playing a musical instrument can also take these along to entertain the residents, if they wish. Again, the benefits of this programme flow both ways: giving up their time to enrich the lives of others is an important and valuable educational experience for our students. This programme will be organised by Mr Staples, Head of Dobell House and Year 10 Co-ordinator.

Reducing screen time in Years 7-10

From Monday, students in Years 7-10 will no longer be able to access the internet at school during recess (10.30am-11.00am). We have made this decision to reduce the amount of time that some of our students are spending online and in front of a screen, irrespective of whether this involves watching videos or indeed carrying out academic work. We also want to encourage students to spend recess interacting with each other and engaging in activities that enable them to be refreshed for their classes in periods 3 and 4. At this stage, we will not be extending the internet block to include lunchtime or Years 11 and 12, who we encourage to self-regulate their screen time. However, as is the case in all matters relating to technology, we will continue to monitor this and review our approach accordingly.

Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich

Academic Prep

Parents with older children at Oxley may have noticed a small but significant change in Student Diaries this year. The traditional "homework" column has been replaced with the heading "Academic Prep". We have done this in order to inspire students to be proactive with their learning – not only reliant on their teacher to "set" work, but to consciously think about what they as a learner can do to embed the content, skills and understanding encountered that day. We are keen too to track how this process is going at home, so tutors are already having regular conversations with students about their learning and revision skills. We will be asking for feedback from parents too so that we can put in place further strategies to assist, particularly in Years 7 – 10.

Year 7 Student-Parent-Teacher Interviews

We will shortly hold our first event for new Year 7 parents, and knowing that the secondary school experience is different to student-conferencing in junior schools, I thought it important to outline the purpose and protocols we use at Oxley.

We encourage every student to attend with their parent/s. It is key that the conversation had is centred on the learning of each individual, and we believe firmly that the work discussed and/or displayed is for the purpose of celebrating strengths, setting goals and providing encouragement on progression.

The focus therefore is on our 3 feedback questions:

- Where is your child going in this course/unit/term? What does success look like?
- How are they going so far (based on learning cycles, formative/summative tasks, student voice)?
- Where to next? What things will help them grow as a learner?

It is therefore very important that we stick within a time-frame and use our precious minutes to maximise the information received.

Year 7 parents will receive an email that outlines the booking process clearly. It will be generated by the online system we use called EDVAL. Interviews are 5 minutes long and are held in the Music Centre, with students and parents rotating between teachers according to the timetable generated by the system. Mr Bevan and Mrs MacDonald will be coordinating the event.

Please take the time to read the EDVAL email and ask for help if the process is not clear. Key to success is the priority system – please indicate in order which of your child's teachers you really want to speak to. Some teachers have more than one class, and therefore may not physically have the time to meet with every parent (we will have alternative ways of communication if this is the situation for you). **Similarly, if a parent has not made a booking, it will be impossible to facilitate interviews on the afternoon without an impact on everyone else in the cohort – so please book ahead!**

CLIMATE ISSUES AND ACTION

The Marshall Islands

Some people believe that rising sea levels are a good thing, nice waves, you're closer to the beach, but for places like the Marshall islands, it's a life threatening issue. Over the past decade, the sea level has risen 22.48 cm. This may not seem like much but since places like the Marshall islands are already at sea level, things like waves and king tides affect the Marshallese and the islands are in need of a resolution. In a recent report, the president of the Marshall islands, Hilda Heine said she is going to change her government's priorities to focus on how to efficiently solve this issue.

The media has identified that the Marshall islands are especially vulnerable to the consequences of climate change due to its tropical climate. The country are currently finding ways to save the islands. Already over 30 000 Marshall island citizens are living in the US but the country are avoiding moving locations as they believe it will lose their cultural identity. A popular idea is to physically elevate the island. This has already been done as The Marshall islands have already started creating an artificial island. The countries chief secretary says "it could be a matter of time before such a plan would be initiated." With 600 billion tons of melting ice flowing into oceans that are absorbing heat twice as fast as 18 years ago, the Marshallese will need to move fast.

Almost everything we do on this planet produces carbon dioxide, from breathing out to the pollution in our air. When we use greenhouse emissions, we produce extreme amounts of carbon dioxide, this then turns into heat which melts the ice shelf leading to rising sea levels. This sounds like a long process but with problems such as deforestation and a lack of renewable energy source, our arctic climates are melting fast, harming the biodiversity of the land and therefore, increasing the sea levels.

We as a society hear facts and statistics starting with the same words "by 2050" and these terms trick people to believe we have time until the affects start impacting us. The Marshall islands are a classic example, thousands of people are undergoing the vicious effects of sea levels rising. The problem is that the Marshall islands are an isolated group of islands in the Pacific meaning our society doesn't hear much news from this location. We need to listen to the thousands of voices that are calling for our help to save not only their land but their cultural identity before its flushed away.

By India O'Brien (Year 9)

resources:

- National Geographic online article: Rising seas give island nation a stark choice: relocate or elevate
- ABC online podcast: Small Pacific atoll nation considers raising islands to fight climate

Photo reference:

- National Geographic online article and photos: Rising seas give island nation a stark choice: relocate or elevate

School Strike For Climate Change:

Attending the last School Strike For Climate Change was one the most inspiring experiences I've endured recently. As I showed up, the noise of hundreds of fed-up school students was almost deafening from 200m down the road. A selection of high school students lined the stage, taking their turns to talk and cheering one another on. Attending the event just reinforced and reminded me of the sheer power that we have as young people and how much we care about our world. Young, old, infants, elderly, students, workers, people in suits, people in uniforms: it felt, in ways, like the world had gathered to support youth and the future of our climate. Hundreds of students called Scott Morrison asking him for climate action now, uniting together to make our voice heard loud and clear. The last strike garnered an angry response from the government. "Students should be in school" are some words that were thrown around in parliament. Last time, it worked, we got the attention of the government and, hopefully they contemplated their current policies on the environment. "Students should be in school" if our futures were being protected and addressed by government policy. And we won't stop until there is climate action within this country.

By Izzy Moore (Year 12)

Oxley's War on Waste

In Issue 81 of Pin Oak in December I wrote about our environmental efforts at Oxley in 2018 and our plans to look at 'waste' more holistically in 2019. Perhaps like me, many will have seen the ABC War on Waste series and feel inspired to take action. While it might not be a particularly glamorous topic, given that as a school we spent \$35 729.48 on waste disposal in 11 months in 2018, it is perhaps something worthy of further consideration. As a start, I have met with Michael Rhydderch, Environmental Project Officer – Sustainability at WSC and we have plans to undertake a waste audit and use this as a basis for developing an action plan. We have purchased durable plastic cups so that when we celebrate student birthdays, Tutor Groups can borrow these cups in house colours rather than using single use plastic cups. Oxley College KeepCups are available for purchase at Off the Shelf café and you will make your money back relatively quickly because of the 50c discount offered to those who bring their own cup. Thank you to those parents who help us to minimise our waste by sending their child's lunch in a reusable container with minimal packaging. However, the image below is a collection of unnamed containers amassed in the first four weeks of this term that remain unclaimed. In the week that Hobart City Council voted 8-4 in favour of phasing out single-use plastics by 2020 and WWF released its global plastic report, Solving Plastic Through Accountability, it seems that now is the time for us to consider what action we can take in our own war on waste. Stop Press!! The electricity bill for February 2018 was \$9984.48 and the bill for February 2019 was \$4649, a saving of \$5 335.48 in one month! By Ruth Shedden



RUDI ARAUJO CLASS OF 2005

What was the process that brought you to Australia, Bowral and Oxley? I had always known I would be an exchange student somewhere in the world. Before Australia, I had considered Canada and Germany. But my older brother had already been an exchange student in Australia before me, and it ended up being my choice too. At some point in the process, I learned that a family from Mittagong would like to host me, based on my profile. Their son also went to Oxley, so that seemed like the best choice of school for me as well.

What impressions did you have on arrival? How different was it to your Brazilian school? Everything about Oxley was different. In Brazil I went to a K-12 school, with around three thousand students. Oxley was only for older kids, and had about 500 students. At Oxley I felt like I was living inside one of the Harry Potter books. The uniforms were very formal, while in Brazil I could wear jeans and the school shirt. And I loved being part of a House and a Tutor group. My house was Mawson, and my tutor was Mr Cunich. At Oxley I had the opportunity to take subjects that my Brazilian school didn't offer, the hours were different, the events were also very cool. It was like I was part of one of the high school/teenager movies I watched. I loved having a locker of my own.

Did you enjoy your Oxley experience? Why? I absolutely enjoyed my experience. Being an exchange student is not easy in the beginning, but I felt welcomed from the beginning. All the teachers and staff were always helpful. And I made many friends, one of the whom I recently met, almost 15 years later. With time I found my group, but I was always able to be around any of my Year 11 and 12 mates. I loved being on campus, walking around, appreciating nature, eating meat pies for lunch, giving gold coins for "Jeans for Genes" or "Daffodil Day". I studied at Oxley for part of 2004 and part of 2005. In 2011 I went back to visit my host family and I went to the school campus. Unfortunately it was Easter and the school was closed, but I still had the chance to walk around and remember the good old times.

What are your favourite memories? Any individuals? I have many great memories. Getting an award in English, a gold medal in a swimming tournament, being on stage pretending to be Mr Mawson in an Assembly, the fun Maths classes. But right now I have two major memories in my mind. One was our Tutor group. In the beginning it was very quiet, no one really talked, each one stayed in their own corner.



With time, something changed and we became great friends. We actually had a lot of fun there. The other memory is when the school was putting together a performance of "A Chorus Line". Everyone was welcome to audition. I wanted to have that experience, but was neither an actor or a singer. My friends encouraged me to audition and I kept singing in Portuguese to them, showing what I was going to sing. On the day of the audition, for my surprise: a camera and a line of boys singing together, the song "One" from the musical. I had no idea! I was so unprepared. I hope that video doesn't exist anymore. But I still wanted to be a part of it, so I gladly volunteered to be Front of House and I proudly kept the programme with my name on it (which I still have).

In what ways do you think that your time at Oxley benefitted you when you returned home? My whole exchange student experience contributed to the person I am today. It was there where I started being called Rudi for the first time. It was there where I truly felt like I could be myself, and I brought this "new self" back home. It was also in Australia where I learned English, a language that would be essential for my first job, and later to one of my most important jobs so far, at an international school.

What did you after returning home? After Australia I did many things. I graduated from college, I studied Advertising, and I also got a degree in Business. I participated in an exchange programme, working in the USA for a few months, and another one in Mexico, where I had the opportunity to learn a little about the language and the culture. I had a few jobs, including a marketing position in a large media group, and more recently in an international school. In July 2018 I married Deanna, who is a Canadian teacher. We met at my last job in Brazil. Deanna and I decided to move to Canada and we currently live near Vancouver. I am going through an immigration process and I have been waiting for my papers so I can start working again.

Would you encourage students to become exchange students in other countries? Absolutely. For me, it doesn't matter where you go. An exchange programme is about learning a new language, a new culture, becoming more mature and independent, and learning about empathy, a characteristic of utmost importance nowadays.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? IN THE WORLD...

GEOCACHE



Geocache the world's largest treasure hunt played all around the world. When going exploring through the bush my brothers came across a small sized container filled with bits and bobs of little toys and objects. Inside this container was also a letter that read Congratulations you've found it!

Geocache is a game similar to a treasure hunt. The only rules are that if you take something out of the container you have to replace it with something and you have to write in the logbook saying where you found it. This particular game was called 'where dolphins play' as it was near a lookout with the view of the ocean. The logbook was filled with people from all over the world. People from Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, New Zealand Had all found the container and left presents and notes inside. Some people even left the coordinates to where they had the container. In Moss Vale, there are 640 registered players, and Sydney alone has 2986 people playing

Geocache is an amazing game to get people off screens and outdoors. It's a great activity to get the family involved. So next time your outside on a bush walk or exploring keep your eyes open for any hints that might find you treasure. By Lily Magill (Year 10)

OSCARS

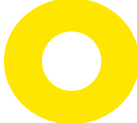


On Monday 25 February, The Oscars held their 91st Academy awards. This world-wide known event had everything the fans wanted, romance, astonishing red carpet outfits, new records set for Academy history and for the first time, a missing host. As the guests arrived, the press and fans eagerly waited to see the intricate and original pieces the guests wore. Some went for classic dresses and tuxedos, while others such as Lady Gaga thought it would be rather appropriate to wear a 128 -carat yellow diamond necklace valued at \$30 million dollars. This night wouldn't be complete until records were made for the awards including Rami Male being the first American-Arab and first Egyptian to win an Oscar winning Best Actor and Domee Shi was the first woman director to win for Best Short Animated film.

By India O'Brien (Year 9)



MEDICAL

 **A Chinese scientist used gene editing on a pair of twins and may have made them smarter.**

Two Chinese twins by the names of Lulu and Nana have had their genes modified before they were born by a team of Chinese scientists lead by, He Jiankui. They did this using new CRISPR (genome or gene editing) technology. The main goal was to make the girls immune to HIV, which is the virus that causes AIDS that was carried by their father.

This experiment was also found to erase the CCR5 gene, which when removed in mice has been proven to make them smarter and could be linked to greater success in school. This experiment has been widely condemned as irresponsible and poses the question as to whether the CRISPR could one day be used to create super-intelligent humans and possibly even contribute to the world's biotechnology race.

By Jillian O'Connell (Year 9)

GALLERY



MARCH CALENDAR

Congratulations Equestrian Anneliese Wansey and her horse Blurred Lines won the 2018 Interschools State Championships, Showjumping Champion Award. Will David and his horse Sam have achieved an FEI Dressage Youth World Ranking-CDI-J of 207th and are ranked 9th in Australia. Hunter Taylor won 1st place in the Boy Rider U17 category at the Canberra Royal Show.	Mon 11 EXC: Y6 National Young Leaders Day	Mon 18 Y7 Parent/Student/Teacher Night JS Student Parent Teacher	Mon 25 Year 12 Half Yearly Exams EXC: Y7 Food Tech Farm, Moonacres
	Tue 12 EXC: Y11/12 VA/ ArtExpress	Tue 19 JS Student Parent Teacher	Tue 26 SHIPS Cross Country Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
	Wed 13 ISA Swimming Carnival	Wed 20 JS Student Parent Teacher	Wed 27 Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
	Thu 14 EXC: Y11 DT Shape Exhibition HICES Debating Round 2, TIGS	Thu 21	Thu 28 Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
Fri 08 The Crucible, 7.30pm	Fri 15 Open Morning for prospective families, 11.00am	Fri 22 Y6 Parents Ladies Drinks & Dinner, The Royal	Fri 29 EXC: Y7 Landscapes and Landforms, MT Keira Year 12 Half Yearly Exams SS AIS Canberra Sports Tour
Sat 09 ISA Sport Summer Finals The Crucible, 7.30pm	Sat 16	Sat 23 Y9 DoE Bronze Hike	Sat 30 SS AIS Canberra Sports Tour Y9 DoE Bronze Hike EXC: Y10 Earth Hours, SH Botanic
Sun 10	Sun 17	Sun 24 Y9 DoE Bronze Hike	Sun 31 Y9 DoE Bronze Hike SSAIS Canberra Sports Tour

P & F NEWS

The P & F Equestrian Raffle - Equestrian Day - Sunday 7 April

If you would like to donate prizes or to sponsor saddlecloths for the upcoming Oxley Equestrian Day raffle please contact
Sue Brown: sue@maculosa.com 0409 328421
Beth Fisk: beth@showgirlquestrian.com.au 0438 129947

All parents are welcome to attend our 2019 P & F Meetings 5.30pm - 6.30pm in the Oxley David Wright Library.

Wednesday 27-March
Wednesday 12-June
Wednesday 23-October

Wednesday 27-November P&F AGM & Thankyou Drinks, 6.30pm
More information to follow but please save the dates.

NEWSFLASH



CAT AWARDS

We are thrilled to announce that Oxley College has won four categories in the Canberra Area Theatre Awards (CAT Awards). Congratulations to Phil Cunich, Dominic Lindsay and all students and staff involved in these two 2018 Oxley productions.

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Best Production of a School / Youth Musical

Best Ensemble in a School/Youth Production - The Principal Cast

Best Director of a School/ Youth Musical- Phil Cunich

Where in the World is Frank Sparrow

Best Ensemble in a Play—The Chorus.

DEBATING

On Tuesday 26 February, round one of the 2019 season, the Oxley debating teams competing in the HICES competition, travelled to Wollondilly Anglican college to compete against other schools involved in the competition. Our Year 7, 10 and 9 teams were successful with their debates, making an encouraging start to this season. Unfortunately our Opens team lost, not only with a tough topic, but having only two speakers, which results in having one of the speakers have the extremely difficult job of speaking twice as both 2nd and 3rd speaker! Congratulations to Sam Crowley who had to speak twice and spoke wonderfully! Although the Year 6 and 8 teams had a bye, they still came to support the rest of the teams as well as present as Chairperson for the other debates. The Year 6s who are new to the debating community, took notes and learnt meticulously during the debates of the older students. They are very prepared and enthusiastic for the debating season. For most of the year 7s, this was the first time debating at Oxley and they have made a fantastic start to the season. We want to thank Ms Rintoul for your help and debating coaching. Ms Rintoul has helped us prepare for our debates and helped us get motivated. We wish all of our fellow debaters best of luck for the next rounds of debating.

By Meg Gordon and Luca Shannon (Year 8)

ISA FINAL FEVER



BE THERE- 10.00am-5.00pm, Oxley Main Oval, undefeated 1st Boys Cricket face Blue Mountains in the BIG DANCE. The Oxley boys are the favorites going into the match after beating Blue Mountains two times previously. Support would be greatly appreciated!

The junior A's Softball team made it to the Semi's so any encouragement or support would also be greatly appreciated!

TRI-ATHLON



On Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 February several Oxley students competed at the NSW All Schools Triathlon Carnival in Penrith, representing both Oxley and CIS. In the individual category Nick Milner and Matthew Smith performed particularly well with Milner taking 13th place – an amazing recovery following a three-minute penalty for an unlucky miss of a marker! Backing up for the following day, a total of six teams competed: a female and male team in the junior, intermediate and senior categories. A particularly strong performance by the Oxley Senior Boys team – Lachlan Coleman (swim leg), Finn Treahy (cycle leg) and Caelan Barker (run leg) – saw them place 32nd out of 165 teams! Congratulations to all competitors for an amazing effort, Oxley punched well above its weight!

By Sophia Dummer (Year 12)

This was Oxley College's second year of participation in this event, which is becoming one of the biggest school sporting events on the calendar. Oxley College's team put on a great display, both competitively and in their support and presence as spectators. Their success was even more notable given that many of the Oxley team had not competed in a triathlon before. By Barry Smith