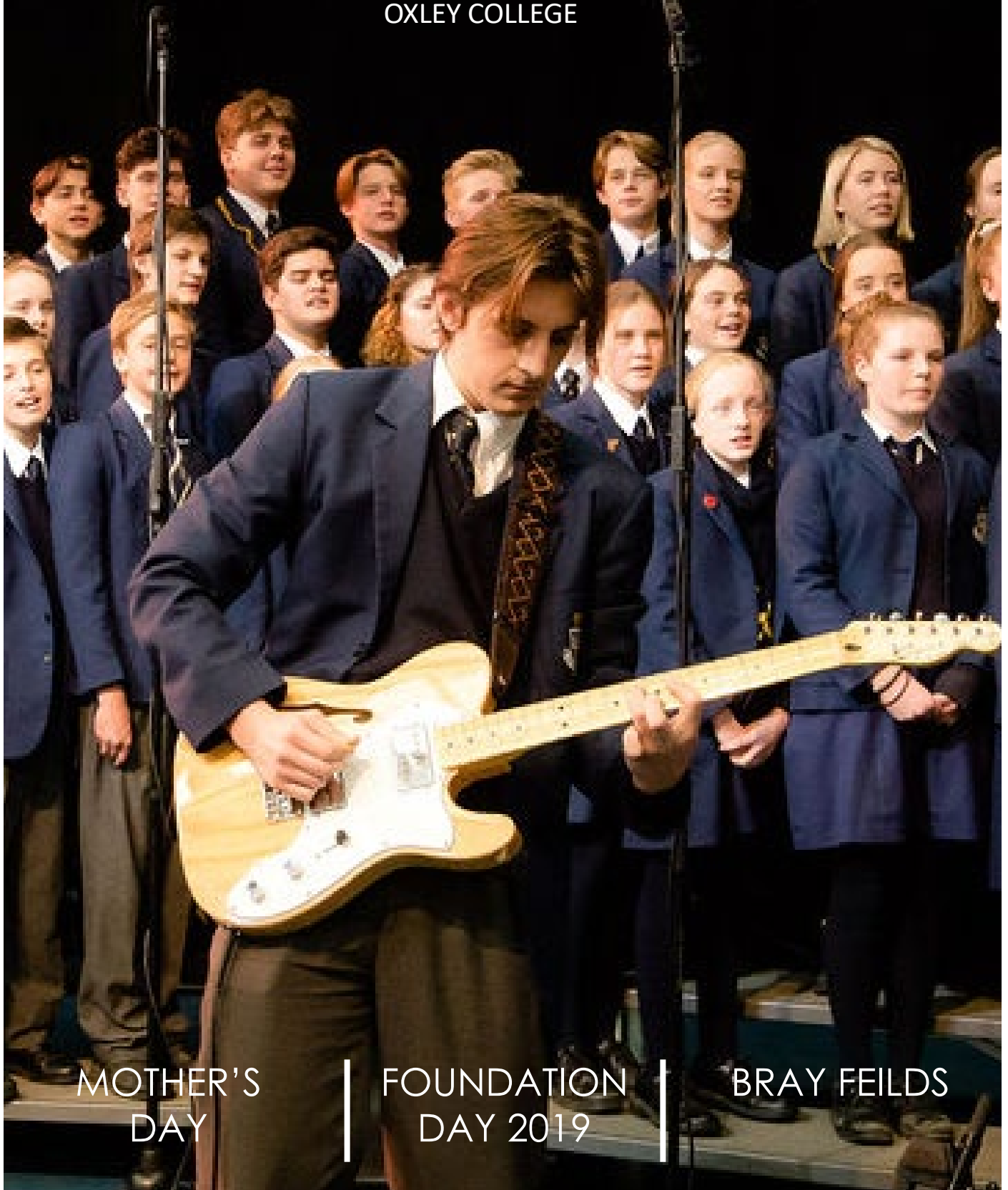


PIN OAK

ISSUE 88: TERM 2, MAY 24, 2019
OXLEY COLLEGE



MOTHER'S
DAY

FOUNDATION
DAY 2019

BRAY FEILDS

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Front Cover photo: Gina Umoren



National Reconciliation Week 2019 Movie

Invitation in celebration of National Reconciliation Week, you are invited to a special screening of the 2006 film Ten Canoes. Ten Canoes is a ground-breaking glimpse into Aboriginal life centuries before European settlement. Directed by Rolf de Heer and Peter Djigirr. Starring Crusoe Kurddal, Jamie Gulpilil, Richard Birrinbirrin, Peter Minygululu, Frances Djulibing, David Gulpilil. Special guest speaker: Mr Stan Grant, a Wiradjuri man and noted journalist, appearing via video presentation.

Date: Monday 27 May at 6.00pm, New Empire Cinema Bowral. Free entry. Gold Coin Donation requested at the door. Maximum four tickets per person, at the Box Office only.

Further information: Stuart Hills 0476 134 307. We acknowledge with gratitude the support of cinema management.

Year 8 Student Parent Teacher Night

When: Monday 27 May: 4.00pm – 7.00pm

Where: Rooms: 27 – 31 (near ELVO & the Library)

You will be emailed your schedule by 12.00pm on Friday 24 May. In order to ensure the smooth running of the evening, five minute gaps will be inserted between any interviews in different rooms and you are not able to edit your schedule. If you have any questions please contact Louise MacDonald and she will assist where we possible. Louise.macdonald@oxley.nsw.edu.au

REACH Tests

At Oxley we have been entering students in the ICAS tests set by UNSW in English, Mathematics & Science for a number of years. This year the format of these tests has changed with the introduction of REACH tests. These are low stakes formative assessments targeting a wide range of student abilities that will be sat by all students in Years 3-10, starting with Year 7-10 Science on Tuesday 28 May. The remaining REACH tests will be taken next term. Students identified by REACH tests as suitable for challenge and extension will then sit the ICAS tests next term. Parents wishing to nominate their child for an ICAS test may do so at their cost.

For more information on REACH & ICAS please visit: <https://www.unswglobal.unsw.edu.au/educational-assessments/campaigns/reach-and-icas/>

For further information please contact Louise MacDonald at the College.

HEAD OF COLLEGE'S REPORT

It is an exciting week in the history of Oxley College with the opening of Bray Fields on Foundation Day. The long awaited playing fields at Bray Fields have been used for the first time this week with our senior Rugby and Soccer teams training on the newly established turf. They will continue to train here throughout the season each Tuesday and Thursday and will play some of their matches on Saturdays. While I understand these fields have been a long time coming, I am sure you will agree that they are a great asset to the College. Currently we have two fields which will be used this season for Soccer and Rugby. An additional Hockey field has been 'sprigged' and with strong spring and summer growth will be ready for the 2020 season. Landscaping and facilities for spectators and players are being planned for the future. Stage 1 of the landscaping will happen over the coming months to help provide a wind break and improve the presentation from the road. It will include a mixture of natives and specimen trees to link the College and the playing fields together.

As many of you may be aware Bray Fields were provided to the College for our use for many years by the Bray family. It is recently that Peter and Betty Bray have wanted to transfer the ownership to the College and for that we are extremely thankful and grateful. This gift of four hectares (10 acres) of land for sports fields is incredibly generous and will make a considerable difference to the College and our sports programme. Having Bray Fields to use as a resource allows the vast majority of our students to train at home and play their home games here on a Saturday.

As part of our Foundation Day celebrations we held our first tree planting on Bray Fields with trees being planted for the 2019 Year 12 Leavers and the Bray family at the entrance. Bray Fields will become our new 'avenue' for the annual Year 12 tree planting. This year we were fortunate to have one of our Board of Governors, former student and parent, Dr Stephen Barnett speak briefly about the advances of the College and how Foundation Day has changed since he was a student. We were also very fortunate to have members of the Bray family and the Board of Governors join all the students and staff for the ceremony.

It has been wonderful to witness the involvement of all students in the array of sports offered at Oxley College. To see students' active, developing skills, supporting and challenging each other to do their personal best, reinforces for me all the benefits to be gained from sport both individually and collectively.

Foundation Day is such an important event in the life of the College, recognising the selfless, brave and generous nature of our founders and the incredible journey the College has taken over the past 36 years. It is important to pause and remember the pioneering staff and Oxley families and celebrate the growing maturity of the College and the role it has had in educating thousands of young people. While I have written this article prior to the Foundation Night concert I am unbelievably impressed with our talented students and staff who have worked very hard to put on an incredible array of exceptional performances. If the rehearsals are anything to go by, we will all be reflecting on a wonderful night of celebration and talent when this article goes to print.



HE STILL CALLS AUSTRALIA HOME BUT WILL HE EVER SEE IT AGAIN?

"It is the role of good journalism to take on powerful abusers, and when powerful abusers are taken on, there's always a bad reaction. So we see that controversy, and we believe that is a good thing to engage in." https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/julian_assange_413753

Whether the United States of America is or is not an 'abuser' is perhaps a matter of perspective only. Either way, there is no scope for debate regarding the power of the USA. It continues to be, if only for a matter of years to come, arguably the most powerful nation on the planet. It is understandable then that award-winning 'journalist' – and Townsville-born Aussie boy – Julian Assange would 'take on' successive governments of Uncle Sam through WikiLeaks, a "multi-national" media organisation and "associated library" that specialises in "...the analysis and publication of large datasets of censored or otherwise restricted official materials involving war, spying and corruption."

It is unsurprising that Mr Assange appears to be experiencing the inevitable "bad reaction."

Now serving a prison sentence of 50 weeks in Belmarsh Prison – formerly 'referred to as Britain's Guantanamo Bay' – Mr Assange is also wanted for prosecution in Sweden and the USA, a situation he forestalled for seven years as a (temporary) resident in the Ecuadorean Embassy in London, England until his much publicised arrest by British police in April 2019.

So how did it come to this? And the more bewildering question, how did Mr Assange expect to avoid this very outcome?

Much has been written about and said of Mr Assange, quite a bit by the man himself. In hindsight, Mr Assange may have benefited from a Banksy approach to identity and fame, instead of becoming a public "lightning rod" for WikiLeaks, the organisation he founded in 2006 to "keep government honest." Leaving that aside, the current situation can be traced back to the 'publication' of classified documents and information of the USA government on an unprecedented scale during 2010 and for years thereafter on the WikiLeaks site. The disclosure of 'hacked emails' from the Democratic Party and Presidential candidate Hilary Clinton in the lead-up to the 2016 Presidential Election being the most notable of relatively recent acts by WikiLeaks to have attracted the ire of USA prosecutors and government officials.

If ever the opening to 'A Tale of Two Cities' could be appropriated by a person to describe a moment in their life, then that time would be by 2010 and the person would be Julian Assange. In a year that he won Time Magazine's 'Reader's Choice' popular vote – by an impressive margin from a Turkish chap named Erdogan – following the release of 'Collateral Murder' (the Apache helicopter gunship slaughter of eighteen unarmed non-combatants) and the 'Afghan War Logs', it was in August 2010 whilst attending a conference in Sweden that the (recently 're-opened') sexual assault allegations were first made against Mr Assange. Undeterred by the events in Sweden, WikiLeaks went on to release the 'Iraq War Logs' and the first volume of Cablegate being thousands of diplomatic cables between the USA and many other nations dating back to the 1960s. By December both Mr Assange and WikiLeaks had been labelled "terrorists" and the USA were out to 'get him'.

It was indeed looking much like a (northern) "...winter of despair".

Irrespective of one's view of Mr Assange, there has clearly been, at best, an abject failure by many mainstream media organisations to report thoroughly on relevant events that occurred during August 2010 in Sweden. In that regard, there are two sources that may serve to (further) fuel the outrage of those who support Mr Assange or may make more understandable that outrage to those indifferent or unsympathetic to Mr Assange – one is on youtube (where else?!) (InfobytesTV: The WikiLeaks, Julian Assange Diplomatic Standoff – Animated) and the other is an article setting out the relevant events published in The Guardian in December 2010. No doubt there are more examples of these sources, but the one glaring fact not widely reported is that Mr Assange voluntarily met with Swedish authorities during August 2010, answered questions regarding the allegations, and was then allowed to leave Sweden with the permission of Swedish authorities. The subsequent decision by Interpol to issue a 'Red Notice' for these alleged offences has received far more publicity with little apparent curiosity about why such an extraordinary step was required at all for these types of matters.

Looking back now, the arrest of Mr Assange by Metropolitan Police in London in December 2010 may well prove to be the beginning of a terminal end to his freedom of movement. Despite the nearly 16 months or so of legal proceedings in the UK to resist the Swedish 'request' to British authorities for Mr Assange to be transported to Sweden, the proceedings were decided against him as the UK Supreme Court ruled that Mr Assange must be extradited to Sweden for questioning about the sexual assault allegations. And having been released on bail – albeit effectively under house arrest – for those proceedings, it is the decision by Mr Assange to 'skip bail' and instead seek asylum in the London-based Embassy of Ecuador that begs the question – what did Mr Assange expect would happen thereafter?

With the USA now publicly admitting what Mr Assange has claimed since 2008 – that he was wanted in the USA for prosecution – the events in Sweden during August 2010 and the conduct of Swedish authorities since do appear to serve an ulterior motive. Even so, ongoing defiance of the English courts and London police was never going to resolve outstanding British and Interpol arrest warrants in favour of one Mr Assange. As a vociferous advocate for the Rule of Law, there remains the whiff of hypocrisy about seeking asylum in all of the circumstances.

There is also the role and personal liberation of Chelsea Manning, a whistleblower whose actions (and crimes?) represent the true values so readily bestowed on Mr Assange by his supporters – honesty, courage and personal sacrifice. For all of the suffering and violation of human rights experienced by Mr Assange, there appears an obvious answer to the question – who has done their time harder? This is not to suggest Mr Assange is responsible for the actions of and consequences experienced by Chelsea Manning. It is more an opportune comparison.

So, is Mr Assange a modern Prometheus, gifting humanity the bright and burning light of WikiLeaks, or simply "...a narcissist who cannot get beyond his own selfish interests..."? Whatever may transpire the soundtrack for Mr Assange will likely be The Clash, I Fought the Law (with dues to Sonny Curtis). A very "bad reaction" it has been and for mine, inevitable.

By Jason Simpson

TAKE INSPIRATION



BOOK

The Fault in Our Stars

I have recently read the book 'The Fault in our Stars' by John Green and wow, I absolutely loved it. This book has opened my eyes up to the power of love and how strong it can be when times are rough. I can remember when I was reading this book I was crying and laughing all at the same time, it really is an incredible book.

Hazel is a young, independent teenager who has been through a lot. She was diagnosed with cancer at a very young age and is still recovering from her sicknesses. Her parents decide to send her to a support group where she meets Augustus. Augustus is in a similar position as Hazel and they start to get closer, meeting up on the weekends and watching movies at Augustus' house. The two eventually end up going on a romantic trip overseas to Amsterdam and the feelings they have for each other get stronger. But Augustus begins to start feeling sick again, complaining about a pain in his leg. I won't tell you anymore of. The story... it's for you to find out!

I would definitely recommend reading this one! If you enjoy emotional romances then this book is for you!

By Daisy Macdonald (Year 7)



MUSIC

Sara Storer

On Saturday 18 May I had the opportunity to see Sara Storer on her 'Raindance' Tour. Sara is an Australian born Mallee girl who now lives in Wagga Wagga with her four boys and husband Dave. Sara's recent album titled 'Raindance' features songs about life in rural Australia. Some favourites being 'My Little Men', 'Hay Runner', and 'Every Boy Needs a Bike'. Sara expresses her storytelling through her songs. The majority of the songs are based on true events. Most of these stories being about farmers and the drought.

For her opening act, we were lucky to hear from Shanley Del and James Gillard. To quote Shanley's words 'We are here to grease the pan for Sara' before Sara and her brother Greg come onstage. The couple sang their originals and had amazing harmonies that made the hair on your arms stand up. After Shanley and James had finished their performance it was the moment we had all been waiting for. Sara Storer and her brother Greg stepped out on stage to perform her old time classic 'Come on Rain'. Sara definitely knew how to work with the crowd by the end she had people singing along and tapping their feet to all her songs.

At the end of the night, Sara invited the crowd to stay behind for a meet and greet, where people took photos and got autographs. I was lucky enough to have a very inspiring conversation and receive advice from Sara and Shanley. Both of the artists told me to 'Keep on Singing' no matter what. The concert was an amazing experience one that I will never forget.

By Lilly Magill (Year 10)



TV

Fearless

Fearless is a TV series about a lawyer who brings back a cold case. The cold case involves a young girl who was murdered, yet the person in goal didn't commit the murder, but has accepted the situation he is in and will always be in. Yet as the series progresses the lawyer persists, risking her life, her friends and colleagues, as well as her career, but she digs deeper, as the young dead girl's family get involved and question the closure that they had received and also hope that it is true.

The series follows a deep storyline with layers of detail added to add to the mystery of what actually happened.

By Evie Crowley (Year 7)

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Head of Junior School: Justine Lind

I recently heard author and provocateur, David Gillespie interviewed on FM radio about the impact of devices on the 'Teen Brain' which is the title of his most recent book. His promotional rhetoric was well oiled as he outlined his thesis that digital devices are the most dangerous items in a child's life at the moment and that "schools are giving one to everyone."



What struck me, more than his expertise or claims of a scientific basis for his argument, was his overzealous and alarmist mindset. At a time in history when the complexities of life demand that we bring an informed, nuanced and critical appreciation of ideas to engage in dialogue, as opposed to a falsely dichotomous reliance on debate, we have to resist the simplified view.

Gillespie's opinions are reductionist in that they assume a one size fits all approach and ignore the rule that "correlation is not causation" to promote a view so extreme that he undermines his own credibility. I'm missing the call for balance, the faith in human capacity to learn and moderate behaviour and the rejection of the long standing bastion of naivety that abstinence is the best protection. Not to mention the wisdom of these reckless schools and teachers and importantly parents, to help children learn judgment and self-regulation in their approach to all behaviours.

Another provocative researcher in the field of digital technology, Mark Prensky's latest theory is outlined in his book which is actually called From Digital Natives to Digital Wisdom. He describes the complementary use of digital enhancements or tools that allow the brain to outsource low level cognitive processes such as memory and computation, to free up the space for higher order thinking such as analysis and consequence forecasting within an ethical framework. "Thinking and wisdom have become, in our age, a symbiosis of the human brain and its digital enhancements." (2012, p.213) If we do not prepare our students, incrementally to think in this way will be rendering them ill-equipped to thrive in the world of the future when others have integrated these processes into their learning mindset in an incremental rise to mastery and automaticity. In this we can see the shift away from the notion of artificial to augmented intelligence.

Our students and teachers use technology in a judicious way; it must enhance not merely replicate traditional learning experiences, they use it to help them learn about their own learning preferences, strength and stretches and to optimise time on higher order thinking processes. We are increasing our appreciation of the risks and rewards of the increasingly ubiquitous presence of technology in all our lives and we respond to new knowledge to refine the way in which we use it. We are striving to be wise in a response that serves our students well.

Last week, we have heard much of the wisdom of youth as part of our House Public Speaking competition. Each student is to be commended for their personal efforts to embrace the experience of exploring ideas for the education and awareness of others. We have heard their passion and compassion expressed and we have had our own mindsets expanded in the process. If wisdom, a tolerance for ambiguity and an appreciation of complexity can be accommodated by the children of the future why not by the adults and would-be thought leaders of today?

Weekly Awards:

Students of the Week Learning Journey

K: Zoe Choo
Yr 1: Sophia Bagnall
Yr 2C: Victoria Feetham
Yr 2S: Lachlan Stanners
Yr 3: William Coram
Yr 4: Dakota Winn, Louisa Hogan Baldo
Yr 5C: Toby Wood, Noah Byrne, Emily Byrne
Yr 5H: Ben Scott, Aislinn Kenny, Ella Loiterton
Yr 6A: Sarah Witcombe, Harley Evans, Eva Duffy
Yr 6W: Zane Todorovski, Luca Colloridi, Xanthe MacDonald

Oxley Values

K: Harry Berry
Yr 1: Charlie Hammond
Yr 2C: Pollyanna Landrigan
Yr 2S: Thomas Berry
Yr 3: Grace Kean
Yr 4: Leila Palmer
Yr 5C: Tina Farhan
Yr 5H: Tiffany Matar
Yr 6A: Jess Pinczi
Yr 6W: Grace Malouf



HICES CROSS COUNTRY



The Junior School Cross Country team competed at the HICES Cross Country hosted by Orange Anglican School on Thursday 23 May. Eight students placed in the top ten runners in their age group and have qualified to represent HICES at the NSWICIS Cross Country Carnival. The Oxley team finished in third place in Division One which is an outstanding result and they also won the Percentage Shield for Division One.

JUNIOR SCHOOL



BODY IMAGE: We need to address it!

Two words, nine letters and something that according to the Butterfly Foundation, one in four young Australians are majorly impacted by - Body Image; The perception an individual has on their physical appearance and the feelings that arise from that perception. I know for many my age, a positive body image is difficult to maintain with the continuous and heavy influence by the media. Our society has shaped numerous unrealistic and overall hurtful body ideals regarding both men and women. An example of this came to my attention only late last year.

Channel Nine's hit dating show "Love Island Australia."

When researching the show, I stumbled across the casting application page. A few things stood out to me that really reinforce how media has set up such unrealistic standards of so called beauty based off a group of 20 hand-picked people. When applying for the show, they ask you for your height, they ask for your cultural background, they ask for the number of followers you have on social media, they ask for your weight. It got me thinking why this show is not called Vanity Island.

"Why does reality entertainment mean white skinny bodies or rock hard abs and big muscles?"

Why does reality entertainment mean white skinny bodies or rock hard abs and big muscles for this is what the show entailed. All I see 'Love Island' promoting is a totally misguided message on how your looks are the key to finding your true love. On the whole, this show only enforces negative body image for its lack of diversity and inclusivity in body shape, colour and size.

Body image is also challenged when it comes to social media. Apart from the harmless granny instagramers, the site is stained in messages regarding negative body image whether it be the continuous use of Photoshop, advertising of dieting supplements, teeth whiteners, influx of beauty trends, trolling commenters or the downfall of likes and followers. Our modern-day network has enabled the ability and encouragement of negative body image. But it is about time we fight back and say no to this belittling and confidence crushing behaviour.



Jameela Jamil, British female actor and body positivity activist has begun that revolution of change. After seeing an Instagram post of the Kardashians with their weight typed below them, Jameela began something called an “I weigh movement.” This is where people take a photo of themselves and rather than dwelling on a gravitational mass of force they state and celebrate who they are beyond flesh and bone.

Beyond my physical appearance I strive to be passionate, hard working, fun, an animal lover and more. The point of her movement is to get people thinking, all across the world, about how they see themselves away from the body. So, I ask you to put your looks aside and reflect upon what makes you you and celebrate it.

“I ask you to put your looks aside and reflect upon what makes you you and celebrate it”

Overall,

Jameela Jamil has begun the change in body image in society, but it’s just the start.

As a school, we can create change too.

We can change in accepting our bodies and honouring them, we can change by being selective and considerate in our language choices, we can change by giving our peers positive reinforcements, we can change that two word and nine letter phrase into something our society learns to embrace, love and accept.

By Peggy Holmwood (Year 9)

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

Deputy Head Pastoral: Mark Case

Bray Fields – Sport Training

We are delighted that we have started to use Bray Fields for senior football and rugby training this week. The fields are looking good and the teams were treated to a stunning sunset on Tuesday at the end of their training session.

The use of Bray Fields is being phased in over the coming months. For Tuesday and Thursday training, all teams must leave from and return to the main campus on foot accompanied by their coaches and they must follow the designated route. There is no pedestrian footpath that goes around the turning circle on Railway Road to the bridge, so students will cross Railway Road prior to the turning circle, which gives maximum visibility to traffic on Railway Road. We have requested the Council install a zebra crossing on Railway Road and also signage at the bridge, so that pedestrians are given right of way. We have also removed the 'left turn only' sign on the driveway exit to the College, to reduce school traffic on Railway Road when students will be walking towards Bray Fields after school.

For safety reasons we are asking parents not to pick up students from Bray Fields or on the approach to the bridge. This is due to the issues outlined above, as well as because of the reduced visibility of pedestrians during the winter months at 5.00pm. Similarly, students are not permitted to drive to Bray Fields.

The use of Bray Fields for Saturday matches will commence in the coming weeks. There will be no parking/drop off/pick up beyond the bridge or parking on the approach to the turning circle on Railway Road. Further information will be provided to teams whose games are scheduled for Bray Fields.



The Ration Challenge

After attending a "Ration Challenge" conference last term, Oxley Year 12 students were inspired by old Oxley Head Girl Karen McGrath to take part in the 2019 Ration Challenge. The challenge takes place during refugee week (Sunday 16 June- Sunday 23 June) and involves participants eating the same rations as a Syrian refugee receives for three or five days. The aim is to gain as many sponsors as you can during the week and then send money to refugees, helping to provide food ration packs to the most vulnerable – the same food you'll be eating during the Challenge – as well as hygiene kits,

medical help and psychosocial support. Oxley students from Year 10-12 are invited to take part, and students in other years are encouraged to show their support for the Oxley team. There will be a donations page, and throughout Refugee week there will be a central focus on raising awareness about the cause. Check out the "Ration Challenge" website if you're interested, and come and chat to Jemima, Maya, Izzy, Ollie, Jade and Soph if you've got any more questions. It'd be great to have lots of people on board so Oxley can really have a significant impact.

Next steps

1. Check out Act for Peace's Ration Challenge page:

<https://actforpeace.rationchallenge.org.au/>

2. Go home and talk to your parents about taking part- it can be an incredibly taxing week and it's a challenging thing to do, however it is an incredibly worthwhile cause.
3. Collect a permission sheet from Student Services (available from Monday 17th May). Return the signed permission form during Week 4/early Week 5.
4. Spread the word about what you are doing and start gaining sponsors. Encourage friends to join you (it's a lot more fun than doing it alone).



WOW Day - 'Wear Orange Wednesday'

Students and staff donned orange ties, socks, ribbons, scrunchies – and for some at lunchtime - harnesses and personal floatation devices – to show our support and appreciation for SES volunteers. Dylan Whitelaw in Year 12 is an SES volunteer and he brought an SES vehicle on to Elvo Lawn, with students being given the opportunity to try on some the equipment and find out more about the work of the SES.



IN THE CLASSROOM

What's happening in Humanities?

Perhaps you have been stopped on Bong Bong Street in the last few weeks and asked to complete a questionnaire about services and facilities in our local area. Maybe you have been asked to drive your child along Argyle Street in Moss Vale at different times of the day so they can investigate the traffic flow! Thank you for your contribution to work by our Year 7 Geographers who are currently undertaking an investigation into the liveability of their local area and are exploring everything from environmental quality to safety.

Meanwhile in History, Year 8 students have been writing essays about the Incas while Year 9 prepared and delivered speeches on different aspects of World War I. Last week Year 10 sat the Global Perspectives examination, the final part in the iGCSE course and this week Year 10 Geographers received news that the solar lights they assembled in class as part of the Solar Buddy project in Term 1 have been delivered to Papua New Guinea. The lights will be used by children living in energy poverty and in the coming weeks we will get a report and images of the communities who have received these lights. We hope to share more of this in a future edition of Pin Oak. Our senior students have been busy too, so while Year 12 Studies of Religion students visited Auburn Mosque, Year 12 Business Studies students visited a local winery and will use their experiences to write a marketing plan for Tertini Wines as part of an HSC assessment task. All this and we are only in Week 4. By Ruth Shedden



Design and Technology

This year the TAS team have been implementing the New Technology Syllabus for Years 7-8. It is a curriculum full of new technologies, the language of algorithms and iterations, engineering, textile production, food and agriculture and innovation. Understanding engineered systems, students have been learning how to create 3D Computer Aided Design (CAD) drawings and then send their files to 3D printers using computer Aided Manufacture (CAM). The students created rubberband racers and raced them in the PCC to see who's designed was engineered the best.

We have also been creating vegetable gardens, nutritious food for teenagers, traditional Aboriginal foods and in Year 7 and students visited organic farm Moonacres in Fitzroy Falls to understand the role of organic farming practices and the impact of growing food on our planet and our ecosystems. Phil Lavers generously gave us much knowledge about the importance of soil and how we can grow food, whilst also regenerating this precious life giving part of the earth.

We have also been introducing coding with students in both Year 7 and 8. The Textile classes have been creating a Step Counter using the BBC MicroBit (a small microcontroller, computer) that is full of features like LED lights, programmable buttons, motion detection and Bluetooth connection to interact with other devices and the Internet. Students are challenged to design a product that helps teenager's health and wellbeing. Other classes have been learning about the Robots of the Future and have been coding small Robots in the classroom to move through a maze and carry weights.

We are really excited about the students creative and critical thinking and practical application of how technology can be created to make our lives and the world a better place! By Beattie Lanser



Artist in Residence

Last week, Oxley Visual Art students had the opportunity to see artist Dave Thomas in action, demonstrating portrait painting. Dave is a highly accomplished artist and his credits include the three portraits of our recent Headmasters now displayed in the library. Dave demonstrated how to render a tonal portrait and talked about paint application and the need to tonal map your portrait to follow the lights and darks. He also expressed the importance of loose brush strokes so that you are not "colouring in". This was an excellent afternoon full of useful strategies and a few good laughs - He is an excellent teacher! By Vanessa Forbes



Andrew Vild CLASS OF 2010



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

Upon finishing at Oxley College, I was fortunate enough to get a Cadetship with Bluescope Steel. They employed me fulltime with the intent I would do my four year Engineering degree over five years. Three years part time study, full time work, two years full time study and only working in the university break.

Within that time I did an exchange in Sweden, studying at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and this was my opportunity to live and travel overseas, while completing my degree. Towards the end of my degree, I became restless with my perceived value of working at a place like Bluescope Steel and worked overseas in India on a volunteer trip that focused on clean drinking water and sanitation.

Some colleagues and I founded a business called Project Everest Ventures. A business that aims to solve the world's complex social issues using a business model (as opposed to a charity model). What does that mean? It means we set up businesses in developing countries that provide health services, solar solutions, microfinance, agricultural and nutrition advice, waste management services etc. The way in which we manage to do this across Malawi (Africa), East Timor, Fiji and India is through a university student mobility model and leadership training programme.

We take the best and brightest and put them through an intense leadership training that provides a diploma in leadership and management. We train them in leadership, crisis management, social enterprise, lean start up theory and how to engage with local communities in a culturally appropriate manner.

As an organisation, we have grown in the last three years from a team of four to over 50 part-time and 14 full time.

I am also completing my Officer Training in the Australian Army (Reserves). This will see me with a Royal Commission as a Lieutenant

What is your biggest achievement since high school?

Definitely taking the leap and starting a business. It has been the hardest and most rewarding thing I've ever done.

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

Not at all. I still don't know what I want to do with the rest of my life. I definitely didn't know when I was in High

School. All I can say to this, take the path least trodden, never say no to a crazy idea or new experience (provided it won't actually harm your health, other people or break the law...) and surround yourself with good people.

How did Oxley prepare you for your future?

Oxley gave opportunities, more than most schools provide. They have teachers and staff that care... Oxley can only show you the door, you need to step through it. Therefore, 50% of success is turning up. If it is worth doing, it is worth doing properly. Have a go, throw yourself at every opportunity that Oxley presents to you, even if it isn't perceived as "cool" or you're not going to be very good. I wish I did singing, dancing, more public speaking, drama etc.

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

A lot of people. My maths teacher, Stuart Forlonge. My chemistry teacher, Tristan Bevan. The people who took additional time out of their day to give some constructive advice or who genuinely cared.

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

The opportunities and how much everyone at Oxley cares about you, how you're going, how to help you be the best you can be and taking an active interest in your learning. You will never be surrounded by so many staff who care and are supportive (even if you don't realise it when they give you a history essay on someone who died a few thousand years ago).

What would you say to your fifteen year old self?

Surround yourself by good people, who will challenge you and make you a better person. Don't be around people who will encourage you to be lazy or tell you what you want to hear. You are the sum average of the five people you spend the most of your time with, MAKE SURE THOSE FIVE PEOPLE ARE AWESOME (consider that this might also be a sibling, parent or family member, they know a lot).

Stick to your values. Care for your friends. Be proud of who you are. Continue to spend time with people who challenge you, support you and are good to you. Continue to do things you love. You can literally choose to go in any direction you want when you leave school. Love where you are now, be excited for what is to come.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? IN THE WORLD...



Israel Folau: Right to Share his Opinion?



You are probably aware that, quite recently, Wallabies star Israel Folau had his \$4 million contract terminated by Rugby Australia during his tribunal hearing last week, for a “high-level breach” of the players’ code of conduct. This was Rugby Australia’s response to Folau’s highly controversial Instagram posts in April, one of which stated that hell awaits “drunks, homosexuals, adulterers, liars, fornicators, thieves, atheists and idolaters”.

This was received by the wider community with very mixed emotions. Some said that he was simply expressing his opinion (and that he had a right to do so), whilst many others called it out as a blatant form of bullying and discrimination. It soon became clear that RA agreed with the latter, and the three-person panel at Folau’s tribunal decided the posts breached Article 1.3 of Rugby Australia’s code of conduct.

Folau released a statement on Friday evening saying he was “deeply saddened” by the decision, and that he was considering his options.

“It has been a privilege and an honour to represent Australia and my home state of New South Wales, playing the game I love,” Folau said.

“As Australians, we are born with certain rights, including the right to freedom of religion and the right to freedom of expression.”

What is notable here is Folau’s continual repetition of the word “freedom”. This suggests he is clinging on to the inalienable human right to ‘freedom of expression’, for lack of any other credible defence for his actions. What Folau may not realise is that freedom of expression does not, in any way, entail freedom from consequences.

This, he seems to have learned the hard way.

By Hugh Corbett (Year 9)



Election Reflection – The laughable version



Now that the election is over, I believe it’s mandatory that we look back upon the wild journey that the whole nation has embarked upon throughout these past months. Yet, compared to the never-ending and sometimes (in my 14-year-old opinion) boring news stories, we will reflect upon the laugh out loud moments of the election. Let’s cast our minds back to when Liberal MP Angus Taylor congratulated himself on making 1000 new carparks for rail commuters by commenting on his own post saying “Fantastic. Great move. Well done Angus.” Let us not forget when Matthew Canavan bit into a raw onion, following the obviously influential footsteps of Tony Abbott. Shall we never forget the personalised wood carving that was gifted to Somo either. Though, on a more serious note, we shall reminisce the time when the physic crocodile, Burt, incorrectly predicted Shorten as the new PM. Though, my favourite of them all is when Clive Palmer decided to be honest, authentic and genuine with the Today Show Host Deborah Knight by saying “My wealth is four thousand million dollars, do you think I give a stuff about what you personally think?”

On the whole, I believe it is crucial to look back upon the wild and crazy moments of the recent election as to appreciate the workings of the politicians. Those politicians whom are confused by the numerous fan accounts they have made for themselves, getting week long bad breath for the sake of being iconic, being disappointed by a psychic croc reading, receiving a highly flattering wooden plaque of yourself, and lastly, exposing your true self on national television by speaking your mind. Overall, I believe that these are the moments in which make those never-ending weeks of in-your-face advertisements, random phone calls (two which were made to me personally) and junk mail brochures a little more bearable.

By Peggy Holmwood (Year 9)


GALLERY



A collage of four photographs showing students in various school activities. The top-left photo shows a group of students playing string instruments, with a boy in the foreground playing a cello. The top-right photo shows a boy in a blue blazer and tie speaking at a podium. The bottom-left photo shows a boy in a blue blazer and tie playing a cello. The bottom-right photo shows a group of students in a classroom setting, with some students wearing purple and white uniforms.



MAY & JUNE CALENDAR

	Mon 27	Mon 03	Mon 10
	Tue 28 JS Studio Recitals	Tue 04 Y10 Science & Eng Challenge Y11 2020 Course Information Y12 Engineering Studies Qantas Tour JS Oxley Athletics Carnival	Tue 11 Public Holiday Silver/Gold Prace DOE Hike ROP Week 1 of 3
	Wed 29 ISA Cross Country	Wed 05 SS Oxley Athletics Carnical EXC:Haydn Ensemble	Wed 12 P&F Meeting, David Wright Library, 5.30pm
	Thu 30 Y10 HSC & Careers Expo	Thu 06 Y9 ROP Final Breifing Rugby Matches v Arndell College	Thu 13 NSW CIS Primary and Secondary XCountry
Fri 24	Fri 31	Fri 07 Silver/Gold Prattice DOE Hike Student Free Day	Fri 14 HSC Economic Student conference Y10 Parent Drinks
Sat 25 ISA Sport - Winter Round 4 20 Year Reunion	Sat 01 ISA Sport - Winter Round 5	Sat 08 Silver/Gold Prattice DOE Hike Fundraiser BBQ Bunnings	Sat 15 ISA Sport - Winter Round 6
Sun 26 30 Year Reunion Australian School of Gardening	Sun 02	Sun 09 Silver/Gold Prattice DOE Hike	Sun 16 NSW Mountaind Biking Interschools Race Day

P & F NEWS

The annual Oxley Equestrian Day was held on Sunday 7 April 2019 at the Bong Bong Race Course grounds, Bowral. A beautiful misty morning preceded a spectacular autumn day.

This year we hosted 120 riders, including primary school for the first time. Forty four different schools were represented from as far afield as Jindabyne and the Central Coast.

If I can describe the day in one word it would be "FUN". There was relief in completing a dressage test; joy in a clear round of show jumping or just remembering the horsemanship course; pride in the show rider ring and happiness and laughter in the fancy dress. I was inspired by the competitors. They showed great courage, resilience and camaraderie in the arena in front of their peers, friends and family. I am extremely grateful for the wonderful team of volunteers that included parents, staff, students and other members of the equestrian community. I'd particular like to thank the equestrian captains, Isabella Price and Amelia O'Sullivan for all their hard work both before and on the day.

The P&F are pleased to be able to forward the proceeds from entries, raffle and canteen to our sister schools in Nepal, Botswana and Fiji and towards the P&F Curriculum Leaders "Wish List" for students in 2019. By Alex Wansey

A huge thank you to Alex Wansey, Holly Kramer, Sarah Price, Fiona David, Alex O'Sullivan, Deb Holcombe, Sue Brown, Beth Fisk, Mel Blair, Kate and Trevor Fair, Ameila Feetham, Penny Simons and Anne Marie Greenop and all the other members of the Southern Highlands community who assisted with the success of the day.



NEWSFLASH



DA VINCI DECATHLON

Students in Years 5 to 10 represented the Oxley at TIGS and ICS, Wollongong. Many thanks to Liane Bull and Tim Dibdin who accompanied the Senior School students last week.

Year 5:

- 3rd Engineering

Year 6:

- 1st Engineering
- 1st Creative producers

Year 7:

- 1st Science
- 2nd Cartography
- 3rd English

Year 8:

- 2nd Mathematics
- 3rd Creative Producers

Year 9:

3rd Overall

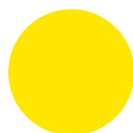
- 1st General Knowledge
- 1st Ideation

- 2nd Science
- 3rd Engineering
- 3rd Codebreaking

Year 10

2nd Overall

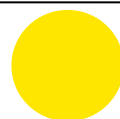
- 1st Mathematics
- 1st Creative Producers
- 3rd Cartography
- 3rd Ideation



FENCING

Two combatants. Two swords. First to five hits. One winner. Fencing, contrary to popular belief, is a sport of pure skill, strategy and fitness. A sport in which two people stare down each other's eyes through masks, decisively waiting for the precise moment to strike. The ultimate physical and mental challenge.

This was on show early last Saturday morning at St Aloysius College when two Oxley teams of three fencers each journeyed across the harbour to tackle the might of Sydney Boy's High School and St Aloysius College. Oxley had a mission at this competition - to regain its dominance from its glory days. In 2008, Oxley won the National Schoolboy's Title. This was our opportunity to prove that Oxley still had that power. First up, SBHS- known for their fencing prowess, narrowly beat both the U14's and U16's. However, by 10.00am, Oxley's fencers finally 'woke up' and in the 2nd match, Oxley's wit and stupendous abilities shone above the hosts- St Aloysius, beating them 5-4 in both age groups. This win was a huge achievement for Oxley fencers, against a much larger host school. By Hal Canute (Year 9)



HOCKEY



Sophia Dummer, Sienna Knowles, Lucia Pinn, Eleni Connell and Georgie De Montemas represented Oxley as part of the ISA Open's Hockey team on Monday 20 May.

Excellent sportsmanship and talent was demonstrated throughout the day and all five girls should be proud of their efforts.

Congratulations to Sophia Dummer (Year 12) who was selected to be a part of the NSW CIS Hockey Team to compete at the NSW All Schools Hockey Tri-Series in late June.

Congratulations also to Chilli Sparke (Year 6) who was selected to be a part of the NSW CIS Primary Hockey Team.



ISA RESULTS

ROUND 2		ROUND 3	
BOYS FOOTBALL			
1sts: Oxley 2 v 1 Redfield	2nds: Oxley 2 v 4 Redfield	1sts: Oxley 0 v 1 BMGS	2nds: Oxley 0 v 2 BMGS
15s: Oxley 1 v 5 Redfield	14s: Oxley 0 v 5 Redfield	15s: Oxley 0 v 7 BMGS	14s: Oxley 0 v 7 BMGS
13s: Oxley 0 v 7 Redfield		13s: Oxley 0 v 3 BMGS	
GIRLS FOOTBALL			
1sts: Oxley 1 v 0 Barker	2nds: Oxley 2 v 0 Barker	1sts: Oxley 3 v 6 Barker	2nds: Chev 0 v 0 Oxley
Junior A: SPG 5 v 3 Oxley		Junior A: Chev 4 v 5 Oxley	
RUGBY			
1st XV: Oxley 37 v 3 SACS	16s: Oxley 25 v 0 SACS	1st XV: Oxley 88 v 7 BMGS	16s: Oxley 25 v 0 BMGS
15s: Oxley 38 v 32 SACS	14s: Oxley 15 v 50 SACS	15s: Oxley 36 v 0 BMGS	14s: bye
13s: Oxley 10 v 17 SACS		13s: Oxley 0 v 48 BMGS	
TENNIS			
1sts: Chev 2 v Oxley 6	2nds: Oxley 1 v 7 Redlands	1sts: SPX 5 v 3 Oxley	2nds: Oxley 1 v 7 SPX
Oxley 3: Redlands 3 v 5 Oxley	Oxley 4: Oxley 2 v 6 Redlands	Oxley 3: SPX 2 v 6 Oxley	Oxley 4: Oxley 4.5 v 3.5 SPX
Oxley 5: Redlands 8 v 0 Oxley	Oxley 6: Redlands 8 v 0 Oxley	Oxley 5: bye	Oxley 6: SPX 8 v 0 Oxley
Oxley 7: Chev 8 v 0 Oxley		Oxley 7: SPX 7 v 1 Oxley	
HOCKEY			
1sts: Redlands 1 v 6 Oxley	2nds: bye	1sts: Chev 1 v 0 Oxley	2nds: Chev 1 v 1 Oxley
Oxley 3: Oxley 4 v 0 Oakhill	Oxley 4: Redlands 3 v 1 Oxley	Oxley 3: Chev 3 v 0 Oxley	Oxley 4: Chev 1 v 2 Oxley
Oxley 5: Redlands 5 v 1 Oxley		Oxley 5: bye	
NETBALL			
1sts: SPY 36 v 55 Oxley	2nds: Oakhill 35 v 10 Oxley	1sts: Oxley 53 v 30 BMGS	2nds: Oxley 25 v BMGS 48
Inter A: Chev 34 v 37 Oxley	Inter B: bye	Inter A: Oxley 50 v 25 BMGS	Inter B: Oxley 6 v 19 SACS
Junior A: Chev 39 v 47 Oxley	Junior B: SPY 18 v 33 Oxley	Junior A: Oxley 35 v 30 BMGS	Junior B: Oxley 29 v SACS 4
Junior C: SPY 19 v 9 Oxley		Junior C: Oxley 15 v 9 BMGS	