

PINOAK

A group of children in steampunk costumes are on a stage. They are wearing goggles and aprons. In the background, there is a large clock and blue light effects.

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OXLEY COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS
IN JULY

JUNIOR
PRODUCTION

SNOWSPORTS

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Designers

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Head of Marketing and PR
Emma Calver

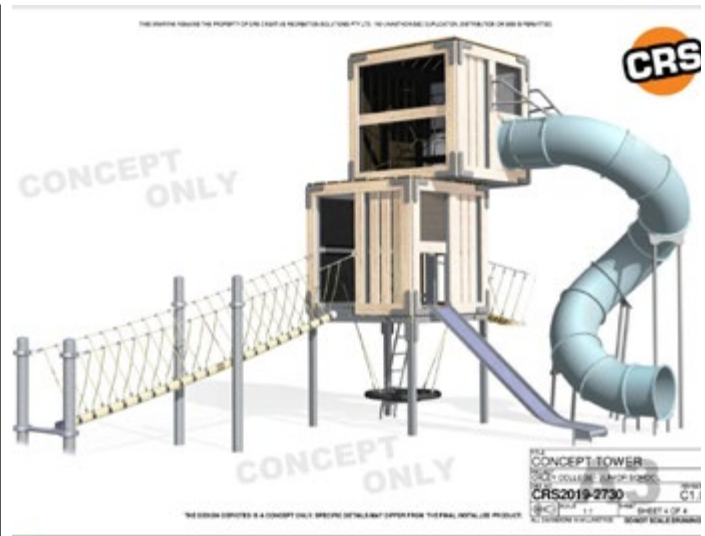
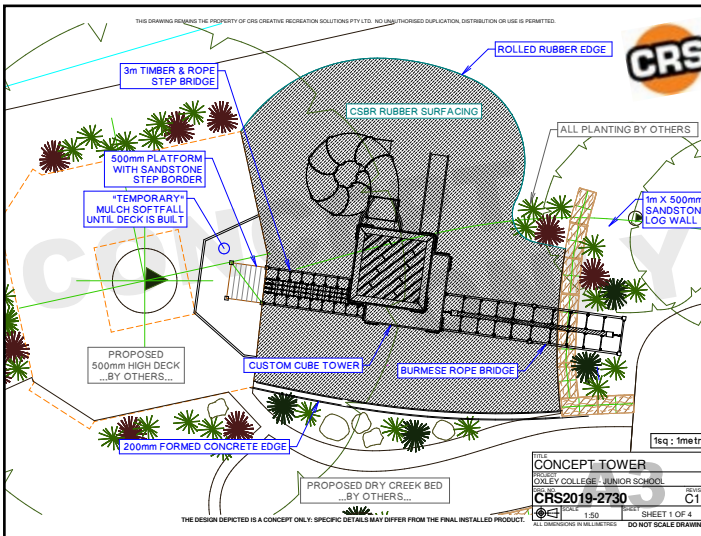
Staff Editor
Beattie Lanser

Oxley College
Railway Road, Burradoo, NSW, 2576.
Ph: 4861 1366
office@oxley.nsw.edu.au

Photography: AJ Moran



HEAD OF COLLEGE'S REPORT



Since the last Pin Oak edition, Oxley has been a hive of activity even over the holiday break. The strength of the community has been demonstrated in so many ways including most recently at the P&F Christmas in July event on Saturday night. It was a really fun and enjoyable night with plenty of friendraising as well as raising over \$9,000 to support the College and local Charity Can Assist. A big thank you to Bec Biddle and Michelle Davis-Rice and all the parents who helped to make this such a successful night.

The students have also been active with their Social Service Learning and finished Term 2 with a great Mission Day with students raising nearly \$7,000 to go to our sister schools in Botswana, Nepal and Fiji. Overall they have raised more than \$12,000 in total through their various fundraising and service activities. An outstanding effort!

During the holidays the support staff worked very hard to carry out maintenance projects and ensure the construction of the Junior School Staffroom and the refurbishment of Junior School Administration and Elvo was completed by the beginning of Term 3. I also took great delight in sharing with the Junior School students at Friday's assembly, the exciting news that the long awaited Junior School Playground- 'tree house' designs have been completed and that it will be installed during the next holidays. Thank you to Justine Lind for the vision and hard work to help make this 'tree house' come to fruition. I have attached some images of the new 'tree house' which includes opportunities for creative play, challenge and risk taking for all year groups.

The tree house is six metres high and includes two slides, rope bridges, climbing nets and a net swing. There will also be a large deck built around the tree so that students will have the opportunity for further creative play and recreation. The students are very excited though one did express their disappointment it didn't have a zip line. Once installed we will then be looking at the surrounding landscaping to provide other landscaping and nature play opportunities for the students with the support of parents. We are very grateful to the P&F for their financial support to make this project come to fruition.

Many of the Year 12 students were in regularly over the holiday studying in the Senior Centre to prepare for their forthcoming HSC Trial examinations. To support the students in their endeavours we have established a 'Study and Supper' Club from 5.00pm-8.00pm three nights a week. The students are provided with some hearty food and then all move to the library to study together in a collaborative and supportive environment. It has been wonderful to see so many of the students embrace this new initiative and to ensure they are in a good position to achieve their personal best. The 'Study and Supper' Club will continue for Year 12s after the trial examinations.

I would like to remind parents to drive safely around the College and model the behaviour that we want to see from our students. Traffic is busy around Oxley College with Railway Road being the only entrance into the College and it is important that everyone is patient during the 'pick up' routine and that people do not do U-turns in railway road. I also need to remind parents that no drop off and pick up can occur in Osborne Road as this is a Wingecarribee Shire Council directive. Thank you for your cooperation.

Australian Geography Competition Results

Over 73,500 students from 792 schools across Australia tested their geographical skills and knowledge against one another in the 2019 Australian Geography Competition. Students in Year 7 and Year 10 had the opportunity to take part and we were rewarded with 13 High Distinctions and 15 distinctions. The results of two Year 10 students, Will David and Ava Lambie placed them in the top 1% in their Year level across Australia. Congratulations on these fine results.



INSTAGRAM

Much like a damp pond is a vicious breeding ground for mosquitoes, Instagram is a paradise for hungry ego-feeding and vanity quenching people to thrive. Yet, this overly dramatic intro serves only as a friendly reminder of the danger of Instagram, opposed to the uplifting and inspiring community the platform is also home to. My dramatised intro leads into the ever so recent decision Instagram has made to preview a new characteristic of the site by taking away the alibility to see the number of likes on other posts. The seemingly innocent empty heart lies awaiting your tapping finger, yet it is so much more than that. I've come to realise that a like is no longer so simple, it is the beginning of a chain reaction which is out of our reach to handle. Unfortunately, according to The Guardian, a study found that the longer people spent on Instagram, the more anxious and depressed they felt. This study has only reinstated the obvious, as the act of comparing yourself to others becomes the turning cogs of Instagram.

As people scroll through their feed they're exposed to these picture-perfect highlight reels which ignore reality. This only leads to further self-esteem issues as we are constantly unconsciously comparing our lives, bodies and possessions to complete strangers. This is ridiculous! Though, once again it is how our society has shaped this online world with a 'keeping up with the Joneses' mentality. This is a world where our self-worth is based upon the number of likes, shares and comments we receive. Though, I believe Instagram have really put a foot down in trying to remove user's ability to compare themselves to a number of likes. The platform is becoming more conscious of mental health issues, which is really important especially because of the added pressures of today's society.

On the contrary, I also believe that the way of comparison goes further than a number. What is being promoted, glorified and outlined in a post can be just as harmful to a viewer. Pictures speak a thousand words yet those words aren't always kind. The content on social media can be hurtful, taking away the power to see how many likes a post gets won't erase the damage. Cyber bullying is a major issue, and is one that Instagram knows very well. There are so many ways for a bully to take down others on Instagram whether it be writing insulting captions and comments, posting humiliating photos, rumour spreading or hiding under a fake account. The fact that the site is just removing the like count when there are so many other important issues at hand makes the new feature seem petty.

On the whole, it's great to see a move in social media recognising the impacts certain characteristics on their platform have on users yet it doesn't remove the even greater threats on the site. It is just the beginning of unravelling the mess social media has created, yet this mess will never go away as we'll have to learn how to manage, monitor and make the virtual world a safer and more loving place. Next time you go to like a post, don't just tap out of habit, think about what the post is promoting and how their message makes you feel. It is so important to remember that you are not worth a certain number of likes and what you think is 'real' online, half the time is glamourised by the magical wand of Photoshop. Overall, social media can be a really great place, yet like anything it has its downfalls.

By Peggy Holmwood (Year 9)

TAKE INSPIRATION



FILM

Rocketman

The only way to tell his story, is to live his fantasy. 'Rocketman' a film about Elton John's life, directed by Dexter Fletcher, presents Elton's life in a fantastical and realistic way through musicality and imagination. Starring the incredible Taron Egerton as Elton John, Taron sings Elton's songs, making the film even more convincing. The story starts when a young boy 'Reg Dwight' discovers his love for piano and singing. Gaining a position at the Royal Academy of Music at the age of 11, 'Reg Dwight' transforms from being a poor, shy boy to becoming the person we know him as today; 'Elton John'. Throughout the film there's incredible dancing and songs by Elton, that truly adds to the marvellous creativity of the film.

Whilst there is sadness, there's also laughter and feel-good moments! I definitely recommend this film to anyone who loves musicals and of course, Elton John! The movie has screened for a rather long time in the movie theatres, and it will be released on DVD and entertainment platforms on Wednesday 28 August.

By Meg Gordon (Year 9)



MUSIC

The Lion King Soundtrack

If you are a lover of the original Lion King Soundtrack you should definitely give this soundtrack a listen. The soundtrack offers a great mix of songs in score order from the film. Most songs are not adapted or changed in any dramatic way from the original. Songs that receive the most changes are "Be Prepared" and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight." Interestingly, "Be Prepared" features different lyrics and is spoken rather than sung. While there are no lyrical changes or instrumental changes in "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" Beyoncé and Childish Gambino (Donald Glover) run all over it and for a duration they sing like themselves rather than in character.

All in all it is a great soundtrack, and I would recommend lovers of the Lion King to listen to it.

By Jillian O'Connell (Year 9)



FILM

Jackie Brown

The middle aged Jackie Brown played by Pam Grier smuggles money from Mexico to Los Angeles for a dealer Ordell Robbie played by Samuel L. Jackson. When she gets caught by the agents, Ray Nicolette and Mark Dargus, with ten thousand dollars and cocaine in her purse, they propose a deal to her, to help them, to arrest Ordell in exchange for her freedom. Meanwhile, Ordell asks the fifty-six year-old Max Cherry played by Robert Forster, who runs a bailing business, to release Jackie Brown with the intention of killing her. Jackie suspects Ordell's intention and plots a complicated confidence game with Max to steal half a million dollars from Ordell.

"Jackie Brown" is another great movie by Quentin Tarantino. The sophisticated acting of Pam Grier and Robert Forster is outstanding. Once again, Quentin Tarantino proves why he is arguably the best director in Hollywood. This film is a must-watch, classic film for any 90s fans of music and film.

By India O'Brien (Year 9)

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Head of Junior School: Justine Lind

There is a reason we talk about the Learning Journey at Oxley. It is about a continual process toward an incrementally revealed destination. It is orientated toward the future and action and requires effort and at times risk taking. We talk about notions of doorways that lead on to pathways. The doorways are the many opportunities that enrich our students and bring learning to life. These are often part of the rich tapestry of experiences provided on any given day. The pathways are the pursuits that emerge from a newly discovered passion or talent that can lead to future or sustained endeavours and ultimately further learning; those roads not taken, that Robert Frost would describe as "way leading on to way".



Last week our Year 6 students showcased one of our distinctive experiences of the Junior School Programme. An exhibition of Legends and Legacies reveals each student's sustained independent study and their capacity for forward planning, time and resource management. Beautifully it also reveals much of the child, their passions, aspirations, depth of thinking and creativity in staging a cohesive presentation. It is a true celebration of effort and spirit, often crystallising and enduring area of interest in the process. It is the type of learning event that makes my heart sing to see each child empowered in their own learning, stretching to deep learning and proud of the significance of their achievement. Their teachers need praise too, as the designers and inspirers throughout the term.

Similarly this week, we have marveled with delight at the quality of the Junior School Production A Kidsummer's Night Dream. In just five years our students' engagement and talent in drama has evolved. I'm sure it is just what Shakespeare had in mind all those years ago in his hopes of bringing theatre to the masses. Drama may not be for everyone, but we believe strongly that primary education is about broad opportunities that enable children to try a wide range of experiences in the hope of discovering a new-found interest, passion or talent that will be sustained beyond the school gate to enrich life's pursuits of leisure or vocation. In fact, this is often the nature of the conversations I have with parents choosing to enrol their children at Oxley; it is that notion of opportunity and the discovery of each child's unique constellation of interests and talents.

This year, as part of our production, groups of Stage 3 students have opted in to one of three elective pathways; acting, music or creative production in an effort to honour individual preferences and talents beyond the foundational experiences of drama in Kindergarten to Year 4.

This term the rich experiences are continuing; our PE Programme is slightly expanded to meet the National Education Standards Authority (NESA) quota of mandatory hours. Our annual Gymnastics Programme will run on Thursdays, in addition to school based PE lessons, and is something we know many students look forward to each year.

Other doorways will open as part of learning in each Unit of Inquiry as students find small and grand ways to chart their own course, follow a seed of understanding and develop an awareness of the relevance of these big ideas to their own lives whether it be realised in four years or forty.

Weekly Awards:

Learning Journey

K: Hannah Cochran
Yr1: Anna-Sophia Psarakis
Yr 2C: Zoe Sneddon
Yr 2S: Charlotte Stirling
Yr 3: Scarlett Miller
Yr 4: Louisa Hogan Baldo
Yr 5C: Toby Wood
Yr 5H: Molly Davis
Yr 6A: Charlie Byrne
Yr 6W: Xanthe Macdonald



Oxley Values

K: Xander Fisher
Yr 1: Zoe Peckett
Yr 2C: Hadley Morgan
Yr 2S: Samsara Pout
Yr 3: Thomas Adamson
Yr 4: Hamish Treweeke
Yr 5C: Georgie Marks
Yr 5H: Hamish Tully
Yr 6A: Chiara Shannon
Yr 6W: Grace Pettaras



Learning Journey

K: Emily Wright
Yr 1: Charlotte Byrne
Yr 2C: Will Kean
Yr 2S: Lexi Mendes da Costa
Yr 3: Xavier Druery
Yr 4: Heidi Malouf
Yr 5C: Willa Soster
Yr 5H: Sam Harwood
Yr 6A: Madison Walters
Yr 6W: Lily Smith



Oxley Values

K: Rose Hurst
Yr 1: Tatenda Jamba
Yr 2C: Ivy Bacon
Yr 2S: Rhodes Feller
Yr 3: Molly Harwood
Yr 4: Zali Walters
Yr 5C: Noah Byrne
Yr 5H: Peter Kearney
Yr 6A: Elke á Campo
Yr 6W: Riley Fergusson



JUNIOR SCHOOL



Breaking the rules to better their performance?

In 53.18 seconds, I could make my bed. I could check my emails, or feed my dog, and maybe even collect the mail from the letterbox (with a brisk power-walk).

But a lot more can happen in just under a minute. 250 babies will be born. Nike will make \$36,000. Five earthquakes will strike. In 53.18 seconds, Shayna Jack could swim a 100m race. Or she could regretfully write a post informing social media why she withdrew from the 2019 World Aquatics Championships.

Maybe not all earthquakes are felt physically. Maybe some are subverted deep inside of us; blistering events which alert us of an earth-shattering truth, deeply rooted not in tectonic plates, but our own unstable foundations. Is this what Jack felt, when her blood samples tested positive the prohibited substance Ligandrol?

Recent weeks have seen the aforementioned chlorine-filled, adrenaline-fuelled swimming championship divert from a celebration of true athleticism to heated conjecture about honesty in sport, 'drug cheats' and the ability of anti-doping agencies to effectively prevent doping scandals.

Indeed, Australian swimmer Mack Horton made global headlines when he refused to share the podium with Chinese winner Sun Yang in the 400m freestyle. Horton's bold statement attracted simultaneous praise and criticism, as he protested Sun's ability to compete despite an upcoming Court of Arbitration in Sport hearing regarding doping offences.

It was alleged by multiple media outlets that Sun Yang, when approached by a drug tester in September 2018, smashed a vial of blood with the assistance of a bodyguard. This followed a three-month ban imposed in 2014, where Sun tested positive for a stimulant he claimed was treating a 'heart condition', and was unknowing of its status as illegal.

However, if Sun's case is examined without the prejudiced and outraged view of most exposed to the biased media coverage, the details do suggest otherwise. Sun appealed to a FINA panel investigating the case, stating the tester did not have appropriate accreditation to draw a sample. The panel exonerated Sun of charges, however WADA referred the case to the CAS, and Sun has boldly requested the hearing be made public. Horton's, and indeed Australia's, outrage at a 'drug cheat' being permitted to compete suddenly doesn't seem quite as justified, despite noble intent. Yet Sun is still invariably swimming's greatest 'super-villain' and the subject of much international controversy and speculation.

Even more humiliating in this narrative was the revelation that Horton's teammate, established sprinter Shayna Jack, who had withdrawn from the meet at the eleventh hour citing 'personal reasons', had returned a positive result for Ligandrol on a routine blood sample in June. This illegal drug acts as an anabolic agent, enhancing performance, and is popular amongst bodybuilders.

Horton, and Swimming Australia, was immediately subjected to criticism and allegations of 'gobsmacking hypocrisy.' The moral high ground Horton had been unknowingly pursuing was, in fact, a treacherous black hole which began to reveal Australia's own dishonourable history of doping – a truth far too often swept under the carpet, so we can more comfortably express our outrage at the shortcomings of other nations.



Australia may have been a pioneer in the early war on performance-enhancing drugs – indeed, we affiliated ourselves with the World Anti-Doping Agency shortly after its inception in 1999, and founded ASADA in 2006. We have athletes, such as Horton, who are prepared to stand honourably for a cause that is integral to sport itself – fair play, - as well as strict regulations and penalties for infringements. Yet in attempting to drown out our own history of shame – ranging from cricketer Shane Warne to the Essendon FC supplements saga – are we only exposing ourselves to greater international ridicule?

Jack announced on Friday 19 July that a second sample had also been tainted by PEDs. In a sensational and somewhat emotional post, she denied she ever knowingly took such a substance, and vows to challenge the findings.

Support for the swimmer has been divided. Whilst some are already condemning her as a 'drug cheat,' others are affirming her good character or contesting the validity of the sample. Herein lies the problem – why is the presumption of innocence not universal? How can a 'fair-dinkum' Aussie be automatically supported and protected from PED allegations, whereas a fellow competitor is convicted in the public eye before a trial has even commenced?

Swimming Australia's cover-up of Jack's failed tests, whereby they sent her home from a training camp in Japan and did not release the news, instead crossing their fingers that 'personal reasons' would explain the unexpected withdrawal, has been scrutinised for a lack of transparency.

Ultimately, I'm not saying I agree or disagree with Horton's well-intended protest, or have made up my mind about Jack's involvement with illegal substances. The point I am stressing is that in the world of elite sports, the confronting reality is that a small fraction of athletes will always break the rules to better their performance, and claim ultimate victory on the international stage. As spectators, we are frustrated by such blatant disregard for foundational fairness, and as athletes the frustration must be exacerbated and magnified to a much greater extent. Anti-doping measures and agencies are no doubt subject to scrutiny, as our scepticism at outstanding performances increases, and trust erodes.

But no matter how unscrupulous the playing field becomes, we must always respect the right to an individual's presumption of innocence. A system designed to keep competition fair will inevitably fail, yet letting procedures run their course is crucial to maintaining the integrity of sport. A thorough WADA investigation, and – if necessary – elevation of the case to the CAS Tribunal can convict or exonerate, not the court of public opinion. Whether Australian or Chinese, Finnish or Brazilian, we all deserve equal treatment and the opportunity of equal outcomes, unswayed by societal misconceptions.

After all, we can't forget the history of our own dirty play in our backyard. Maybe Australia deserves more than just a podium statement. Who knows? Maybe we deserve a push right into the deep end.

By Ava Lambie (Year 10)

DEPUTY HEAD REPORTS

Deputy Head Learning: Kate Cunich

Welcome back to Term 3. It is great to see students return refreshed and ready to learn.

We are all looking forward to term of thriving learning and flourishing students.

Inaugural Oxley Professional Learning Conference

On the last day of Term 2, all Oxley teachers gathered together for our inaugural Professional Learning Conference. The purpose of the day was to provide opportunity for staff to share their current research interests in preparation for their ongoing practice. All teachers in NSW are now accredited under the Australian Professional Standards for teachers, and need to build their professional understanding and knowledge regularly.

At Oxley we are proud of the high quality of our staff and their passion to improve their practice.

Key note presenters and their topics were:

Using ICT for Student Engagement and Differentiation: Natacha Brochard, acting E-learning and TAS teacher

The Effectiveness of Different Educational Approaches: Bridgette Micklem, French teacher

The Effect of Peer Feedback and Collaboration on Teacher Performance and Wellbeing: David Spies, HSIE teacher

Creating Cultures of Thinking in Your Classroom: Olivia Cox, Learning Leader and English teacher

Deep and Ethical Research: Victoria Rintoul: Head of Monash House and English teacher

Staff had the opportunity to try out Google Cardboard and Spheros in Natacha's session on using ICT for student engagement. The response was one of wonder and excitement and much discussion about planning for use in upcoming terms.

In the workshop sessions, each teacher shared a summary of their literature review of their findings related to their Professional Learning Plan. Key strands of interest included DigiTech and ICT, Feedback, Differentiation and Culture of Thinking.

Throughout Term 2, teachers will implement their research and gather student voice, data and information about positive impact on student growth and achievement.



Year 12

We have been so impressed with our Year 12 students this year, and they did not let us down with their commitment to Oxley workshops, external HSC Study Days and attendance at the Study Centre during the three week break.

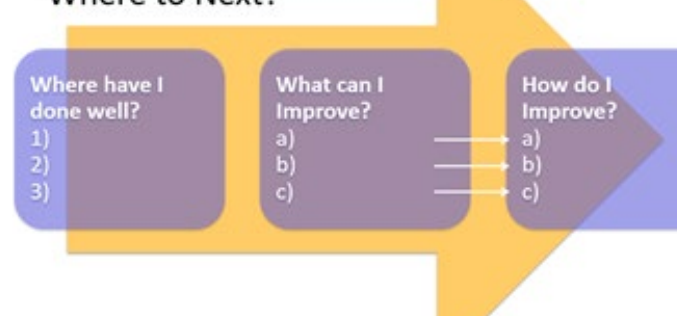
Also impressive is their attendance and dedication to our inaugural Supper and Study Club events in Week 1 and 2. This has been a proactive initiative introduced to support students in warm and inclusive atmosphere in the weeks leading up to the Trial HSC examinations which begin on Monday 5 August. We are thankful to the parent and canteen helpers who prepare and serve the food for students as they arrive hungry and cold from Sports Training on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

The Trial HSC is the last part of the internal HSC Assessment programme. The assessment mark (a culmination of four – five assessment tasks) forms 50% of the final HSC mark, alongside the external examinations that will occur in October this year. We are very grateful to the teachers who have so diligently prepared students for this important milestone and we look forward to the feedback that will inform the final work to be done prior to finishing classroom learning at the end of this term. Our best wishes to these students as they enter for two and three hour written examinations alongside ongoing English Extension 2, Design and Technology, Visual Arts, Music and Drama projects – we are proud of you!

Feedback for Growth: The Where to Next Wall and Where, What, How?

This term we are continuing to work with students and teachers on our Feedback in Action Project. As teachers, we are looking in particular at the research around the specific questions that lead to growth in the preparation of a task (formative assessment) as well at the summative end. In practice, this has led to the creation of a "Where to Next wall" in the Junior School, where students can see exemplars, identify where they are at and see the strategies that will help them progress to success. In the Senior School, teachers continue to embed the three stage approach for teacher feedback in class, peer-to-peer feedback and in self-reflection activities, our Where-What-How model.

Feedback for Growth: Where to Next?



SNOWSPORTS

Students from both the Junior and Senior schools represented the Oxley College and competed against 227 other schools in Northern NSW and Queensland Snowsports Championships, held at Perisher from Tuesday 9 July - Friday 12 July.

Oxley's motto is patience and fortitude. Waiting for 139 competitors on a steep slope with skis in a blizzard certainly calls on these strengths. I am confident that our students who took part in this competition during the second week of the holidays will have become more resilient and learnt ways to adapt and cope with challenging situations. When the Bureau of Meteorology reports "blizzard conditions" with wind gusts of 104km/hr in Perisher Valley, most people would stay indoors. Not our avid skiers!

The College did very well across all events entered, with nine teams qualifying for NSW State Championships which takes place in late August.

The teams that qualified for state will be competing in alpine, snowboard giant slalom, snowboard cross, skier cross and moguls. They are shown below.

Good luck to the teams going to the State finals.

By Claudia Fair (Year 11)



Discipline	Division	Year	Racer 1		Racer 2		Racer 3		Racer 4		Place
Alpine	6M	1, 2	Oscar Johnson	4	Harper Anstee	23	Euan Shedden	20			2nd
Snowboard GS	2M	10	Jack Gibson	8	Reece Masters	6	Toby O'Sullivan	28			1 st
Snowboard Cross	2M	10	Jack Gibson	4	Reece Masters	10	Toby O'Sullivan	43			2 nd
Alpine	3M	7	Matteo Perrotta	9	Salvatore Perrotta		Rocco Perrotta	11	Taylor Anstee	65	3 rd
Skier Cross	6M	1,2	Oscar Johnson	6	Harper Anstee	17	Euan Shedden	16			4 th
Alpine	5M	3	Oliver Johnson	29	Rory Shedden	17	Brayden Anstee	21	Thomas Adamson		4 th
Moguls	3F	8	Bridget Schreck	9							
Skier Cross	3M	7	Matteo Perrotta	7	Salvatore Perrotta	15	Rocco Perrotta	6	Taylor Anstee	46	2 nd
Skier Cross	5M	3	Rory Shedden	19	Oliver Johnson	16	Brayden Anstee	26	Thomas Adamson		4 th



OLD OXLEYAN INTERVIEW

MORGAN BURGESS CLASS OF 2007



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

I cannot really believe how much I have done since I finished school at Oxley College. Thinking about it makes me wonder what on earth is in store for me over the next decade or so!

I started my life in the big wide world with a gap year in England, it was a fabulous way to reset after doing the HSC and to ponder what I wanted to do with my life. When I came home I went to the ANU and studied a Bachelor of Arts in English, French, and History (I managed to squeeze and extra major in there...) and then I did Honours in English. I lived on campus at the university where I made many like-minded friends and met people from all across the world – we spent hours together on last-minute assignments, sharing meals and stories, and having parties.

After a few years I moved out of college with some friends. Share house life was also fun, though, like everything, it came with its own special brand of challenges. During that time I made some very supportive friendships, and I came to love the quirks of old houses and sprawling veggie patches.

Throughout my time as an undergraduate I made the most of the university holidays to travel. A lot! I went to France, Britain, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, and Thailand. To fund these trips I worked, variously, as a babysitter, at a café, and as a tour guide at the National Dinosaur Museum (super fun!!) alongside my studies which was an exercise in clever time management.

When I graduated from ANU I was at a loss for what to do with my life but I found a job working as a Children's Library Assistant at a local library and spent 12 months reading stories to toddlers, managing the teen section of the library, and doing a Masters of Library and Information Management part-time. I had found that my passion for stories could sustain a rich and exciting working life for me; being at the library was fun. And yet, I felt like something was missing.

Finally, I decided to apply to study for a PhD in Literary Studies at UNSW Canberra and, so began the most transformative part of my adult life to date. Between March 2015 and March 2019 I researched the literary dimension of women's fight for the right to vote in Australia and New Zealand, exploring the ways in which the idea of the enfranchised woman was rendered in fiction, poetry, plays, and sketches published in both countries between 1880 and 1913. No one had ever comprehensively studied this aspect of trans-Tasman literary culture before, and I spent many long hours in the archives, on digital newspaper databases, and with my nose in some seriously old (and delightfully scented) books, discovering long forgotten literature and reassessing some better-known stories. I found that, despite what earlier literary scholars had claimed, writers in Australia and New Zealand were using their work to test the idea of women's suffrage in an imaginative space. They were actively building arguments for or against voting womanhood and, by doing so, contributing to definitions of gender, sexuality, citizenship, and race that were being shaped at the turn of the twentieth century and that we still grapple with today.

While I was doing my PhD I was lucky enough to get a scholarship to do some intensive research at the National Library of Australia, and I presented my research at conferences and festivals in Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and Europe. I also made a whole host of new friends who work in libraries, are doing doctoral research, like me, or working in academia.

PhD life hasn't been all fun and games, though. I had a long-term

relationship that couldn't withstand the pressures of doctoral study, and I have had to learn how to manage anxiety and stress. But, despite these difficulties, I wouldn't change anything.

Now that I have finished my thesis I have a few career options. I could pursue academia – teaching Literary Studies is something I was fortunate enough to be able to do during my PhD candidature and I loved it – but I could use my researching and writing skills in many other ways too. I plan to make the most of every opportunity that comes my way!

What is your biggest achievement since high school?

I don't really like to single out things I have done as my 'biggest achievement' because everything I have done has added up to make me who I am today. I think, really, having the guts to follow my passions – to not settle for less – has been my biggest achievement since high school. It has, after all, been the reason I have completed my doctoral studies! Getting to call myself Dr Burgess is pretty special.

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

Not at all! I have always found it difficult to answer the question of what I want to do when I 'grow up'. I am just too interested in a whole range of things to settle on a definitive answer! Even now, as I've set out on a career as an academic, I can see myself doing all kinds of different things. What Literary Studies has allowed me to do, however, is combine a whole range of things I'm passionate about – human rights, feminism and gender, the environment, communication, storytelling, art, literature, community, and representation – and explore them through something else I'm passionate about: fiction.

How did Oxley prepare you for your future?

Oxley College gave me the opportunity to explore all sorts of different things – drama, English, public speaking, a whole range of sports, learning languages, sciences, maths, leadership roles, and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme – from within an extraordinarily supportive, generous, and safe environment. I think that's the most wonderful thing about Oxley – the community it fosters.

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

I was inspired by my teachers and my peers all the time! Mr Bevan was the best Tutor Group teacher of all time, my English teachers helped me to fall in love with literary analysis (thank you Mr Hall, and Mr Gardiner), Ms McVean and Mrs Topp were exceptional History teachers whom I adored, Mrs Hamilton was a wonderful French teacher... the list just goes on! My friends' passions and interests, and their presence in my life then (and since) were and continue to be another major source of inspiration to me.

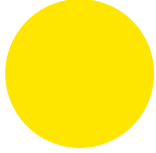
What would you say you miss most about being at school?

Hahaa, the thing I miss most about being at school is being able to enjoy all the extra-curricular activities I could do because I didn't have the responsibilities of adulthood!

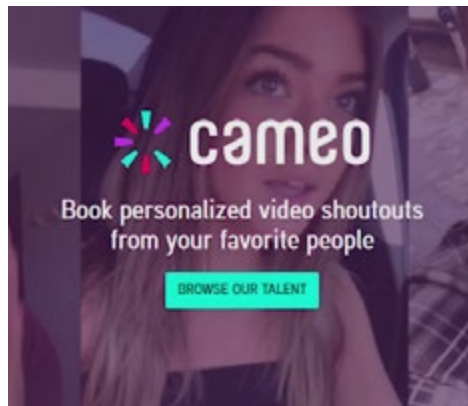
What would you say to your fifteen year old self?

I'd tell my 15-year-old self that she was a powerhouse and to use all that passion, enthusiasm, love, generosity, and joy in her future to achieve all the things she never dreamed she could!

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...



CAMEO.COM



Have you ever dreamed of a C list celebrity who reached peak relevancy six years ago to wish you a very happy "National pancake day"? Well, do I have a website for you....

Meet, Cameo.com.

Cameo is different from a meet and greet. As there is no dialogue or conversation it is a bit more of a virtual "Pay and Hey", quite simply you tell the "talent" what you want them to say, enter your credit card details... and BOOM Charlie Sheen is encouraging you to ace that English assessment.

One of the sites most premium stars explains the app best: "Hi everybody Caitlyn Jenner here, I have been getting involved with a new programme. It is called cameo app. It's very innovative, very new. When I'm out in public people constantly ask me "Will you do a video wishing my cousin Happy Birthday?". Well here's your opportunity to get your own personal video from me. Umm to basically do whatever you want. Uhh, It's a great way for me to connect with my followers. So, check it out. It's the cameo app; That's C-A-M-E-O. And I'm looking forward to doing a lot of personal messages."

Sounds great! Doesn't it? - There's just one catch. A thirty (ish) second video from Caitlyn Jenner will cost you USD \$2,500, That's AUD \$3,619... That's \$120 (and sixty three cents) per second.

When researching this article, I struggled to find names that would be familiar to everybody on the cameo website. Whilst slightly irritating to find any instantly recognisable faces, the sheer diversity and range of "Talent" must be amongst the website's biggest assets. There quite literally is somebody from every niche corner of pop culture amongst the site's talent.

Is your grandma a massive fan of My Kitchen Rules? Perfect - book Blake Proud ("The Hat Guy") for \$28.96 to wish her a happy birthday!

Is watching "Dance Moms" your guilty pleasure? Don't worry you too can pay Abby Lee Miller \$143 to yell at you about your lack of ballet technique and complete incompetence in all other areas of your life.

Thanks to cameo you too can cry on the kitchen floor whilst eating chicken, whilst watching a personalised video from the queen of crying on the kitchen floor whilst eating chicken - Trisha Paytas.

I mean, whatever floats your boat.

By Pearl Bendle (Year 10)



PLASTIC TOYS

Coles: Bans Plastic bags

Also, Coles: Gives out plastic toys

Celebrating plastic-free July, people from around the world have decided that they are going to take part and do their bit in making the world plastic-free. By trying to use as little plastic, buying metal or bamboo straws instead of plastic. '# Save The Turtles.'

Even supermarkets are doing something like banning plastic bags and encouraging customers to bring in their own bags. Well, every supermarket except Coles that is. To be fair, Coles did ban plastic bags even though rumour has it they are still using plastic bags. But something just doesn't quite sit right with Coles and the whole plastic-free July

Maybe it's the fact that they didn't get the message about plastic-free July and are now giving out plastic toys wrapped in plastic.

There has recently been a petition for the mini shop collection and it has got more than 20,000 signatures! However, Coles claims that online deliveries mini shop packaging can be recycled through the 'Red Cycle Programme.' Whether that actually happens all not that's another story.

And did I mention that the Mini Shop collection comes with an App! Thanks Coles for increasing children's screentime that's just another thing our kids will get addicted too.

And what have Australians thought about this 'Little Shop Of Plastic Horror'?

"This is when most people are doing their best to bring their own bags, choosing less packaging on their food and saying no to straws. Here you are handing out plastic junk that will end in landfill or in our oceans."

"Sure, I get you want higher profits but couldn't you have come up with something that isn't plastic? If you really wanted to give our Children something to collect why couldn't it be environmentally thoughtful?"

"Our kids would rather have a future planet free of plastic than a toy."

"Why reduce plastic bag waste just to replace it with plastic junk toys that will eventually end up in landfill. It totally defies logic"

By Lily Magill (Year 10)

GALLERY



AUGUST CALENDAR

	Mon 05 Trail HSC Exams Week 1 EXC: Y5 Bushfire Hazard Experience, Bola Creek Y10 Student Parent Teacher Night	Mon 12 EXC: NAIDOC Womens Business, Nellies Trial HSC Exams Week 2	Mon 19 SnowSports Champ State Perisher HICES Music Festival (Y5-8)
	Tue 06 EXC: Y1/2 Connection to Country, Mount Annan	Tue 13	Tue 20 SnowSports Champ State Perisher HICES Music Festival (Y5-8)
	Wed 07	Wed 14 EXC: Y9/10 Gateway	Wed 21 HICES Music Festival (Y5-8) Junior School Book Parade
	Thu 08 REACH Mathematics Testing (Y3-10)	Thu 15 EXC: Y5/6 Gateway	Thu 22 HSC Visual Arts Exhibition
Fri 02	Fri 09 EXC: Y3/4 Berrima Museum & Village Walk	Fri 16 SHIPS Athletic Carnival K-13 NAIDOC Assembly P&F - Year 5 Cake Stall	Fri 23
Sat 03 ISA Sport - Winter Round 9	Sat 10 ISA Sport - Winter Round 10	Sat 17 ISA Sport Winter Semi Finals	Sat 24 ISA Sport Winter Finals
Sun 04	Sun 11	Sun 18 SnowSports Champ State Perisher HICES Music Festival (Y5-8)	Sun 25

P & F NEWS

On Saturday 27 July 2019, we celebrated Christmas in July at the very beautiful and unique, Burrawang School of the Arts. More than 150 people attended. We particularly loved seeing the "new" faces in the school community and appreciate all the efforts many parents and staff made, by either participating in the event and/or donating their time or services. Thank you especially to Michelle Davis-Rice for her organisational skills, and to the amazing decorating team, for ensuring that our Christmas theme was complimentary to this beautiful offering in the Burrawang Village. We had many helpers on the day, and afterwards, which made the setup up and pack up seamless. Paul Milner was again our MC, and did a great job of the auction. Elle May and Oberon Lane, converted their talented duo set, into a DJ, which made room for all the dancers (and cross dressers), later on!

Rustic Table Catering provided a truly generous and beautiful dinner, which was accompanied, by the P&F's own bar setup, ensuring we were always ahead of costs relating to the event. Ruth Sheddon, for handling our recycling and ensuring that the Oxley College Environment Committee continues to thrive. As always, the focus is to first bring our wonderful community together in an affordable and inclusive manner. Coupled with some help from generous Auction & Raffle Prize

Donors (all current and/or former Oxley families) we did manage to raise some surplus funds towards:- Oxley College 2019 Wishlist for Students (put together by Curriculum Leaders from K-12). Our complimentary mulled wine gold coin donations on entry and change at the bar, added to our ability to assist our 2019 Local Charity of Choice, Can Assist Bowral, with a donation of \$500.

The P&F will be able to commit over \$9,000 to the Wishlist, from this event alone. A huge thank you to the following people: AUCTION PRIZES: Eva & Andrew Loiterton (Gerroa Beach house), Justin & Sasha Malouf (Caves Coastal), Centennial Vineyards Restaurant (Mandy & Robin Murray), Dirty Janes Bowral (Jane & Bob Crowley) RAFFLE PRIZES: Bowral Sweets & Treats, Imperial Hotel, Mic Mac Boutique, Bird and Barrel Gift Packs, Vanessa Garton Cook Books. OTHER DONATIONS: Pullbrooks - Home Hardware Mittagong, Berrima Buslines - all bus transport, Alka Water - all complimentary water on the night. And to our amazing Organising Committee:- Michelle Davis-Rice, Jane Crowley, Zoe Waters, Megan Moore, Anne Marie Greenop, Sooz Heinrich and Wendy Robinson.

by Bec Biddle, P&F President. Editor: And also a huge thank you to Bec Biddle!

NEWSFLASH



YOUNG ENDEAVOR



Eleven days, 27 Youth Crew and one 44m long Tall Ship. Whilst most of you were sleeping in, enjoying the luxuries of a bed that doesn't move and not having to re-apply sunscreen every two hours, I embarked on the journey of a lifetime. Don't get me wrong, these things didn't seem too appealing to me at the time of application, either. Despite this, the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme covers an array of new and exciting opportunities that draws in thousands of young Australians each year. A chance to learn how to sail a world-renowned Tall Ship? Sounds great. Friendships that last for a lifetime? Even better! However, the reason I applied for the Young Endeavour was the chance for me to break out of my comfort zone and challenge myself in ways I never even thought possible.

I expected to be challenged both physically and mentally, but I didn't expect to be climbing a 31-metre-high mast within the first few hours of setting sail! It is much, much higher than it looks. Trust me. However, we all successfully clung on for dear life and managed to capture the last bit of the sunset. The view is definitely worth the climb! Climbing up this mast became a daily occurrence, whether it was to furl the sails, do maintenance checks or to get those 'golden hour' photos (and lots of them!).

Trying to climb up a mast while seasick in 30km/h

winds is not at all enjoyable, however we stuck it out and comforted each other whilst leaning over the side precariously, feeling pretty sorry for ourselves. This proved to be a real challenge for me, as I was out for about three days. Despite this, thanks to the spirit and comradery of the other youthies, I made it out alive and well, still smiling!

We also got the opportunity to 'take the helm' (a formal term for steering the ship!), use many navigational methods to plan our route and be on lookout to make sure our path was clear of passing ships.

In between learning how to sail, we island hopped several times on our journey to Brisbane. We snorkelled with turtles, reef sharks and hundreds of species of fish, went for walks around the islands and enjoyed the time to relax after many busy days at sea. The beach volleyball games were pretty fun, too!

My time spent on the Young Endeavour has changed my life, and it has created many of my finest memories, best friends and a new perspective on the world. I cannot recommend this youth scheme enough, as it challenged and pushed me to my limits, but also provided so much fun and laughter along the way. Undoubtedly the best 11 days of my life.

By Maddie Sargeant (Year 10)



ROUND 7		ROUND 8	
BOYS FOOTBALL			
1sts: Oxley 0 v 2 Chev	2nds: Oxley 3 v 1 Chev	1sts: Oxley 0 v 2 CCGS	2nds: Oxley 1 v 2 CCGS
15s: bye	14s: Oxley 1 v 5 Chev	15s: Oxley 3 v 4 CCGS	14s: Oxley 0 v 3 CCGS
13s: Oxley 5 v 6 Chev		13s: Oxley 0 v 7 CCGS	
GIRLS FOOTBALL			
1sts: Barker 2 v 1 Oxley	2nds: SPY 3 v 1 Oxley	1sts: Barker 0 v 6 Oxley	2nds: SACS 0 v 0 Oxley
Junior A: Oxley 7 v 0 BMGS		Junior A: BMGS 1 v 2 Oxley	
RUGBY			
1st XV: Oxley 0 v 21 Chev	16s: Oxley 7 v 26 Chev	1st XV: Oxley 33 v 22 CCGS	16s: Oxley 5 v 21 CCGS
15s: Oxley 15 v 34 Chev	14s: Oxley 5 v 57 Chev	15s: Oxley 22 v 12 CCGS	14s: Oxley 21 v 72 CCGS
13s: Oxley 0 v 50 Chev		13s: Oxley 12 v 19 CCGS	
TENNIS			
1sts: SACS 5 v 3 Oxley	2nds: Oxley 5 v 3 SACS	1sts: Oakhill 5 v 3 Oxley	2nds: Oxley 2 v 6 Oakhill
Oxley 3: SACS 4.5 v 3.5 Oxley	Oxley 4: Oxley 0 v 8 SACS	Oxley 3: Oakhill 6 v 2 Oxley	Oxley 4: Oxley 0 v 8 Oakhill
Oxley 5: SACS 8 v 0 Oxley	Oxley 6: Barker 3.5 v 4.5 Oxley	Oxley 5: Oakhill 6 v 2 Oxley	Oxley 6: Oakhill 6 v 2 Oxley
Oxley 7: Oxley 0 v 8 SACS		Oxley 7: bye	
HOCKEY			
1sts: Oxley 7 v 0 Redlands	2nds: Oxley 1 v 2 SACS	1sts: Oxley 1 v 3 Barker	2nds: Oxley 1 v 2 BMGS
Oxley 3: Oakhill 1 v 4 Oxley	Oxley 4: Oxley 2 v 2 Redlands	Oxley 3: Oxley 3 v 0 Barker	Oxley 4: Oxley 2 v 0 BMGS
Oxley 5: Oxley 0 v 2 Redlands		Oxley 5: Oxley 3 v 0 BMGS	
NETBALL			
1sts: Oxley 60 v 35 SPY	2nds: Oxley 35 v 38 Oakhill	1sts: Oxley 61 v 31 SACS	2nds: Oxley 19 v 44 Barker
Inter A: Oxley 51 v 36 Chev	Inter B: Oxley 16 v 35 SACS	Inter A: Oxley 53 v 31 Redlands	Inter B: Oxley 15 v 36 Barker
Junior A: Oxley 47 v 34 Chev	Junior B: Oxley 39 v 14 SPY	Junior A: bye	Junior B: Oxley 30 v 5 SACS
Junior C: Oxley 19 v 14 SPY		Junior C: Oxley 23 v 10 SACS	



MILLIE FALSHAW

As one of the selected 16 players, Millie Falshaw (Year 9) represented NSW Country at the Football Federation Australia Girls NYC in July 2019. This tournament allowed her to play at the National level against the best players from across the country representing their respective States and Territories.

This tournament serves as a primary talent identification opportunity for NSW representative teams and the FFA various National Teams. To play at this level is a chance very few players achieve and an opportunity to test yourself against the best players from across Australia. Congratulations Millie.