

# NEWSLETTER



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PO BOX 654  
ORANGE NSW 2800

24<sup>th</sup> November, 2011

PHONE: 6362 3444  
FAX: 6361 3616

Thank you to everyone for your support of the Bus Drive Gala Day last week. Despite the rain and the earlier finish, the day was a great success! The students obviously enjoyed themselves and there was a real buzz in the school all day.

We raised just over \$5,300 on the day and there are still a couple of stalls receipts yet to be finalised. Our school captains' karaoke band raised over \$200 at the assembly before the Gala Day began! Lachie's rendition of 'Use Somebody' by Kings of Leon, with belated support from Kaleah, brought the house down!

A special thank you to Allison Duffield, Keith Lummis, Lynne Middleton and Terry Baker for their organization of the day. The new bus is certainly getting closer!

There are still a large number of boxes of chocolates in my office to be sold. Please encourage your child to sell a box or two. We are still a few thousand dollars short of our goal and all money raised will make a difference.

Almost forty students are off to Sydney tomorrow to perform in the NSW School Spectacular. The School Spectacular is a real celebration of Public Education. Students and teachers perform to capacity crowds at the Entertainment Centre. Being in the audience, as a very proud principal, is certainly one of the highlights of my year.

This year we have organised a spectators bus for the Friday show. There are still a number of seats available. If you are interested in attending (at short notice) please contact the school for more information.

Our Year 8 students sat the ESSA tests this week. ESSA is the Essential Secondary Science Assessment and is a statewide test. This year all of the students completed the test online.

At this week's assembly, we acknowledged a number of students' sporting achievements outside of school. The following students have achieved at elite levels in their chosen sports.

- Jesse Keegan was placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Australian under 15 squash championships.
- Maddie Smith, Kate Butcherine and Rachel Divall have all been selected in the possible and probables under 18 NSW hockey.
- Olivia Patterson and Natasha Rudd have been invited to join the under 20 Hornets touch football team.

We also celebrated Mr Pickering's thirty-five year service to Orange High School at the assembly. The celebration culminated with the renaming of the school gymnasium. The gym will now be known as Pickering Hall. While the sign yesterday was letters on A4 paper held by the SRC, the 'real' sign is currently being made. Mr Pickering retires at the end of the year and will be missed by us all.

Although this is a busy time of year, evaluating our progress in 2011 and planning for 2012, it has been pleasing to reflect on our staff and students achievement. Orange High is a great school and one that we all strive to continue to improve.

Thank you to parents who have recently contacted me with concerns. Your contact has enabled me to discuss and reflect with executive on how to further improve what we do.

I encourage you all to continue to contact me with suggestions, concerns and compliments.

**M Angus, Principal**

**WELFARE WORDS**

- Tuesday was an opportunity for students to collect a few extra merit signatures when we had a Double Deal Day. All signatures registered from now until the end of the year will be credited to the 2012 total.
- The Keegan Shield is awarded to the champion House each year. Points are accumulated from the swimming and athletics carnivals plus the signatures received from classroom activities through to sporting teams to cultural events etc. Congratulations to Elliott House which finished the year with 11,715 points; Macquarie was second on 10,590; Bourke 10,285 points was third; with Parkes in fourth place on 8,623.
- The Orange Youth Council is seeking nominations from any student wanting to be a 'Mayor for a Day'. Mrs Middleton has nomination forms, and requests that you write down why people would like to be mayor and why people would vote for you. Nominations close TOMORROW!
- Also tomorrow, we are hosting a big morning tea for all our recipients of awards from Blue level through to Silver. Invitations have been handed out and these will need to be shown upon entry to the Pickering Sports Centre at recess. We would like to thank all these students for their commitment to excellence.
- In week 9, we are offering all those students with 100 signatures or more, the opportunity to see a movie, followed up with a BBQ and pool party. More details next week!
- On Saturday, we will join with many residences in Coronation Drive for a HUGE garage sale. We are attempting to sell leftover items from the Gala Day. If any parents or students can assist for an hour or two from 6.30a.m. (set up) to 12 noon (pack up) please call Mrs Middleton at school by 3.30pm Friday.
- Next Monday and Tuesday, 20 students will complete their Peer Support training. We are still looking for some Year 9 boys willing to volunteer for this very worthy service.

Here are some dates for your calendar:

Monday	28 <sup>th</sup> November	Peer Support Training
Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup> November	Peer Support Training
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Yr 12 Graduation
Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup> December	Presentation Night
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 10 Final Assembly
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Assemblies 7-9

**L Middleton, Head Teacher Welfare****ORANGE EX-SERVICES' SOCCER CLUB**

The Orange Ex-Services' Soccer Club will be seeking junior players for the 2012 season. Formal registration will commence in February/March next year.

The Ex-Services' Soccer Club is one of the larger football clubs in Orange and enters teams in all junior age groups (U6 to U16) and All Age for older students. Both girls and boys are catered for. All players are covered by national registration and insurance arrangements through Football NSW and the Football Federation Australia. Any parents/carers interested in making an inquiry should contact Nick Milham, Registrar, on 0412 265 920 or [nsmilham@bigpond.com](mailto:nsmilham@bigpond.com).

**FOR SALE**

Year 7 2012 book packs are available for sale from the front office at Orange High School for \$20.00 each.