

# NEWSLETTER



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As we enter into the second week of the HSC I have been discussing exams with Year 12 students. Most students that I have spoken to seemed positive about their exam and with the effort they have been able to put into studying. This is a timely reminder for our Year 11 students who have just started the HSC course to start preparing now. Some students have already taken some initial steps to cut back on part time work, limit social time and cut back on other interests to put more time into study. These adjustments to a student studying the HSC can increase the likelihood of achieving a desired result. Having said that, some students may become overwhelmed with the prospect of the HSC and it is important that if this happens someone at school knows this so that the appropriate support can be given to our senior students. A 10% on top teacher, year advisor, deputy principal, school counsellor or HT Welfare are all appropriate support people that can be contacted if this occurs.

Year 9 and 10 were given their exam timetables this week and we hope that by formalising these exams that students will be motivated to revise work and take their yearly exams seriously. It is hoped that a positive culture can be developed in our Stage 5 students so that when these students enter Year 11 exam technique and study have already been established.

Mr Baker asked me on Tuesday to visit our students that are participating in the Premiers Sporting Challenge. They were working with students from the special schools around the area at Anson Street. When I arrived I was impressed with the leadership skills all of these students were demonstrating, they were really getting involved and managed to motivate and lead students with special needs through a series of fun and challenging activities. Mr Baker should be congratulated for the passion that he has for this program and I am sure that experiences such as this contribute to some of the reasons why students from Orange High School turn into great citizens.

Mrs Small also made mention of the wonderful efforts of our students at the Field Days. Several Year 9 students including Taylor Bray, Josh Shaw, Dylan Halls, Hollie Whitla, Kimberley Wilkinson, Georgina Wheeler, Chloe Smith, Kailey Munday, Rachel Parkes, and Elise Jones all volunteered to help the Calare Rotary Cub cater for the event. Mrs Small informs me that she has been overwhelmed with positive feedback that she has received since the event.

Mrs Maksymczuk also saw me to let me know that The Bell Shakespeare Company have offered to perform Macbeth at Orange High free of charge due to a cancellation. This was an opportunity that was too good to refuse. With many of our year groups currently studying Shakespeare, watching the play may help develop greater understanding.

Many of our students are involved in extra-curricular activities at the moment including drama, dance and music as well as a variety of sports. Not an afternoon goes by where I don't see a group practising or rehearsing and working hard under the watchful eyes of staff. It is important for students to challenge themselves with these experiences. It is through these experiences that students learn the value of teamwork and goal setting and I would like to acknowledge all of the staff who give so freely of their time to nurture these talents. Thanks to all of the parents who provide transport and financial support, these activities are a welcome break away from electronic media and are often the things most remembered by students about their school days.

**M Barrett, Relieving Principal**

**WELFARE WORDS**

- ◆ Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program is on TODAY. This program is designed to alert young drivers to the risks involved on our roads and include sessions: Breaking distances (experience that for yourself in a high-powered police car); Hazard perception; All things about vehicles (insurance, registration, loans); a talk from an accident victim, usually Nicole Sugden; Drug and Alcohol facts; a fairly strong talk from police about road accidents. The program is designed as an awareness of our responsibility as a driver and also important facts related to driving. It is a compulsory excursion to Towac Park as the program crosses several curriculum areas and our School deems it a very valuable experience.
- ◆ This is a big term for our incoming 2013 Year 7s as students from our Primary Schools will be involved with Transition days and an Information Night happening on the following dates:

Tuesday 30/10 & Wednesday 31/10	Transition days for Year 6 students from OPS, Bletchington, Millthorpe, Nashdale, OE, Bowen, Catherine McCauley – 2 days of lessons and school routines – 9am to 3.30pm.
Tuesday 6/11 & Wednesday 7/11	Transition days for Year 6 students from Calare, Borenore, Canobolas, Clergate, Cudal, Errowanbang, OAG – 2 days of lessons and school routines – 9am to 3.30pm.
Thursday 15/11	Parent Information Night 6.30 pm to 8.00pm.
Wednesday 28/11	Catch-up transition for late enrolments 1.30pm – 3pm.

- ◆ NAIDOC Week is happening from Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The program for our students at OHS is as follows:

Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Flag Raising and March down Summer Street
Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Touch Football Gala day, 9am.- 3.30p.m. OHS
Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Dance Eisteddfod 9am -3pm.
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Assembly and Award Giving, Sports Centre, OHS. Period 4
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Golf Day, 8a.m.- 3.30p.m.

- ◆ The Keegan Shield is presented each year to the House that has accumulated the most points for the year. The point system is made up of the Swimming and Athletics Carnival totals and the accumulated merit signatures. This is a timely reminder to all students to make sure they have approached their teachers in

charge of sporting, cultural, service and public speaking events to make sure they have received their appropriate number of signatures. As well as classroom and academic signatures, each extra-curricula activity that you are involved in, deserves a signature. The cut-off for 2012 is Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, when the winner is determined. Any signatures collected after that date will be credited in the 2013 total.

**L Middleton, Head Teacher Welfare**

Orange Bush Nippers is a family-friendly club, giving country kids experiences our coastal clubs have been enjoying for decades. Children, ages 3-17 years, are taught water confidence, competitive beach flags sprints, water rescue and resuscitation skills. Sunday morning meets (now at 9am) vary between Orange Aquatic Centre and Lake Canobolas. There are many achievements to be made in Nippers, or just do it for a bit of outdoor family fun! For more details, check us out on Facebook. (Cost for season: 1 child - \$20, 2+ children - \$40, plus pool entry).