

NEWSLETTER



www.orange-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

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17th July, 2014 : Week A

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Contact List

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Year 7 Adviser

Alice Bright

Year 8 Adviser

Sophie Healey

Year 9 Adviser

Sarah Townsend

Year 10 Adviser

Taara Wilson and Aaron
Routh

Year 11 Adviser

Daniel Wait

Year 12 Adviser

Karen Rogers

Careers Adviser

Mel Hope (Rel)

School Counsellors

Robyn Flood
Erin Pilon

Sports Co-ordinators

Anthony Wharton
Tegan Dray

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Eleanor Delaney who was recently awarded the Yvonne Zola Encouragement Award in the Banjo Paterson Children's Writing Awards.



WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS.



Rachel Crane
CAPA



Mel Campbell
Agriculture



Emma Warren
English



Belinda McGregor
Agriculture

Achievement in a supportive environment

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term three at Orange High School. The term has started very smoothly with an updated timetable and a quick return our regular and settled learning routines.

At the start of this term we have welcomed several new teachers to our teaching team including Ms Emma Warren in English and Mrs Belinda McGregor and Mrs Mel Campbell who are job sharing in Agriculture. Returning from Maternity leave is Rachel Crane in the Creative and Performing Arts. **There is no doubt the strength of Orange High is the incredibly talented team of teachers who comprise the school and it is exciting to welcome new teachers into a future focused and innovative atmosphere.**

Particular congratulations must go to Mrs Kylie Winslade who has been appointed following a Merit Selection Process as our Substantive Head Teacher Administration/Students. As is well known by staff, students and parents alike, Mrs Winslade is an incredibly talented teacher and leader and I am so pleased she is now a permanent part of our substantive Leadership Team.



Last term concluded on an absolute high with the outstanding student performances in the School Show and the convincing victory in the Astley Cup win breaking a seven year drought.

Here are a couple of clips highlighting the tremendous success of Orange High School last term to inspire and encourage everyone in the term ahead.

- [In Concert](#)
- [Astley Cup](#)

Judging from recent phone calls and emails, many of you, like myself, have been disillusioned, dismayed and downright disgusted by the recent exaggerated and sensationalised negative media surrounding Orange High School's Astley Cup win by Prime TV, the Central Western Daily and affiliated papers in Dubbo and Bathurst. As an educator I will never justify any form of violence as acceptable, however the footage of the incident was cut, extended, exaggerated, repeated and as a result blown out of proportion, souring an otherwise exemplary and historic Astley Cup success. As a result the media has provoked a passionate and spirited response and defence from students, staff, parents and the wider Orange community.

People, interestingly students in particular, are concerned that as a result of the seemingly relentless negative media, some of the wider Orange Community could be forgiven for developing an incorrect perception that Orange High School is a violent school. Nothing could be further from the truth and in fact there is a strong belief and acknowledgment across the school by, students, staff and parents that the opposite is indeed factual. Further, this understanding is strongly supported by statistical evidence. As a result I would like to share with you data that verifies the continually improving learning environment at Orange High School.

- During Term 2, 2014, there were **no** incidents and as a result **no** suspensions for fighting or violence with the exception of what amounted to a 'scuffle' between a couple of our junior high students who are still developing social skills.
- There was a documented 44% reduction in the number of negative incidents recorded in Term 2, 2014 compared to data from Term 2, 2013. Even more dramatic was a 74% reduction in reported incidents in Term 1, 2014 compared with data from Term 1, 2013. If data is compared back to 2012 and previous years the positive culture change as evidenced by the data is even more stunning.
- Year to date (end of Term 2, 2014) Orange High's attendance statistic across the school was 90.84% (significantly above the state average for high schools) compared to 90.42% in 2013. This compares to 86.3% four years ago in 2010.

The stirring win in the Astley Cup where the Orange High School teams convincingly won 14 of the 16 events was the result of a resurgent school spirit. **Nothing can take away from the fact that almost every one of the hundreds of students in the 16 events displayed impeccable sportsmanship and sense of fair play. Anyone who witnessed first-hand the palpable school pride displayed by our students and staff could not have helped but be moved by the determination passion and pride carried by every student. Each student played with the OHS crest adorned on their chest and personally exemplified the school motto 'Quod Potero Sedulo' – whatever I do, I do it to the best of my ability.**

Semester One 2014 didn't just see success on the sporting field but rather a strengthening of the positive culture exemplified by significantly higher numbers of students with gold and silver awards on their reports as well as success in external competitions against other schools rarely seen or experienced in the school's 100 Year History. Additionally the six sessions of the 'Orange High School Show' at the end of last term was a very public and tangible reminder of the incredible student talent under development at the school. The dedication of staff and students alike ensures the continued development of an Orange High School culture in which *every* student has the opportunity to not only develop and display their talent, but further and most importantly to find and be accepted for whom they are as an individual.

These measurable successes are the result of hard work from a talented and committed teaching and leadership team who support and cultivate more than 1000 of the most amazing young people in Australia today.

Sun shines like the face of a friend, the sky clear of clouds
 Women cry, daughters, sons, brothers, sisters, lost in the waving crowds
 The send-off full of teary embraces whilst music echoes from the band
 I stand tall but red eyed, the finality of that one last look
 Is throbbing like a brand
 James is young and full of life, energy and health
 I have to believe that he'll come home safe, that he'll have that kind of wealth
 But day after day I look to the skies and miss my darling son,
 Waiting for a letter from the other side of the world
 A thousand miles between us, like now life has come undone

A letter came today, says he's ever so excited
 The boys have just arrived; he's made friends and sounds delighted
 Says the camp rings with gunfire and cracking explosions, but its fine
 That he loves me and hopes that Dad's feeling better
 Quick relief washes through me; he's still safe at the front line

One letter, three months; time passes like glue through an hourglass
 James in the trenches, dark mud and barbed wire, and still more hours pass
 The bell rings slow, a final brass gong, the stopping of a heart
 "Cis, it must be another letter!" John limps toward the door
 But somehow I know, like I can feel the missing part;
 He opens the door eagerly, transformed to a boy, and there he stands;
 Still is the postman, with his face devoid of life, a letter indeed in his hands

Whispers my husband, grabbing for the wall, I run, my feet unsteady, never ready for the
 My husband holds in his shaking hand not a letter- but the end of hopes, of everything
 Because even from the table I saw that yellow, saw the loss made manifest

Killed In Action

Three little words soon lose all meaning, as we sink
 To our knees and cry - the yellow telegram lies still on the cold floor
 And a life is over
 Gone.

This might seem to be a big claim, however based on my experience as school leader of four schools and 18 months as relieving Director of Public Schools, it is one that I am confident to stand by.

I am proud to be the principal of Orange High School and stand shoulder to shoulder with the literally 99.98% of students who displayed absolutely impeccable sportsmanship and pride in themselves and their school throughout the 2014 Astley Cup campaign. For them, their coaches, staff at the school and wider community it was sad that the victory was soured by in my view the unprofessional, unbalanced and grossly exaggerated media reporting.

Over the next semester and beyond, I look forward to leading a positive and future focused school buoyed by the many and various successes of Semester One 2014 that continue to cultivate excellence, respect, fairness and a strong sense of self-identify in every one of our students. What really matters is learning excellence while nurturing and caring for the young people entrusted to us. Every one of our students, including those who make mistakes, will be supported in their growth and development maximised by the continued establishment of a strong sense of school purpose in a 'high value' environment that resonates with adults and young people alike.

Congratulations to Eleanor Delaney of Year 10 who was recently awarded the Yvonne Zola Encouragement Award in the Banjo Paterson Children's Writing Awards with her poem *Letters Home*. According to Jan Richards, Manager Central West Libraries, the Judges were extremely impressed with the high standard of writing this year and both Eleanor and her teachers are to be commended on her success.

D Lloyd

YEAR 10 INTO 11 INFORMATION EVENING

To assist students and parents with their decision making process and to explain courses and the requirements of the Higher School Certificate, a parent/student information night will be held on Monday, 21st July 2014 commencing at 6.00pm in the school's Performing Arts Centre. Mrs Alanah Miszuk from the Board of Studies, School Leaders, Head Teachers and other staff will be on hand to talk with prospective students about course possibilities.

Information on the following will be presented:

- HSC requirements
- ATAR/Ranks
- TAFE options
- Subject Selection Guidelines

We strongly encourage parents and students to attend this information evening, to ensure an informed and accurate subject selection process.

Above is a copy of Eleanor's poem.

ASSESSMENTS DUE – WEEK 2

Year 7	Maths (investigative assignment)
Year 8	Maths (investigative assignment)
Year 9	Science (planning & conducting experiments)
Year 10	Nil
Year 11	Nil
Year 12	CAFS (work placement investigation), Modern History (international studies Peace and Conflict)

GRADUATION BALL INFORMATION NIGHT

The next parent information night will be held on Thursday, 17th July at 6.30pm at the Function Centre (no students).

K Kloosterman**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Welcome to Term Three and what a cool start to the term we have had. During the next two months we will probably experience some severe weather conditions that will include sleet, rain and snow. Students will be allowed to go to the Performing Arts Centre or the Gymnasium at recess and lunch when the conditions are poor.

Term Three is Year 12's final term and many Year 12 students and their parents start to anticipate the completion of 13 years of schooling. For many it is an exciting time but for others there will be some trepidation leading up to the Higher School Certificate. It is important at this time for students and parents who are experiencing difficulties to discuss their issues with the support network that is available to them at Orange High School. The Year Adviser Ms Rogers is a good starting point or for careers advice or questions about University entry. Ms Hope is another informed person to seek out at this time. Our School Counsellors, Ms Pilon and Mrs Flood, are also available for students to make appointments with if they feel they need additional support.

Mrs Hamilton and I are also available to discuss concerns leading up to the HSC with parents and students. If you would like an appointment with any of the people mentioned above please make contact with the school on 6362 3444 so that an appropriate time can be organised or, if you would like to simply discuss a situation on the phone that is also an option.

There is also Homework Centre on Wednesdays and Thursdays to support the learning of students in all years and I encourage students who are having difficulty with tasks to attend these afternoons as staff are on hand to assist students with assessments and to study. Some students simply enjoy the quiet learning environment. Afternoon tea is provided and the Library is open until 5 00pm.

There are several events planned for this term including the Year 7 "Aussie Bush Camps" Excursion as well as the Year 9 and 10 Sports Studies Excursion. Students are excited about these upcoming excursions and it is timely to remind parents and students that their behaviour needs to remain acceptable for them to attend any excursion. Students on levels will not be permitted to attend these excursions. Students who are not attending excursions still need to attend school as regular classes will be operating.

Year 10 have a Subject Selection Information Night on Monday, 21st July in the Performing Arts Centre. It is important that students and parents take this opportunity to help them make an informed decision. Head Teachers from various faculty areas will be available and they are the best people to discuss the appropriateness of a subject for your child.

Parents of Year 8 students will also have an Information Night on the 4th August in the Performing Arts Centre to discuss electives for the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) in 2015. Again this is a useful evening to find out more about the extensive subjects offered at Orange High School

M Barrett and H Hamilton

Will you be in Year 11 or 12 in 2015 and think a \$2,000 scholarship would help your studies?

FACS HSC Youth Scholarships for 2015

Whether you live in social housing or are on the NSW Housing Register (waiting list) you may be eligible to apply for a \$2,000 FACS HSC Youth Scholarship.



To be eligible, you need to be under 25 years of age in 2015.

Scholarships of \$2,000 may be spent on:

- books
- computer equipment
- other specialist education equipment
- tuition, special programs or course fees

Download the information sheet and application form today from www.housing.nsw.gov.au, 200 scholarships are on offer across the state. Applications close 25 July 2014*.

For more information call the Housing NSW Contact Centre on **1300 HOUSING (1300 468 746)** and press 2 for general enquiries.

* Late applications will not be accepted.



Family &
Community
Services

Contact your Year Adviser for further information.