

NEWSLETTER



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

PO BOX 654
ORANGE NSW 2800

29th January, 2015 : Week A

PHONE: 6362 3444
FAX: 6361 3616

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Contact List

Principal

David Lloyd

Deputy Principals

Kathleen Maksymczuk (Rel)
Helene Hamilton (Rel)

Head Teacher Admin

Kylie Winslade (students)
Joanne Cormack (Rel) (staff)

Year 7 Adviser

Cassie Coates

Year 8 Adviser

Alice Bright

Year 9 Adviser

Sophie Healey

Year 10 Adviser

Sarah Townsend

Year 11 Adviser

Taara Wilson and
Aaron Routh

Year 12 Adviser

Daniel Wait

Careers Adviser

Glen Pearson

School Counsellors

Robyn Flood
Gai Torshavin

Sports Co-ordinators

Anthony Wharton
Tegan Dray



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

I would like to begin by extending a warm welcome to parents new to our school. We trust you will find this weekly publication of student achievements and news items relevant and interesting. The weekly newsletter is designed to complement our schools website www.orange-h.schools.nsw.edu.au In the coming weeks all parents will also be provided with passwords and the ability to access timetables, attendance, homework along with other personalised information through our new 'parent portal'. Full logon details will be sent to each parent by the end of the first half of this term. We are also working in the background on our Orange High School Facebook page and look forward to its release in the future as a further communication platform.

Teachers and support staff excitedly welcomed 200 new Year 7 students to our school earlier this week. For these students the school year began with a wave of excitement mixed with nervousness and perhaps a touch of emotion. At the end of the first day I asked a number of teachers to rate their first day with through a mark out of 10, the average was 10.5 with the most common score 11 out of 10. I thought

Achievement in a supportive environment

that was impressive score and terrific way to start the year. Judging by the smiles on the faces of students leaving the school I am quietly confident almost all would rate their first day highly.



This morning for the second day, the school was abuzz with excitement as all students returned from holidays to their friends and into school routines. Particularly impressive has been the manner in which students settled quickly into learning routines. The school is feeling very full, as exemplified by the way we all had to breathe in to fit inside the Gym for our first whole school assembly!

Parents and carers of Year 7 Students are warmly invited to a BBQ provided by the P&C Team on the front lawn of the school next Wednesday, 4 February, at 6pm. We look forward to an opportunity to say hello and welcome new parents to our school. The evening is relaxed and low key with an emphasis on personalising the experience of starting in a large comprehensive school.

Along with new students we are also very pleased to welcome some new and highly talented teachers to our staff team. Pictured below are our newest teachers who have all begun with smiles on their faces. I am very confident our newest teachers are some of the best and brightest yet!



Jon Blencow, Sarah Edwards, Lucinda MacDonald, Wes Lummis, Jessica Bond and Rebeca Livingstone.

Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Maksymczuk will be our deputy principals for at least the first term. It is wonderful to have tremendous depth in our Head Teacher Team with school leaders ready and enthusiastic to step up to new roles as the opportunities arise. Mrs Hamilton will oversee students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 while Mrs Maksymczuk will be the deputy principal for students in Years 10 and 12. Please be encouraged to make contact with either Helen or Kath via phone or email, Helene.Hamilton@det.nsw.edu.au or Kathleen.Maksymczuk@det.nsw.edu.au



*Mrs Hamilton**Mrs Maksymczuk*

Over the holidays the school has been transformed with tactile visual aids, improved railings, new carpet in upstairs classrooms and painting of further learning spaces. I am quietly confident 2015 will see us achieve further gains in improving our asset base. Following a grant from the state government and anticipated contributions from the P&C we will hopefully achieve the re-surfacing of our basketball courts during the year. This will result in a much improved physical and sports environment for our students.

I am very excited about the year ahead. The year has begun very positively with an atmosphere of learning obvious across the school. As a school we are very keen to develop closer parent partnerships throughout the year and we welcome your participation in this process. Throughout the year there will be numerous opportunities for discussions including Parent Teacher Nights, Assessment Information Evenings and Subject Selection Nights to share in the learning journey. In between these opportunities, please be encouraged to phone or make an appointment to visit the school and speak with your child's teachers and Year Advisors as the need or desire arises. Together we will make 2015 the best year yet!

David Lloyd, Principal

THE BUZZ



Welcome back to the new school year. I have had a great rest with my family and am feeling energised and ready to start the new term. Our team of Year Advisors have had a busy start to the year. They are helping new students settle in and checking in with students to catch up on the latest news. If you have a concern about your child's learning or wellbeing please contact the school to make an appointment with the relevant Year Advisor.

Year 7 – Cassie Coates

Year 8 – Alice Bright

Year 9 – Sophie Healey

Year 10 – Sarah Townsend (Term 1)

Year 11 – Taara Wilson and Aaron Routh

Year 12 – Daniel Wait

Kate Griffen continues in her role of Student Representative Council Representative.

I am excited to be working with such a dedicated and talented group of people. Stay tuned for details of Wellbeing Programs that develop throughout the year.

Please note that ONLY Year 7 and 8 will receive school diaries this year. Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 will need to supply their own paper diary or use a calendar on their computer. There may be some diaries left over, available to purchase next week. I will confirm the cost in next week's Buzz. We are continuing to investigate an electronic version for 2016.

YEAR 7 Welcome BBQ

Parents and families of Year 7 students are invited to join staff on the front lawn for a BBQ and chat on **Wednesday 4th Feb**, starting at 6pm. Invites have been distributed to all Year 7 students and RSVPs need to be in by Monday 2nd Feb please. You can RSVP by returning the cut off slip or by calling the school directly. There is no cost for the BBQ dinner: sausages, bread and a drink will be provided. Please RSVP by the due date to help us with catering.

PBL – MERIT (POSITIVE REWARDS) CHANGES FOR 2015

We will continue to implement the PBL Tickets this year. The PBL Team have introduced an additional level to our Positive Rewards System, please read below for more details. Students have not been introduced to this part of the system yet, we decided to get students settled into classroom learning first. The new system will be explained to students over the next few weeks. By all means have some healthy discussion with your child to ensure understanding and their ownership of the 'Pinnacle Award'.

Part 1 -PBL Ticket Draw

PBL Tickets are awarded to students for great work, sustained focus during class or consistent effort during the lesson etc. (Examples may include handing in lost property, demonstrating initiative during tasks, handing in tasks before the due date, independent group work, offering assistance to teacher or other students, completing a good quality homework task etc)

Teacher fills in the PBL Ticket and awards it to the student during class time



Students place PBL Ticket in allocated box (opposite middle office in main corridor)



Winners are drawn each fortnight at assembly

4 X \$10 canteen vouchers (donated by P & C)

At the end of term all tickets go into a draw for 3 x \$20 vouchers (donated by P & C)

MEGADRAW

Last 4 weeks of the school year

Part 2 –Pinnacle Award

- This is a new initiative to replace the 'Teacher Merits' from 2014.
- Students must apply for a "Pinnacle" Award (year 7-11) or "ACE" Award (year 12) (ACE stands for Academic, Commitment and Excellence)
- Students apply each year and need to meet the specific criteria for each year level. They collect and complete an application form (from their Year Advisor or from the OHS website), then submit it to their Year Advisor by week 2, Term 4.
- Criteria include School Extra Curricula, School Service and Community Service. It also includes students not having any negative entries on Sentral, achieved Silver or Gold Award on their mid-course report, attendance above 87% and a teacher needs to endorse the application. (Please refer to attached copy of the application form). The examples listed in the application form are suggestions only, Year Advisors will accept other examples.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any wellbeing concerns about your child. I can be contacted on 63 62 3444 during school hours.

More information about Motivational Media, Cyber Bully and Vaccinations in next week's edition of The Buzz.

Happy First Week Back Everyone,

Mrs Chopping, Head Teacher Wellbeing

Calare Public School
and
Kate Bracks
Present
A Garden Party

A major fundraiser for the Stephanie Alexander
Kitchen Garden Program

Venue: Calare Public School
Time: 6.30pm
Date: 20 February 2015
Cost: \$100

*Enjoy a delicious four course dinner of seasonal
produce from our school garden and locally
sourced ingredients, accompanied by
local champagne and wine.*

*Tickets available from
Calare Public School office.
6362 3699
Cash, Cheque, EFTPOS*

Stephanie Alexander
KITCHEN GARDEN
National Program
Growing Horizons Inspiring Dreams

Calare Public School