

HEAD'S COMMENT:

Co-curricular involvement

I have commented recently on the academic effort required by the students at Oxley College. However, I do not wish to provide the impression that the range of other activities we offer at Oxley College are not important. School is a wonderful opportunity for students to challenge themselves and become involved in as many co-curricular activities as possible. These provide the opportunity for enjoyment; to acquire skills in particular activities, to develop teamwork skills, to experience new activities and to proudly represent Oxley College in an appropriate manner. Each student gains from their participation with significant benefits for them as individuals when the breadth and depth of their co-curricular involvement increases.

The following quote is attributed to the late American comedienne, Lucille Ball:

"If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. The more things you do, the more you can do."

Time management is an important skill and parents can help their child enjoy all the benefits of broad co-curricular involvement whilst still having the time for significant academic effort.

I have often heard from students that they will cease to be involved in a co-curricular activity as it will provide them with more time for their academic studies. My experience has been that very few of these students actually convert this additional time into study. They tend to become even less effective with their academic effort.

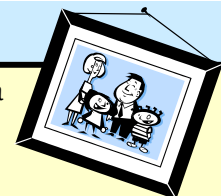
We are now completing the bulk of the summer sports season with finals this Saturday. The Inter-House Swimming Carnival was a great success as were the ISA Swimming Championships last Friday evening. The Inter-House Cross Country will be held next Wednesday and the ISA Cross Country on Saturday 28 March. We will then see the start of the winter sports season. We have just enjoyed the season of the "Stories in The Dark" and the Inter-House Music Competition will occur during Week 10B and 11A. In addition, many other groups within the school have been busy throughout the term. Indeed a very important part of each student's experience at Oxley College is within the various co-curricular offerings.

I encourage all students to participate widely and enjoy the opportunities Oxley College provides to each student.

YEAR SEVEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG



Year Seven enjoyed a windswept Archaeological Dig at the Bray Fields last Wednesday. Luther Canute hoed with great gusto while his classmates worked the diggings and finally rinsed their treasures.



I've already referred a number of times to the bridge of adolescence. Perhaps it's time to explain the idea in more detail.



As we'll see, this is the central issue in the lives of adolescent boys: how to get mothers off the bridge and fathers onto it. Mothers do need to step back; there does come a moment when the level of direct involvement in the lives of our sons needs to ease a little in order to assist their passage into manhood. One thing is clear, however: if there isn't a man clearly visible at the edge of the bridge into whose care they can entrust their sons, mothers will walk onto the bridge. They won't abandon their boys. The challenge for fathers is to make themselves clearly visible at the edge of the bridge so they can be seen by both their sons and their wives or partners and so there is plenty of time for all involved to adjust to the impending change. Extract from: *He'll Be Ok: Growing Boys into Gorgeous Men* by Celia Lashlie. Next Week: Mothers who need to stay on the bridge.

CAREERS CORNER by Phillipa Condon, Careers Counsellor

Enrolment at University has many and varying requirements depending on the course in which the student enrolls. Some of these requirements involve a portfolio of achievements and ongoing participation in specific fields. I encourage students to build their portfolio early so that it shows passion and commitment to their career path. Participation in competitions not only gives them experience but enables them to become aware of the competition in given fields. Their names can then become associated with an industry and some gain recognition both monetarily and with commendations. There are two competitions currently running for those interested in the creative areas of writing and art- essay and photographic competitions.

The essay competition is through the University of New South Wales and the link follows <http://www.law.unsw.edu.au/essaycomp/>.

The photographic competition is being run locally and that link is http://www.jordanscrossing.com.au/register_form.cfm.

If anyone wants further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I encourage all students to begin their resumes and add to them regularly. Participation in these competitions indicates interest and a willingness to achieve.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

The ACER scholarship tests are being held at Oxley College on Saturday 9 May, 2009. Registrations are now being taken online and via pen & paper registration forms, available from Oxley College. More information and registration forms are available from the College. Please contact Emma Calver ph: 4861 1366 or email emma.calver@oxley.nsw.edu.au.

CALENDAR: TERM ONE 2009

<u>Fri 13/3</u>	Inc: Yr. 7 Maths Puzzle Morning, P. 1 & 2 Yr.11 & 12 University of Wollongong Information Session
<u>Sat 14/3</u>	ISA Finals Selby & Friends concert, Orchestra Room, 5:00pm - 7:00pm
<u>Mon 16/3</u>	Exc: Yr.11, Yr.12 ENCORE performance at 7.30pm, 4:00pm-11:30pm
<u>Tues 17/3</u>	P&F Meeting (David Wright Library), 7:30pm-9:00pm
<u>Wed 18/3</u>	Inter-House Cross Country
<u>Thurs 19/3</u>	Year 12 Drama Excursion, Wollongong, 6:30pm-11:00pm Cricket Presentation, Canteen
<u>Fri 20/3</u>	History Excursion to Nicholson Museum, 8:00am-11:00pm

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS) FUNDRAISING

OXLEY OTTERS - MS FUNDRAISING

You may recall our terrific fund raising efforts last year when we raised \$9202.00 for the Oxley Otters staff team riding in the MS Sydney to Wollongong bike ride. The amount raised meant the Otters were the 33rd highest fundraising team. This is an amazing achievement when you consider there were 625 teams entered in the ride. Monique Allouche and Ali Murphy Fundraising Co-ordinators from the MS Society and Stephen Papadopoulos an MS ambassador came to Oxley College this week to thank the school for our wonderful fundraising efforts. The school was presented with a glass trophy which is currently on display in the foyer area.

Stephen also took the time to share with the students his experiences of life with MS. He suffers from pins and needles in his hands and has constant stabbing pains in varying parts of his body, yet spoke to the students about his decision to be happy. He delivered a courageous and inspirational message to our students. Let us see if we can raise the benchmark this year and aim to raise \$15,000.00! Thank you for your support. Mrs Elizabeth Watson.



Some members of the Oxley Otters with MS Society members.

IMPORTANT NOTES TO PARENTS

Car Parking/Drop off: Parents are advised that they are not to drop children off in the second school driveway during the school week. This is a route for buses and staff cars only. Parents should only use the main school driveway or Osborne Rd entrance in the mornings and afternoons.

Uniform: A number of boys are wearing slip on style shoes. The diary is clear that black leather LACE UP shoes should be worn. Mr Bollom has given these boys a two week period of grace to have the correct shoes. That period is now up and all students must have the correct shoes.

IT Agreements: All students have to complete an IT Agreement before the end of this week. Student's Tutors will have been monitoring this for many weeks. Students have had seven weeks now to return this agreement. Students who have not completed this by Friday will lose access to the school computers.

ISA CHAMPIONSHIPS — SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The ISA Swimming Carnival was an exciting evening. Oxley performed exceptionally well, particularly the Intermediate and Senior Girls who were placed second in Division One, narrowly missing first place by less than 10 points. The Intermediate and Senior boys also performed strongly and were placed third in Division Two. Exciting events of the night were the Senior Girls winning the Medley Relay, the Intermediate Girls winning the Freestyle Relay, the Intermediate Boys placed second in the Freestyle Relay. Many swimmers produced personal bests on the night and all swimmers should be congratulated on their commitment, training and positive attitude. Some strong performers on the night included Ben Farrow, Cosi Hofman, Max Moran, Ed Sutherland, Hamish Ismay, Jack Hobson, Henry Hobson, Jordon Berta, Zoe Binder, Abby Ismay, Tori Eaglen, Stephanie Allman, Morgan Sheargold, Georgia Kickert, Tahlia Shaw and our two Swimming Captains, Jack Monro and Kate Allman.

Mr Max Ingall

SPORTING FIXTURES

Saturday 14 March

Team	Opposition	Venue	Time	Details	Transport
Girls Basketball—Finals					
1 st V Girls	CCGS	Minto Stadium	12:00pm	9 Redfern St, Minto	Own transport
Cricket - Semi Finals					
16s	Moss Vale	Taylor Avenue	8:30am	T. Kime	Own transport
Softball SemiFinals/Finals					
1sts	CCGS	Stanhope Gardens	10:00am	Winners progress to	Depart 6:00am Return 3:30pm
Jnr As	CCGS	Stanhope P'way	8:30am	Finals commencing	Parents welcome on bus
Jnr Bs	Chev	Parklea	8:30am	at 11:30	Presentation at 1:00pm



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OXLEY TRIP TO JAPAN

If you were unable to attend the Information Night last week and your child is in Year 9 and above (except Yr 11) and wishes to attend Oxley College's planned trip to Japan in October '09, please feel free to contact me via email or telephone at the College with your enquiries. Other information will be posted about the tour on the Oxley Learning Website under the languages link.

Mrs Maree Okabe. Maree.Okabe@oxley.nsw.edu.au

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange, an Australian not-for-profit organisation specialising in international student exchange programmes, is seeking volunteer host families for high school students scheduled to arrive in Australia in July 2009 from Germany, Italy, France, Holland, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark Finland, Japan, Brazil, Canada and the USA. Host families can choose from students staying for a range of either 3, 5 or 10 months and they would attend Oxley College whilst they are in Australia. The main purpose of cultural exchange is to challenge youth towards international understanding. SCCE organise all the flights, school enrolment, transportation, insurances and support systems. To enquire, call Southern Cross Cultural Exchange now toll free on 1800 500 501, visit www.scce.com.au or email scceaustr@scce.com.au.

NEWS FROM ENGLISH & MATHS DEPARTMENTS

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S STUDY OF ENGLISH

Year 7 & 8 parents should now have received a copy of the blue flyer outlining the next topics of study. We hope this information assists you and your family in offering greater support for your child's study of English. Also a reminder that English Tutorials are held on Thursday at lunchtime in Room 14 for all students. Please sign up on the green form outside the English staff room.

MATHS TUTORIALS

Maths Tutorials are held on Tuesday mornings in Room 4 at 8:00am. All welcome.

LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to label all items of uniform and please check your child's clothing to make sure it belongs to them!

Many thanks

THE OXLEY SHOP

Tuesday 12.30pm - 4.00pm

Wednesday 8.30am - 11.30am and 12.30pm - 4.00pm

Thursday 8.30am - 9.30am and 12.30pm - 2:30pm

Saturdays First and Third Saturday of each month 10.00am - 12.00 noon

Term 1 Saturday trading

March 21 & April 4

CANTEEN ROSTER - WEEK 7A

<u>Monday 16 March</u>	<u>Tuesday 17 March</u>	<u>Wednesday 18 March</u>	<u>Thursday 19 March</u>	<u>Friday 20 March</u>
Jenny Vild	Lyn Bailey	Sue Allman Jacqui Parkinson	Genia Allen	Liz Aitken

P & F NEWS

The next P & F meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 17 March at 7:30pm in the David Wright Library.

OXLEY P & F EARTH HOUR EVENT — Saturday 28 March



It's now time to get your RSVP into the College for the Earth Hour Event on 28 March if you haven't already done so. It is set to be an exciting opportunity for the school parent, teacher and local community to get together without the distraction of a sports match or speech night. People are bringing wind up torches, miner's lamps, glow sticks and glow worms, so come and join us for an evening of fun. Prizes for the silent auction are also rolling in. If you can contribute a product, service or experience that can be auctioned please contact Penny Lawless on 0418 450774. We are seeking a wide range of prizes. If you would like extra tickets or have not received your tickets in the mail, please call Emma Calver on 4861 1366. Please note: cheques payable to Oxley College P&F.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On Monday 9 March, Jillian Visser, Amy Scambary, Meaghan Springett and Sarah Twee accompanied by Mrs Calver, attended the International Women's Day Breakfast at the Scottish Arms in East Bowral.

Having begun in 1911 and still thriving today as we begin 2009, International Women's Day is an inspiring, creative and exciting social event recognising women all over the Southern Highlands, Australia and the World.

Guest speakers from our community addressed both the young and old and sparked new ideas and gave a fresh meaning to the word *independence* for all. The interaction of people from all over the community was truly a great thing to see.

After an amazing performance from the Bowral High School Girl's choir, the breakfast came to an end. Special thanks go to Mrs Calver for taking us along to this unique event.

Sarah Twee, Year 12

The girls, Jillian Visser, Amy Scambary, Sarah Twee and Meaghan Springett, are pictured here with our Local Member Ms Prue Goward.



COMMUNITY NEWS

International Piano Recital—Ten dollar student tickets

The Southern Highlands International Piano competition is proud to offer special \$10 student tickets to renowned international pianist Dizhou Zhao in recital on Sunday 15 March at 3pm at Chevalier College Burradoo.

Winner of the inaugural 2007 Southern Highlands International Piano Competition, Dizhou is a celebrated international pianist and he will be performing works from the Romantic Period by Beethoven, Chopin and the extremely difficult "Islamey, Fantaisie Orientale" by Balakirev. Tickets are \$35 full, \$30 concession, **\$10 student** and a special family ticket for \$75 for two adults and two or more children. Tickets are available from moshtix.com; The Brown Bookstore or The Countryman, Bowral.

Make a Move – National Youth Week 2009

Outdoor concert and extreme sports comp, Saturday 28 March 11am – 7pm Loseby Park. Live Bands including Strung6teen, End Over End, Food Stalls, Spray Tattoos, Gladiator Duels and Mechanical Bull Rides.

For more information about this not to be missed event and Youth Art Exhibition please contact: Michelle Williams on 4868 0859.