

HEAD'S COMMENT:

Vandalism

Unfortunately we were the target of vandals during the weekend. Damage has been done to the PE Centre glass doors (near Mr Wansley's office) and the glass windows and doors on the Music School. We also had graffiti on the Music School, the Change Rooms and the De La Salle building and some on the PE Centre. The Police attended the College and the vandalism has been reported.

We are assisting the Police with their investigations and there may be some of our students or parents who saw something during the weekend. I have also asked that Tutors provide the opportunity in Tutor Groups this afternoon for discussion on this vandalism as any information from students may assist the investigation.

If students or parents happen to know anything about this vandalism or maybe saw something during the weekend, please pass the information on to your son's or daughter's Tutor or to Mr Stuart Bollom who will collate any information we gather for the police.

This type of attack is normally done by unthinking individuals who have no respect for the property of others and, in this case, the Oxley Community. The perpetrators need to be dealt with and helped to move away from their anti-social behaviour.

I particularly thank Mr Mark Cupitt and Mrs Deb Gault who worked for over half the day on Monday (Queen's Birthday holiday) to paint over the graffiti and clean up after the attack. I very much appreciate their willingness to ensure the College was acceptable for the re-start of school on Tuesday.

Assessment follow-up

The students in Years 7 to 11 have just finished examinations and, for some Year 7 students, this was the first time they had experienced subject examinations. So, what now?

They can breathe a sigh of relief then commence to worry about what their report will look like or they can use this next fortnight to their advantage.

Assessments should always be about learning and providing students with valuable feedback. The assessments should let students know the topics or sections where they have done well and should also let the students know exactly where the gaps are – the areas they need to concentrate on. Our students need to:

- Look closely at their papers when their teachers return them;
- Listen to the advice their teacher provides on what answers achieved top results;
- Feel really good about their successes; and
- Identify the topics that require extra attention.

However, they should not leave this extra attention until just before the next exams. They need to undertake this work now when they do have the time. Our students can achieve a lot in the next few weeks and make the examinations and assessments a very valuable feedback tool.

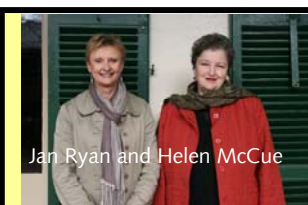
Virtues

At Tuesday's Assembly we commenced with a new Virtue. This virtue is **Fortitude** and is about developing emotional strengths that involve the will to succeed when things get tough.

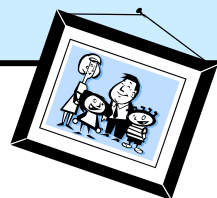
The first of the attributes under Fortitude is **Integrity**. Integrity is speaking the truth and presenting yourself in a genuine way. Integrity is a challenge for each of us, particularly in a digital world where it is very easy to hide behind electronic communications and build an electronic profile that is not genuine.

Friday 25 June

Thursday 24 June is the last teaching day for the term and students are **not** required at school on Friday 25 June. However, staff will be at school as this day is given over to our academic departments to ensure reports are completed and appropriately edited before distribution. It is also an opportunity for departments to evaluate the semester's programmes, review the examinations, analyse examination results and to discuss any possible set changes in light of the semester's work and exams. Staff will also be attending a Staff Professional Learning day at the College on Saturday 26 June.



This week, Helen McCue spoke about Fairness and Justice at our Assembly. Helen is a former United Nations consultant in the Middle East and has worked for several decades on international development aid programmes in Palestine and Lebanon.



Parenting Tips - these tips are true for general communication – but remember children and teens are *real* people as well and need to have good communication modelled to them. They need to be told the truth and not told partial truths or total untruths with a view to protecting them. They will make up their own version of the truth and it may be worse than the *actual truth!!*

We are continuing from last week - effective communication and recognising poor communication habits!! Last week we looked at avoidance and this week *partial messages*.

Partial Messages

Some of us choose to deal with our discomfort by giving partial messages – conveying only part of the message. Instead of really saying what we think, feel or want - we drop hints, mutter under our breath or make vague comments alluding to the issue. As with avoidance, we make partial messages to avoid the possibility of conflict or disapproval. Although we want to resolve an issue, we do not have the confidence to be direct, so we hope the other person will get the message through our hints or vague statements.

Common beliefs that cause avoidance or partial messages

- Raising the issue will invariably result in conflict and disapproval.
- I should never raise issues that have the potential to generate conflict or disapproval.
- I must avoid conflict at all costs.
- If someone is hostile towards me, it is awful and I cannot stand it.
- Everyone must like and approve of me.

Challenging the beliefs that cause avoidance and partial messages

- Raising the issue does not necessarily result in conflict.
- It is important to discuss certain issues, even if there is a chance that raising them may generate some conflict or disapproval.
- I prefer to avoid conflict, but I can cope if it may arise. If someone is hostile towards me it 's unpleasant but I can stand it.

Next week : Alienating messages.

CAREERS CORNER by Phillipa Condon, Careers Counsellor

This week, all Year 10 students have undertaken their Careers Assessment online. This assessment results in a report which reflects each individual student's personality and interests and indicates career paths and courses which would suit the individual. Each student is to collect their report from me prior to the holidays so that, as a family, you can peruse it and evaluate its content. I will be elaborating on the content in general terms at the Year 10 information session at 4pm on Thursday 22 July. If you have individual queries and concerns, pertinent to your child, can I suggest you make an appointment to see me on a Thursday or Friday from 8:00am- 3:30pm. You can do this electronically by going to <http://oxleylearning.org/careers/> and clicking on the right hand side link- Book an Appointment. If not please phone me and we can organise a convenient time. Year 10 students are not to miss scheduled classes to see me but can do so before school, at recess or lunch.

REV (RELIGION, ETHICS, VALUES)

Taken from a speech by Dr Felicity McCutcheon called "Ways to approach the Concept of Creation" 2007 (What do you think?? Do you want to comment??)

A quick discussion with my students reveals deep and mistaken assumptions about the nature of religion, the nature of science and the nature of the Biblical text. I know that I cannot proceed with a unit on Creation if I do not address some of these prejudices and assumptions. Fairly typical of any given class will be the following collection: the opinion that science has proved the Biblical account of Creation false (or alternatively, to accept the Biblical account means to reject the scientific theories of Big Bang and Evolution as false). A deeper and perhaps more pernicious assumption is that you can't be modern or intelligent or educated, and be religious or take the Bible seriously. Religion is for children, the mentally disturbed or the emotionally weak (religion as a crutch to get you through life's difficulties because you aren't strong enough to get through them on your own).

My task is to engage my students in such a way that they cannot help but move to a new place in the understanding and their being. I am, to use a phrase from Enya, trying to open their hearts to rumours of a higher place. I need to provide them with a framework to challenge, enable and guide them to think for themselves about the possibility of a spiritual dimension, whilst at the same time, awakening in them the desire to seek it.

Awakening a sense of divine horizon

Nietzsche's madman famously declared that we had killed God. The death of God in human awareness has nothing to do with the existence of God, of course, but everything to do with the presence of God to us. He meant that we *have killed our capacity to experience a divine horizon*, before which we orientate ourselves and in the presence of which we live and move and have our being. Jan Ryan.

EXTENSION TWO HSC ENGLISH

Sian Evans, Hugh Inglis and Lara Miller, the students enrolled in the Extension Two English course, are well on the way to realising their visions for their major works, benefiting from the collaborative culture of the class and the expert guidance they are receiving from Oxley's English staff. Recently, students were very fortunate to work with Lucy Palmer. She encouraged them to hone their artistic visions and refine their craftsmanship through two workshops. Lucy is an award winning journalist with over twenty years of experience and is currently teaching creative writing at the University of Wollongong.

Sian, Hugh and Lara attended a workshop at school, followed a week later by a day-long writing retreat. Having read the drafts of their work, each student received detailed feedback from Lucy and direction for how to clarify their pieces. This focused attention from someone with such experience as a writer was most inspiring for the students, and each of them have approached their pieces with a heightened level of enthusiasm and focus since this experience. It is wonderful to see students' work develop over time and their drive to be great writers is inspiring.

Following the workshops, each student ran a 'Show and Tell Seminar' for the benefit of staff and younger students. This further challenged Sian, Hugh and Lara to articulate the purpose, content, form and style of their pieces. It was a delight to see staff from many departments and the school's Executive attended these seminars when they could, prompting students' research through fresh questions and suggesting different texts they might like to read. Also, these three students' love for the Extension 2 course was really clear in the way they spoke about their research and writing, and many younger students were inspired to work towards being Extension 2 English students themselves when they reach Year 12.



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 - 12:00pm

Saturday trading

19 June 2010

The Oxley Shop will remain open for the first and third week of the July holidays but will be closed from 6 - 8 July. Please note : During the holidays, the Oxley shop will be closed on Thursday mornings and it will not be open on a Saturday.

SPORT FIXTURES SATURDAY 19 JUNE

Team	Opponent	Venue	Time	Team Coach	Transport
Rugby <i>MiC - Mr Tristan Bevan Mobile 0414 882 707</i>					
1st XV	Redlands	Oxley	12:15pm	Mr Bevan/Lawson	Own Transport
16s	Redlands	Oxley	11:00am	Mr Lesslie	Own Transport
15s	Redlands	Oxley	10:00am	Mr Andrew	Own Transport
14s	Redlands	Oxley	11:00am	Mr Wansey	Own Transport
Football <i>MiC - Mr Richard Connor 0424 745 401</i>					
1st XI	Chevalier	Chevalier	11:15am	Mr Connor	Own Transport
16s	St Andrews	Chevalier	9:50am	Mr Forlonge	Own Transport
14s	Chevalier	Chevalier	8:45am	Mr Campbell	Own Transport
13s	Bye	-	-	Mr Pugh	-
Tennis <i>MiC - Mrs Petah Fishburn Mobile 0433 112 003</i>					
Oxley 1	Chevalier 1	Moss Vale	8:15am	Mrs Fishburn	Own Transport
Oxley 2	SACS 2	Moss Vale	8:15am	Mrs Fishburn	Own Transport
Oxley 3	Chevalier 2	Moss Vale	8:15am	Mrs Fishburn	Own Transport
Oxley 4	Chevalier 3	Moss Vale	8:15am	Mrs Fishburn	Own Transport
Netball <i>MiC - Mrs Jo McVean Mobile 0405 129 652</i>					
1sts	Chevalier 3	Oxley Indoor 1	9:00am	Ms McVean	Own Transport
2nds	SACS	Oxley Indoor 1	11:30am	Mrs Hall	Own Transport
Inter. A	Chevalier	Oxley Indoor 1	10:15am	Mrs Worthington	Own Transport
Inter. B	Chevalier	Oxley Indoor 2	9:00am	Ms Rintoul	Own Transport
Junior A	Chevalier	Oxley Indoor 2	11:30am	Ms Brochard	Own Transport
Junior B	Chevalier	Oxley Indoor 2	10:15am	Ms Young	Own Transport
Hockey <i>MiC - Mr Peter Freeman Mobile 0425 376 242</i>					
1st XI	CCGS	Oxley	11:30am	Mr Freeman	Own Transport
2nd XI	SACS	Oxley	10:15am	Mrs Hamilton	Own Transport
Junior A	CCGS	Oxley	12:45pm	Ms Hannan	Own Transport
Junior B	SACS	Oxley	9:00am	Mr Sloan	Own Transport

P & F NEWS

P & F MEETING

The next P&F meeting will be on Tuesday 20 July at 7:30 pm in the David Wright library. All welcome.

TRIVIA NIGHT 2010

Please mark your diaries now as we will be holding the ever popular Oxley Trivia Night early next term on Friday 6 August. You can make up teams of eight to ten in number or come along and be added to a table. Please call the Oxley office on 4861 1366 to register your team. Tickets are \$10 each and payable on the night and you can bring along your own food and drink. This is always a fun night and we look forward to seeing you there.

YEAR 9 GET TOGETHER

Please claim the date Year 9 Parents. Our first get together for the year will be held on Friday 30 July at the Briars. Invitations will be sent closer to the date.

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE MAGIC OF CLAY WORKSHOP

A look at the medieval world through the medium of clay. Make a castle, create a dragon ... let your imagination shape a story with your hands! Winter Holidays:- Wednesday 7, Thursday 8 and Friday 9 July, 2010

For more information please call Celeste on 0458 511 611 or www.celestecoucke.com.

ST PAUL'S PARISH

Enrolments are now being taken for the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Paul's Parish. For more information please phone 4868 1931 or visit www.parish.woll.catholic.org.au/home/mvale.

RUGBY CLINIC - Monday 5 July to Wednesday 7 July



The rugby clinic is a clinic providing expert Rugby tutoring in all aspects of the game from technical core skills to Strength Conditioning and fitness.

AGES: 6yrs – 15yrs. Providing specialist coaching for Physical Development, Age and Skill level.
 The cost of the clinic is **\$150** which includes morning tea, a Waratahs back pack and a Waratahs drink bottle.
 Time : 9:00am - 12:00pm at Eridge Park, Bowral. For more information, please contact Darren Clunn on mobile 0402 063 054.

CALENDAR: TERM TWO 2010

Fri	18/6	HSC Trial Examinations Yr. 10 Incursion, Careers Assessment Online, Day 2
Sat	19/6	ISA Winter Sport, Round 7
Mon	21/6	HSC Trial Examinations
Tues	22/6	HSC Trial Examinations Yr. 9 Excursion, Visual Arts, Zoosnooze, Taronga Park, Day 1
Wed	23/6	HSC Trial Examinations Yr. 9 Excursion, Visual Arts, Zoosnooze, Taronga Park, Day 2
Thurs	24/6	End of Term 2

CANTEEN ROSTER - TERM 2

Thank you to those who volunteered in Term 2 2010.

Monday 21 June Tom Isaakson	Tuesday 22 June Lynda Sutherland	Wednesday 23 June Lauraine Worthington	Thursday 24 June Katie Moran	Friday 25 June School Holidays
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