



Weekly Record

Friday 19 February 2010

HEAD'S COMMENT:

Use of Technology

In September last year, I used the material below to advise parents on how to engage with their children about appropriate use of technology and in particular, communication technology. I have included a copy of this again as it should be an ongoing discussion.

During Assembly on Tuesday, I addressed the students about Cyber-bullying and Cyber-safety. I stressed the safety points indicated on the Facebook website located at <http://www.facebook.com/help/?safety>. I also advised students not to ask staff to join their Facebook as friends as the Oxley College staff have been advised against doing so. I told the students that they should be very wary of any adult who asks whether they can join their Facebook as a friend. The child or young adult should be suspicious, be cautious and wonder why the adult is making this approach. This may sound very hypocritical when we operate our Oxley College Alumni via electronic format and Mr Peter Craig uses this resource to remain in touch with, and provide information to, ex-Oxley students. However, Mr Craig's use has a set purpose, young ex-students understand why this communication method is used and, therefore, should be more relaxed.

Cyber-bullying

At times, people will use electronic sources to treat others in an inappropriate manner and in a manner they would not use face-to-face. It is a real challenge for parents and teachers to educate children that we all need to respect other people and treat them well at all times. We also have a responsibility to help others. This is not necessarily an easy task but respecting others and helping others reflects on each of us as individuals. It indicates to other people what sort of person we are. The message is one of care for one another as we all should understand that the way we treat others is the most important part of being a member of any community.

I draw attention to an excellent website that may provide parents and students with more information on cyber-bullying: http://www.afp.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/124888/cyberbullying_no_crops.pdf.

The message on this website is blunt - Don't start it. Don't be a part of it. The site also provides information on the categories of cyber-bullying. These include Flaming, Harassment, Denigration, Impersonation, Outing and Trickery, Exclusion and Cyber-stalking. The site also provides suggestions on how an individual can stay in control if they are being bullied. These include learning how to block communications from cyber-bullies, researching what policies your Internet Service Provider (ISP) and any online applications you are using have on cyber-bullying and, most importantly, telling someone – encouraging those being bullied to talk to a parent, teacher, or trusted friend.

Cyber-safety

Safe online use is important. Children can reveal a lot about themselves, their families and their friends via internet. Parents must encourage safe internet use by their children from an early age as criminals will then find it harder to make children, or their parents, the victims of identity theft. Criminals can use personal information published online to befriend children in an internet chat room for sexual or other purposes. This is why it is important to have a discussion with children about what is appropriate to publish online or send via mobile phone. A very useful fact sheet is available on the following websites: Australian Bankers' Association: www.bankers.asn.au; Australian Federal Police: www.afp.gov.au.

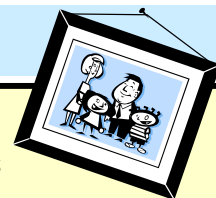
Another very useful site for parents is <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/> and I suggest you visit this site and peruse the information the site contains.

Virtues

Wisdom and knowledge are about using our brains to acquire and use knowledge. The second of the attributes under wisdom and knowledge is Curiosity. Curiosity is taking an interest in the world around you.

COMMUNICATION

A reminder to all parents: You do not have to wait until Parent/Teacher interview evenings to receive feedback about your child's progress. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Tutor for an update at any time. We encourage ongoing communication between the College and parents. The best way to contact your child's tutor is by email.



Positive Psychology

As well as focusing, recognising and building our strengths, positive psychology would have us challenge ourselves as parents and have us ask ourselves honestly, where our own focus lies. What are my goals for me and my children? For example, if you were asked the question - When my child's report comes home and he/she attains a C or D, what would you most focus on? It is difficult not to go straight to result. However, we know that it is much better to focus on the **process** and to learn to love learning than it is to focus on results.

How are you going to set achievable, specific, measurable and relevant goals for yourselves and help your children do the same?

Dr Timothy Sharp says "The proper role of goals is to liberate us, so that we can enjoy the here and now....the emphasis of my approach is not so much **on attaining** goals as is it on **having** them."

CAREERS CORNER by Phillipa Condon, Careers Counsellor

It is never too early to prepare for life after school. This does not only involve thinking about a career, but starts with fine tuning some life skills- organisational abilities, time management and resume writing. All these skills are essential for all aspects of life and need to become an early integral part of all students' lives. **Students in Years 7-10** are most welcome to organise an appointment with me during recess, lunch or before school on a Thursday or Friday if they need one-to-one help in these areas. **Students in Years 11 and 12** can also utilise their study periods for an appointment.

During the first week of Term 1, I had the privilege to commence interviews with Year 11 and what an enthusiastic group of young adults they are! I have seen a third of the year and they are inquisitive and inquiring in regards to their futures. By commencing discussion about their post school career paths in Year 11 it reduces anxiety and gives students an indication of what they need to achieve in the final years of school. It also allows them to see the alternative paths available- what I call the "safety net". Most goals are achievable but we all take varying paths to get there.

I am always keen to meet with parents to discuss any concerns in regard to student career choices. Please leave a message on my voicemail or alternatively email me at phillipa.condon@oxley.nsw.edu.au.

OXLEY STORY



Recently Year 7 students explored the Oxley Story. Oxley College Board member, historian and author of 'A Lovingly Woven Tapestry Oxley College Bowral 1983-2004', Linda Emery presented an engaging history of Oxley College to the students. This was followed by a fact finding mission around Oxley College.

EVIE AND THE BIRDMAN - WHOLE COLLEGE PRODUCTION

Rehearsals are nearly complete for our whole College production of the Australian musical Evie and the Birdman. A large cast of enthusiastic Year 8 – 12 students are busy singing, dancing and acting their way through this extremely accessible and enjoyable show written by John Field (brother of Anthony of Wiggles fame and iconic frontman of The Cockroaches in times gone by).

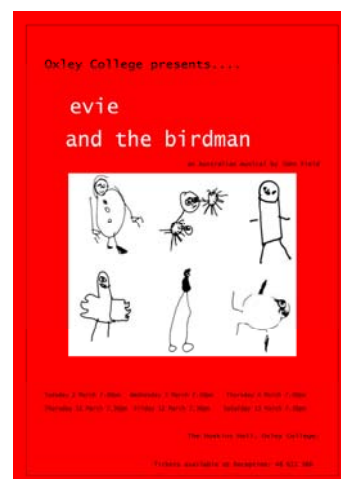
This show was a sell-out last time it was performed, and it will be advisable to book tickets early. Details as follows:

Performances Dates:

- Tuesday 2 March
- Wednesday 3 March
- Thursday 4 March
- Thursday 11 March
- Friday 12 March
- Saturday 13 March

All performances take place at 7.30pm in the Hoskins Hall.

Tickets available from Oxley College Reception. Adults \$15, Students \$10.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- Congratulations to NSW Junior Epeeist John Downes for placing 27th out of 188 at the Coupe Heracles Tournament in Budapest, Hungary on 5 January 2010. The Coupe Heracles is one of the biggest Junior World Cup Fencing events in the world. For more results, please visit the Official FIE website <http://www.fie.ch/> <<https://mail.oxley.nsw.edu.au/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.fie.ch/>>.
- Zoe Binder who beat the under 17 Champion by nine minutes in Round 3 of the National series of Mountain Bike Riding. Zoe is only 14 years old and it was a very difficult course. Once again an enormous achievement.



ACCESSING ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA ONLINE FROM HOME

In this age where information is freely available on the internet, the problem for students is not -
"Where do I find information?"

But rather

"What information is factual and accurate?"

The David Wright Library at Oxley endeavour to assist students in locating information that will enable them to succeed in their research tasks. For this purpose we have purchased Encyclopaedia Britannica Online. Through internet access, this database provides information that has been screened on the basis of accuracy, currency, readability and bias. We encourage our students to use this source rather than open GOOGLE searching that may lead them into a quagmire of information that they will need to sift through.

Students have access to Encyclopaedia Britannica Online whenever they log onto their school account. However, we have recently introduced access from home. By going to this web address or URL:<http://www.oxley.nsw.edu.au/Britannica/index.html> and following these steps they will be able to access it from home. This would be very handy for completing many homework tasks.

1. Login into school domain: "oxleycollege\username" ...that is student's school username.
2. Type in password ... same as school password.
3. Select the year level appropriate to student. Year 7, 8, 9 – Middle: Year 10, 11, 12 - Senior.
4. Type topic into the search window

Select the result that best matches the information needed. Please ask the Library staff if you have any difficulty following these steps.

Mrs Petah Fishburn - Head of Library

SPORT FIXTURES

SATURDAY 20 FEBRUARY

Team	Opponent	Venue	Time	Team Coach	Transport
Boys Basketball <i>MiC – Mr P Cunich Mobile 0432 388 137</i>					
1st V	Oakhill College	Oxley, Court 1	11:00am	Mr P Cunich	Own Transport
17s	Oakhill College	Oxley, Court 1	10:00am	Mr M Pugh	Own Transport
15s	Oakhill College	Oxley, Court 2	12:00pm	Mr S Armstrong	Own Transport
14s	Oakhill College	Oxley, Court 2	10:00am	Mr S Funnell	Own Transport
13s	Oakhill College	Oxley, Court 2	11:00am	Mr S Bollom	Own Transport
Girls Basketball <i>MiC – Ms R Kanaar Mobile 0401 341 525</i>					
1st V	St Spyrdion	Oxley, Court 1	9:00am	Ms R Kanaar	Own Transport
2nd V	Redlands	Nth Beaches I/S/C	11:00am	Ms S Lampert	Bus Depart 6:30am Return 2:00pm
Intermediates	Redlands	Nth Beaches I/S/C	10:00am	Mr B Clewett	Bus Depart 6:30am Return 2:00pm
Junior A	St Paul's	Oxley, Court 2	9:00am	Ms O Vincent	Own Transport
Junior B	Redlands	Nth Beaches I/S/C	9:00am	Mr H Kanaar	Bus Depart 6:30am Return 2:00pm
Cricket <i>MiC – Mr P Craig Mobile 0422 843 089 (Senior) MiC—Mr T Dibdin 0422 060 896 (Junior)</i>					
1st XI	All Saints I	Bathurst	10:00am	Mr P Craig	Bus Depart 5:30am
2nd XI	SSCII	Bathurst	10:00am	Mr A Lawson	Bus Depart 5:30am
16 Gold	Robertson	Taylor Avenue	8:30am	Mr T Dibdin	Own Transport
14 Blue	Chevalier Maroon	Oxley Governors	8:30am	Mr S Marnoch	Own Transport
14 White	Picton	Hume Oval Picton	8:30am	Mr C Lawson	Own Transport
Softball <i>MiC – Mr S Woffenden Mobile 0402 322 450</i>					
1sts	Chevalier	Chevalier College	10:30am	Mr S Woffenden	Own Transport
Junior As	Chevalier	Chevalier College	9:00am	Ms J Culey	Own Transport
Kayaking		Penrith White Water		Mr I Royds	Bus Depart 10:00am Return 6:30pm



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SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to those parents whose children turn up at school wearing their uniform well and in good repair. The vast majority of students take great pride in their uniform and how they wear it. A few items of concern do need attention. I have noticed several boys still wearing grey cotton drill shorts (King Gee style). These have not been permitted for around five years. If boys choose to wear shorts in the summer terms they must be the woollen style as sold in the Oxley shop. Whether boys wear shorts or long trousers, they should always wear a plain black belt. We have also been speaking with our girls in regard to make up. Girls should not be wearing make up to school. This includes nail polish and jewellery. Once again, thank you for helping us to reinforce these messages. Mr Stuart Bollom.

YEAR 7 MEET THE TEACHER EVENING : WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY

The Year 7 Meet the Teacher evening will be held next Wednesday starting at 4:00pm and finishing at 6:00pm. A letter has been sent home with Year 7 students this week outlining the arrangements for the evening. The organisation will be based on four sessions with designated starting times. This gives the College an indication of attendance. Year 7 parents should check the suitable time in the boxes and either return the detached form to Student Services, by fax or email. Please bring the blue sheet with teachers name selected.

YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING :WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH

On Wednesday 10 March in the Orchestra Room, the College will be holding an Information Evening for Year 7 Parents. The proceedings will begin at 7:00pm and should take 45 minutes. The aim of this evening meeting is to aid parents of Year 7 students in the transition from Stage 3 to Stage 4 - from Primary to Secondary - and all that this entails. There will be short presentations outlining the content, expectations, specialisations and assessment practices of English, Mathematics, Science, The Humanities, Languages, Design and Technology, Visual Art, Music, PDHPE and REV.

This will be followed by some information regarding Streaming, Homework, Examinations, Use of ICT, Use of other Learning Resources and forms of Communication. There will hopefully be time for questions and discussion on each of the aspects covered. We look forward to seeing you there.

VACCINATIONS

NSW Health will be conducting a Hepatitis B and HPV Vaccination Clinic for Year 7 students at the College on Monday 22 February. An information pack, including permission forms, has been mailed to each Year 7 family. If you would like your child to receive one or both of these vaccinations please complete the permission form and return it to Student Services BEFORE Monday, 22 February.

OXLEY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Oxley College is delighted to announce our new Scholarship Programme.

Eight scholarships of 50% remission of tuition fees are available:

Three junior scholarships for students entering Year 7 in 2011

(One scholarship will be means tested)

Three intermediate scholarships for students entering Year 9 in 2011

(One scholarship will be means tested and current Oxley students are only eligible for one of the three scholarships)

Two senior scholarships for non-Oxley students entering Year 11 in 2011

Two **Grahame Smees Scholarships** of 100% remission of tuition fees are available for students entering Year 11 in 2011 (one for a boy and one for a girl).

You are most welcome to come and join our Scholarship Information Morning at Oxley College on Saturday 27 March 2010 at 10:00am.

Please call Emma Calver to book the Scholarship Information Morning on 4861 1366 or go to link <http://www.oxleylearning.org/portal/node/16> for further scholarship information and criteria.

Deadline for Scholarship Applications: Friday 7 May 2010

Scholarship Interview Day: Saturday 29 May 2010

Please note: Students do not need to sit the ACER Scholarship Test.

P & F NEWS

P&F AGM

The Next P&F Annual General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 23 February, 2010** at 7:30pm in the David Wright Library. All welcome. It is proposed at the AGM to make some amendments to the P&F constitution. If anyone would like a copy of the draft to review please email Philip Chapman at Philip@bkay.com.au.

EARTH HOUR

Earth Hour tickets are now on sale from the Oxley reception or by contacting Penny Lawless on 0418 450 774 or lawlesspenny@gmail.com. Tickets are \$40 each which includes canapés and free bar. There will be music and a fabulous silent auction as well as prizes to be won. The lights will be turned off at 8:30pm so you will need to bring your own personal light source. The evening will begin at 7:00pm on Saturday 27 March and be held in Hoskins Hall.

We are still looking for products, services or experiences to be donated for the Silent Auction and prizes for the night. Professionally or because of a hobby or pastime you may be able to offer an interesting prize. We are seeking a diverse mixture of prizes at differing price points. If you can donate something or want discuss an idea please contact Penny Lawless on 0418 450 774 or lawlesspenny@gmail.com.

The Earth Hour organisers are also seeking parents to help on the door with tickets, with the setting up and dismantling of the event and the operation of the bar. If you can spare a few hours on the Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 March, please contact Lisette Slotboom at lispaul@hinet.net.au.

Look out for your Earth Hour invitations which will be mailed this week.

YEAR 7 MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - Help Required

If you are a Year 7 parent and are able to bring a plate of food to the Year 7 Meet the Teacher it would be much appreciated. Many thanks.

OXLEY COLLEGE TEXT BOOK EXCHANGE

The P & F Text Book Exchange will be opening on Friday 19 February from 10:00am – 1:00pm. This will be an opportunity for parents to pick up unsold books and queries can be answered/addressed. The Exchange will be operating from the P & F office near the canteen.

Reminder: If anyone is in need of extra crockery or having a big party, the P & F have some crockery available to rent. Please contact Antonia Loneragan at: 0408465107.

OXLEY SHOP

Tuesday	12:00pm - 4:00pm	Saturday trading
Wednesday	8:30am -11:30am and 12:00pm – 4:00pm	20 February
Thursday	8:30am -10:00am and 12:00pm – 3:30pm	
Saturdays	First and Third Saturday of each month 10:00am – 12:00pm	

CALENDAR: TERM ONE 2010

Fri	19/2	Excursion, Yr.9 Geography P&F Text Book Exchange, P&F Room, 10:00am—1:00pm
Sat	20/2	ISA Sport Round 10 Redlands Invitational Swimming Carnival, Bus Depart 3:30pm and Return 11:30pm
Sun	21/2	2010 Production Rehearsal, Hoskins Hall, 10:00am—4:00pm
Mon	22/2	Excursion, ISA Girls Basket Ball Trials Excursion, NSWCIS Golf Championships Year 7 Vaccinations, Orchestra Room, 8:50am—10:20am 2010 Production Rehearsal, Hoskins Hall, 3:45pm—5:30pm
Wed	24/2	Year 7 Meet the Teacher Evening, PE Centre
Thur	25/2	Twilight Swimming Carnival, Mittagong Pool, Bus Departs 2:50pm

CANTEEN ROSTER - TERM 1

Thank you to those who have volunteered in 2009.

Monday 22 February Melinda Kalde	Tuesday 23 February Barbara Miller	Wednesday 24 February Jacqui Parkinson	Thursday 25 February Sonia Zawal	Friday 26 February Joanne Gowland
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