Welcome back to school everyone! Term 2 is already on us and there are lots of things happening this term, it will be a busy one. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the kind and supportive comments that I have received in regards to my appointment as the new Principal of Oxley Vale School. I am very excited to be given this opportunity to lead such a great school and am thrilled at the prospect of all the great things we can achieve together to provide quality education for your children.

I would also like to say thank you to the staff of OVPS for their support throughout the last two terms. As a team we have managed to keep moving forward and strive for the best opportunities and outcomes for all of the students. Our staff are very dedicated and go the extra mile time after time, often without reward or recognition. So, thank you teachers, teacher’s aides and admin staff, the school runs as well as it does because of your collective efforts. I hope we can continue to keep striving for excellence.

I would like to wish all the mothers a happy mother’s day this Sunday and wish you all a good week.

Luke Norman
Principal

**Yarn Up Portrait Day**
Thank you to all the families who took the opportunity to get a family portrait done at the end of last term through the Saturday morning portrait sessions. It was wonderful to have so much support for our Yarn Up group who organised the entire venture to raise funds for cultural days in our school this year. We would like to thank all the members of Yarn Up for their hard work in preparation for this activity and also for giving up their time in support of our school. Thank you Yarn Up!

**Mr Webster on Leave**
Our General Assistant, Mr Graham Webster is on leave for several weeks this term. We are very pleased to welcome Mr Mick Hrbek and Mr John Attwood to our school who will be filling in for Mr Webster until he returns later this term.

**Anzac Day**
In the last week of the holidays, our school amongst many others, participated in a range of Anzac Day activities. These included the school captains representing us at the Dawn Service by laying a wreath, many students marching along Peel Street, and our other school captains laying a second wreath at the Town Hall Anzac Day Service. It was a beautiful morning and it was wonderful to see so many of our students and families supporting and honouring our service men and women. Thank you to all the families who came to participate and watch.
NAPLAN
Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be sitting their NAPLAN assessments during our morning sessions. We wish them all the very best and look forward to your results. Families of those students sitting the tests will be mailed a report later in the year that details how the children performed.

Opportunity Class Applications for 2014 Year 5
Applications for students wishing to apply for "Opportunity Classes" for Year 5 in 2014 are now open. Current Year 4 students who are high achieving, academically gifted students are able to apply for enrolment however please be aware that our school does not have OC class so this will mean attending another school in Tamworth. Families are able to apply online at the link below or in writing if preferred. If you wish to apply or obtain further information please contact the school for more details.
Apply online: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Active After School Program
This term we have changed the days we are offering our AASP. This will run on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons this term. Tuesday afternoon we will be running gymnastics. As this is an activity that requires very close supervision we will be limiting this activity to the first 30 students who return their notes to Mrs Purdy. Please make sure that children return these notes directly to Mrs Purdy and not the classroom teacher or front office.

School Crossing
All students and parents who cross Manilla Road before or after school must use the pedestrian crossing. There have been several incidents where children and adults have walked across the road through busy traffic. This is dangerous and against the law. The crossing is provided so that there is a safe way to cross Manilla Road and our dedicated crossing guard will stop traffic to allow pedestrians to cross. Please use this crossing, it will ensure the safety of your children.

Thank You
Hi everyone, I would just like to say a big thank you to all my helpers that have given up their time to help in the canteen while I was there, without you all it would have made it a lot harder. I would also like to say thank you to all the kids and the staff for their lovely gifts that I received on my last day, they were all appreciated. I really enjoyed my time as canteen supervisor at Oxley Vale Public School and I will miss you all.
Mandy Hardcastle

House Captains
Congratulations to our house captains who have been elected and will be leading their teams at our athletics carnival later this term. We look forward to seeing you inspire your teams to great success this year.

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2013

Captains Oxley
Declan O’Neill
Annika Sharples
Vice Captain Oxley
Jacob Rust
Breanna Russell
Captains Dowe
Woody Dowe
Hayley Whitten
Vice Captain Dowe
Chris Day
Jelena Dewson
Captain Falkenmire
Lachlan Russell
Krystal Russell
Vice Captain Falkenmire
Zarli Lord
Bailey Brown
Captain Frame
Jordan Averillo
Jayme-Lee Averillo
Vice Captain Frame
Tom Kemp
Ashleigh Ferguson

ICAS Exam Dates
Thank you to the families who have entered their children in some or all of the 2013 ICAS exams. These tests provide great opportunities for students to shine academically and push themselves towards success. All of the dates are listed below and we encourage you to add them to your calendars.
Tuesday 21 May – Computer Skills
Wednesday 5 June – Science
Monday 17th June – Writing
Tuesday 18 June – Spelling
Wednesday 31 July – English
Tuesday 13 August – Mathematics

Pie Drive
Our Pie Drive is running for one more week, orders are to be back in by the 10th May. If you missed out you can pick up a form from the canteen. Thank you to everyone for supporting our pie drive. Delivery to be advised. Thankyou P&C Fundraising Committee
**Merit Awards**

**Infants**
- KP: Isaiah Butler, Alicia Woods
- KD: Eric Ggray, Dakota Hughes
- K/1M: Harry Gill, Bianca Woods
- 1E: Tylarnya Geale, Saumya Upadhyay
- 1R: Toby Ison, Blake Ingram
- 1/2T: Arnell Carroll, Ashley Howarth
- 2P: Jasmine Elsayed, Cooper Hough

**Book Work Ribbon**
- Ellie Webster
- Lily Heap
- Tayla Beattie
- Bridie Morris
- Cooper Day
- Mekhi Lord
- Troy Carroll

**Primary**

**SD:**
- 2/3B: Spencer Edwards, Melaney Smart
- 3L: Charlee Marshall, Ellie Wiseman
- 4N: Kurt Waites, Brianna McDonald
- 4/5E: Sophie Trewern, Shae Grant
- 5S: Kaecia Beattie, Nikkita Wallace
- 5/6M: Jordan Averillo, Zarly Lord
- 6S: Eva Mellor, Lachlan Renton

- Alahna Hill
- Austin Bishop
- Taaron Lord
- Emma Sheaves
- Charlie Davenport
- Jelena Dewson
- Jasmine Webb

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**Next week’s assembly Friday 10th May is combined starting at 12:50pm**

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**The History of Stewart House**

The story of Stewart House goes back to 1929 and begins with two men of vision, Dr. Harvey Sutton, then Principal Medical Officer of the Department of Education of NSW, and Mr. Arthur McGuinness, President of the NSW Teachers Federation which had been formed a few years previously.

Dr. Harvey Sutton was distressed by the many cases of malnutrition which he found among school children. This was the beginning of the time known as “the Depression” and he saw a great need for remedial and preventative measures to overcome the effects of malnutrition.

They visited hospital patients and assisted with gifts and donations. Like Dr. Sutton, the members saw the effect of poverty and malnutrition on the children of the unemployed. Mr McGuiness recommended that a proposal to help these children be put to the Hospital and Relief Society. The Society agreed to manage a small Home, which would offer respite care and remedial nutrition for children in need. The Federation agreed to sponsor the project.

By 1937, the Hospital and Relief Society could no longer raise sufficient funds. Its charter was returned to the Federation which then appointed its own committee to manage Stewart House. In 1939 Mr. McGuinness became chairman of the managing committee and Stewart House was registered as a hospital.

Also in 1939 came the turning point in Stewart House's fortunes. It was realised that it could continue to serve children in need of help only if strong bonds were forged linking the Preventorium with public schools, children and teachers.

Stewart House grew and prospered and gradually increased the scope of its services to children in need. The program now aims to help them deal with their mental and emotional health.

In the 1960s, a school administered by the Department of Education was established within the Stewart House complex. Since then, Stewart House has continued to provide short-term respite care for some 2000 children each year.

**PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THIS WONDERFUL CHARITY**

**A DONATION OF $2 OR MORE GETS AN ENTRY FOR A HOLIDAY**

**By Tuesday 14th May, 2013**
COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

May
Friday 10th   Sustainable Namoi Living
Friday 24th   Canberra Final Payment
Monday 27th   Zone Cross Country

June
Mon-Thurs 4-7th  Canberra Excursion
Friday 14th   Dubbo Instalment
Mon-Fri 24-28th  NAIDOC Week

YARN—UP
Wednesday 8th May, 2013

Our first Yarn –Up meeting for this term will be held tomorrow 8th May between 9:30-11:30am

Items for discussion
1. Family Portrait Day
2. National Sorry Day
3. Naidoc Week

Please bring a plate to share.
Thank You