PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Hello again and welcome to the halfway point of our term. I wanted to briefly mention a few items in my column this week to highlight some of the wonderful things happening in our school.

Firstly I would like to mention the whole-school assembly held last Thursday in which we inducted our house captains and vice captains and gave out the ribbons and medallions from our swimming carnival. Not only was I thrilled to acknowledge our house leaders and the achievements of our swimmers but I was also most impressed with the behaviour of our students. It is not an easy thing to sit still for so long but our students did a great job and made me very proud to be their principal.

I also wanted to mention the health checks and vision screening carried out last week for our kindergarten students. Working closely with outside support groups is something we do well and it is fantastic to see that our school is involved in the wider community. I would like to thank Mrs Murray for her hard work in arranging these services for the benefit of our children.

Luke Norman
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH
3 Welcome BBQ 5:30pm
7 Regional Swimming Carnival
18 P&C Easter Egg Raffle Donations Eggs, Raffle Ticket and Money due
23 Harmony Day
24 P&C Meeting 6:30pm
24 Easter Hat Parade
24 P&C Easter Egg Raffle Drawn
25 Good Friday (public holiday)
28 Easter Monday (public holiday)
29 Parent/Teacher Interviews (held from 29 March till 8 April)

APRIL
01 Cross Country Carnival
07 PBL Awards Assembly
08 ANZAC Day Assembly
11 NSW Public School Holidays begin
25 ANZAC Day (public holiday)
26 Staff Development Day
27 Term 2 begins for students

HELP US MAKE A GREAT SCHOOL EVEN BETTER!

The school executive invites all parents and carers to complete our annual Parent’s Survey, the results of which will help us make decisions about how to improve the great things we’re already doing at Oxley Vale Public School. Find the link on the school website.
PICKING STUDENTS UP FROM SCHOOL

Part of what makes our school great is the way that we welcome the community onto our grounds. Whilst this is certainly something special we also need to remember that our core business is learning. To that end we would like to raise an issue that is currently impacting on core learning times.

We would ask on behalf of all the teachers and students of our school that parents avoid the temptation to go to classrooms at the end of the day.

In order to minimise disruption to classes at the end of the day we have established routines that involve the teachers finishing up lessons, students getting themselves organised to go home and all classes being walked to the top gate area by their teachers. We are now finding that some parents are coming directly to classrooms in the afternoons to collect their children and whilst this may be convenient and interesting to parents it is causing students to become distracted. In some cases parents have arrived at classrooms at 3:00pm, a full 25 minutes before the end of the day.

We would ask on behalf of all the teachers and students of our school that parents avoid the temptation to go to classrooms at the end of the day.

If you have any questions regarding the pick up and drop off of students please don’t hesitate to call the school. Over the coming weeks we will be revisiting some of these procedures in detail in an effort to have a consistent approach to school routines. We thank you for your consideration of core learning time.

COULD YOU SPARE AN HOUR ON TUESDAYS?

Volunteers from Oxley Vale Anglican Community Church have run a Breakfast Club for hungry students for a number of years now and are looking for someone to assist them on Tuesday mornings. Could you help out from 08:30-09:30 each week? Friendly staff. All training provided. Working With Children Check (or willingness to obtain) is necessary.

Please leave a message at the office if you are interested.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE (P&C)

The Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) are asking for donations of Easter eggs for an Easter Raffle to be drawn at the school’s annual Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 24 March.

Donated eggs should be taken to the school office by Friday 18 March. Thank you in advance for your support of this event.

Further, the P&C are providing each school family with a small number of raffle tickets to sell for the Easter Hat Parade raffle. Please return all raffle tickets (sold or unsold), along with all money, by Friday 18 March.

All money raised through this fundraiser enables the P&C to support the students at Oxley Vale Public School.

[OVPS swimmers at the PSSA carnival]

FRIDAY 18 MARCH @ BICENTENNIAL PARK - 5.30PM

- Open to ages 12 to 18 - FREE ENTRY
- Grab a partner & compete in pairs
- Complete a series of environment based physical & mental challenges

DRESS UP THEME: ANYTHING GREEN!

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR ALL ENTRANTS AFTER THE RACE

www.sustainablenorthwest.com.au
**THE VIEW FROM THE SIDELINE**

**SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS**
Thank you to those parents and carers who attended the PBL assembly last week to support those students being inducted as Sports House Captains and to congratulate the winners of ribbons and medallions at our school swimming carnival. Well done to these students -

- **Infants Encouragement Medallions**
  - William Lulham
  - Emma Griffiths

- **Age Champions and Runners Up**
  - **Junior Boys**
    - Champion: Liam Browning
    - Runner Up: Colby Edgar
  - **Junior Girls**
    - Champion: Imogen Smith
    - Runner Up: Nina Huang
    - Bridie Morris
  - **11Yrs Boys**
    - Champion: Nick Bukovac
    - Runner Up: Batu Huang
    - Darcy Holz
  - **11Yrs Girls**
    - Champion: Lily Hardcastle
    - Runner Up: Jade Williams
  - **Senior Boys**
    - Champion: John Renton
    - Runner Up: James Mallise
  - **Senior Girls**
    - Champion: Amity Debenham
    - Runner Up: Gabriella Thompson

**ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS**
Well done to those students who represented our school with pride at the Tamworth Zone Swimming Carnival last Friday. You all swam well and did our school proud.

**AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS**
Our school now has teams participating in Oztag, cricket and hockey competitions held outside of school hours. This is a great way for students to represent our school and we congratulate our students on their efforts each week.

**CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL**
The school cross country carnival will be held Friday 1 April when all parents and carers are welcome to come and watch and cheer the runners on. In preparation for this carnival, students in Years 3-6 will soon begin rotations during sport to get ready to run the cross country course.

**ZONE TEAM SPORTS TRIALS**
Students wishing to nominate for U/11 zone teams in open rugby league, boys and girls soccer, cricket or hockey ($5/sport) should see Mrs Ellis for a nomination form. Those interested must be competent and competitive, and provide their own protective equipment and transport.

---

**WELCOME BARBECUE**
All school families are invited to our Welcome BBQ this week on Wednesday 3 March. Please come and meet your child’s teacher, school staff and other class parents. Our BBQ is a social and not just an administrative occasion and we truly would love to see you there.

---

**Seasons of New England**
Producers, Makers & Creators Expo

- Over 80 quality stalls
- Fully licensed bar
- Dedicated kids tent, live music all day
- Product demonstrations, tastings and advice

**Sat 19th March, 9am - 4pm**
Hampden Park, Uralla

Followed by more live music, Graze Plates, Producer’s Dinner, Uralla Arts Lantern Parade & Grand Finale Bush Dance -
www.seasonsofnewengland.com.au for tickets & info

Brought to you by these New England enterprises

---

**Nutrition Snippet**
...to make a healthy after-school snack.

Most kids are starving as they walk through the door – and reach for processed or packaged snacks for a quick hunger fix.

Get them to head to the fruit bowl, or vegie box in the fridge, instead... it’s healthier, and will leave them fuller for longer. Try:

- Asking your kids to pick a vegetable and fruit, and cut both into smaller pieces
- Adding a vegie dip to keep it interesting
- Making a fruit salad
- Adding a reduced-fat yoghurt and a sprinkle of muesli
- Visit our website for great muffin recipes

Our website is packed full of healthy ideas to help you stay inspired... have a look today!

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit
WHAT ELSE IS ON FOR OXLEY VALE STUDENTS?

Each week the school office receives many advertisements from community organisations whose goal it is to support our students in being healthy, active and involved. The volume of advertisements means they cannot all be included in the school newsletter, but parents and carers are encouraged to take the information that interests them from the Parent Notice Board in the front office and to contact the community organisations directly. This week, information has been received from -

**Seasons of New England** on Saturday 19 March is an expo of local producers, makers and creators at Hampden Park, Uralla, featuring over 80 quality stalls, live music, kid’s tent, tastings, etc. seasonsofnewengland.com.au

**World Education Program Australia** is a student exchange organisation looking for families willing to host overseas students arriving in Australia in July 2016. See https://wep.org.au/host/ for more details.

**Rugby League** sign-ups are being held by the West Tamworth Lions at 12pm Saturday 5 March at Wests Leagues Club. **Rugby Union** (U14-U16) with the Tamworth Tri-Colours on Friday 4 and 11 March, 4:30pm, at Viaduct Park. **Soccer** sign-ups are being held by Tamworth FC from 4:00-5:30pm at Gipps Street Fields on Tuesday 8 March.