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Securing Success...

Service

At the Secondary School assembly I spoke of service. The movies often capture a hero laying down his life in service and sacrifice to a more vulnerable person or a community. These acts of service are admirable, heroic and biblical, but in a school context what does service look like.

12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:12-13



Service at OAGS comes at a cost. When we serve our community we can expect that it's going to come at a personal cost. Serving for personal gain, through reward, increased likes on social media, or building personal capital 'You owe me one' is not true service. Service in our community is unconditional. Regardless of our friends, community or children meeting our needs, we go out of our way for them. As we learn service at OAGS, we look to do away with the 'What's in it for me?' approach. As parents we know too well what this service looks like. Often our greatest joy is the joy we see in our children as we work tirelessly to support them. Not because they deserve it, but because we love them unconditionally. This is the type of service that we are trying to model in our children.

The love and service the world displays is conditional. You have to earn it. And if you mess up it's taken away. But Jesus' love is unconditional. He gives us his love even when we don't deserve it. He loves and serves us while we were still pushing him away. (see Romans 5:8)

Don't share the wait, turn left at the gate!

Thank you to everyone for supporting our ongoing improvement to traffic flow and the 'No Standing Zone - Molong Only' initiative when exiting the front gate during peak times. ([Click here to the letter from the Headmaster - No Standing Molong Only](#))

As part of the local council's conditions of consent, we are required to know how many students enter our school and leave our school by private transportation. The installation of a digital system of monitoring the number of cars and therefore students entering and leaving the school by private transport has now been completed. Cameras have been installed towards the front gates near the entry to the Prep building. This digital monitoring system will assist us in fulfilling our conditions of consent required by Orange council. I am confident that we can release the first monthly traffic report for February to parents in the next newsletter. As we continue to manage our growth and the safety of our children any feedback is welcome through admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

Rev. Louis Stringer
Headmaster



PREP NEWS

Pancake Day

We are thrilled to share with you the joyous celebration of Pancake Day that unfolded in the Prep Pelican classroom! It was a delightful occasion filled with learning, laughter, and, of course, plenty of pancakes. We wanted to take a moment to recap the highlights of our wonderful Pancake Day festivities.

Flipping Fun and Learning:

Our students embarked on a culinary adventure as they explored the art of pancake-making. From mixing batter to perfecting the flip, they embraced every step of the process with enthusiasm and curiosity. Through hands-on experiences, they not only learned about the ingredients and techniques involved in making pancakes but also discovered the cultural and historical significance of Pancake Day.

Mathematics in the Kitchen:

Pancake Day provided a perfect opportunity for our students to sharpen their maths skills in a deliciously engaging way. As they measured ingredients, estimated cooking times, and divided pancakes among friends, they applied mathematical concepts in real-world scenarios. Through pouring, measuring, and calculating, our young chefs honed their mathematical proficiency while savouring the sweet rewards of their efforts.

Mr James Bornen
Classroom Teacher/Prep Coordinator





PRIMARY NEWS

Primary News

What has now become a yearly tradition, and one that is sorely missed when students leave infants and are old enough to attend the swimming carnival, is the Infants' Water Fun Day.

While the rest of the school is at the swimming carnival, the infants students are left to rule the school. There is no better way to enjoy being left at school than with an inflatable slip and slide, sprinklers and water pistols.

Students (and teachers) had the choice to slide along the inflatable water slide, have a water fight, get wet under a sprinkler, and play with wet sponges.

This event was thoroughly enjoyed by all students, and equally enjoyed by the teachers. A highlight for many students was having the opportunity to chase and squirt their teachers with water pistols! It was great to share the day with our new Director of Primary, Miss Alice Glyde, who came and joined in on the fun, and was soon soaking wet.

I am sure the students will be looking forward to the next water fun day.

Mr Kyle Palmer
Stage 1 Coordinator



Primary Pastoral Care and Thrive

As we move into the middle of term, there have been a few tired students who are struggling to make good choices, and others who are finding it difficult not to react in anger when frustrated by different situations at school. All of our primary teachers and learning support officers work hard to model and explicitly teach techniques to manage our emotions, and make proactive choices when faced with challenging people or situations. Teaching these skills are part of our pastoral care sessions in each classroom, and much of that content is taken from the '7 Habits of Happy Kids'.

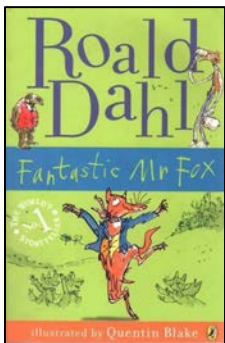
During our Thrive lessons (which I teach), I have been encouraged by many students being able to tell me what they do when they need to calm down, lift their mood or 'Sharpen their Saw' (have a rest to get back to their best). They're able to tell me they choose to go to bed, listen to music, draw a picture of what's happened, jump on the trampoline, play with their pet or talk to a trusted family member. I've been talking with many classes this term about how difficult it is to make good choices when we're upset, and to try one of these things before talking about and working through what happened that upset them. We have also been talking about and recording our values, such as honesty, determination, being a hard worker, a good listener, creative and fair. We have linked these to our school values of truth, excellence and service. I encourage you to talk to your children about these issues.



The children have lots of interesting ideas about how they prioritise their values and what's important to them at this point in their lives. We love having fun together at school. As our students work on and encourage each other to manage their reactions, follow their values and consider Habit 3 'Put First Things First' (work first, then play) they will grow into better friends and learners.

Georgina Willis
Primary Pastoral Care Coordinator

What's Happening in Year 3?



Year 3 has been busy working through many units of work, with our literacy unit focusing on the novel, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, by Roald Dahl.

Throughout this unit, we have been working on a greater understanding of the textual concepts of narrative and characterisation. Through the study of the text *Fantastic Mr Fox*, students are exploring how narratives set up expectations for the reader using predictable structure and familiar characters and situations. We have been analysing excerpts of the text and using these as the basis of our own innovation.

As the unit progresses, we are planning, drafting and revising a narrative sequel to *Fantastic Mr Fox* using an orientation, complication and resolution structure, ensuring that we build tension throughout the complications.

We have also been busy studying the impacts humans have had on the environment of Macquarie Island, a site of outstanding geological and natural significance on a world scale. We have learnt that on December 3, 1997, Macquarie Island was listed as a World Heritage Area and what that means in terms of conversation.

The island is one of only a very few in the Southern Ocean where fauna in the region can breed. Around 3.5 million seabirds and 80,000 elephant seals arrive on Macquarie Island each year to breed and moult. Fur seals are beginning to re-establish populations on the island after nearly being exterminated in the early 19th century. Revolving around the concept of cause and effect, students have been learning about the consequences of introducing species to the island, the vast impacts that the likes of rabbits, cats and rodents have had on their ecosystems and what people have done to try and respond as each problem has unfolded.

On an international level, Macquarie Island was also used by explorer Douglas Mawson on his expedition to Antarctica. The expedition in 1911 had many important achievements, the most important being the establishment of wireless communication from Antarctica to Australia via Macquarie Island.

Michael Linde
Year 3 Teacher





SECONDARY NEWS

Engineering Studies

A component of the newly introduced Engineering Studies course has been the ability to partner with the Charles Sturt University - School of Engineering (CSU - SoE) at Bathurst. Students have travelled to Bathurst on a fortnightly basis and spend time at the university workshop and laboratory that presents the ability to see first hand materials testing and industry based project work that augments the mathematical and theoretical aspects of the subject completed in class.

Our host on both these occasions has been Peter Thew, who has been very generous with his time in leading our students through aspects of what CSU-SoE provides. This week we have been examining a number of timber products and their compression and tensile strength and reviewing the results of those tests. We also met Professor Timothy Anderson (Dean of Engineering) who has taken a keen interest in our attendance to the university. It is planned that we shall visit CSU-SoE at least three times per term, ensuring that our students obtain first hand experiences that make theory a reality and expose them to a world class facility.



Peter Reid
Faculty Coordinator
TAS/PDHPE

Getting to know Ms O'Reilly

At the start of this year we welcomed Ms O'Reilly as the Coordinator of English in the secondary school. Louise joins the OAGS community having just worked for NESA in developing teaching advice, sample programs and materials to support NSW teachers in their implementation of the new English Syllabus.

I took a few minutes earlier out of Ms O'Reilly's day, to hear how she is settling in and get to know her better.

How long have you been teaching English?

32 short years, Mr Brown!

I have worked in a wide range of schools across Western Sydney; my last school was my second home for 17 years.

What do you love about teaching English ?

There is so much to love, but I think the aspects I love the most are supporting young people to read and understand quality literature, as well as develop more confidence in their analytical and creative writing skills. Reading and writing are life-long skills and they deserve our time.



What has impressed you in your first few weeks at Orange Anglican Grammar?

Quite a lot of things... The collegial support of staff, who have answered a lot of questions and smoothed out the bumps that may have made settling in more difficult.

I am also really impressed by the maturity and respect from a large number of students, who have made thoughtful contributions to class discussions and composed some really impressive responses.

What are you most looking forward to in Semester 1?

That point where the documentation is settled and I can focus more on getting to know my students.

Thanks Mrs O'Reilly for your time. It is great to have such an experienced professional join the OAGS Community. I'm confident that the school will really benefit from the passion, knowledge, drive and dedication you bring to the study of English.

Mr Tim Brown
Director of Secondary

CAPA News: Onstage

On Tuesday the 13th, Drama students in year 11 and 12 travelled to Sydney to participate in Onstage week. The workshop with The Sydney Theatre Company was a taste of the professional theatre world, going backstage to see sets and costumes and then being taught by one of STC's teaching artists. The students worked hard in the professional environment and were complimented on their ability.

After the workshop we raced across Sydney to the Seymour Centre and were entertained by the HSC Performance Drama High Achievers for 2023. This inspired students studying Drama to reach for the stars and work towards an ambitious goal.

Mrs Rachel
Drama Teacher



TAS Faculty

There have been some exciting developments in the TAS aspect of the faculty this year. A significant upgrade has been made over the holiday period to the Workshops and the Food Technology room, that has not only increased the capability of the existing subjects that utilise these spaces, but has heralded an expansion of the faculty to include new subjects of Industrial Technology - Graphics (Stage 5) and Engineering Studies (Stage 6). The Food Technology room now has new benches that have enhanced the learning space and provided greater capacity in terms of student work area. Further future developments include the inclusion of additional fridge and cold storage spaces, which will provide the ability to bulk purchase products, leading to greater cost savings and efficiency in the use of input materials.

Upgrades to H8 and H7 sees the near completion of the dust extraction system and a fully serviced computer laboratory and CAD facilities that directly caters for the new Graphics course, but has further use in Engineering Studies and Design and Technology. Further, purchases of new tooling and equipment improves the production capability of the workshops, particularly in the area of timber and furniture products and provides a state of the art workspace on par with a commercial workshop.

The faith shown by the executive and the financial contribution to the faculty is greatly appreciated and the present enrolments is a testament to the work of the teachers within. Special mention goes to Mrs. Jewell and Mr. Brown whose students Kaitlyn Davis and Hannah Dewar (taught by Mrs. Jewell) and Hayden Spedding (taught by Mr. Brown) achieved Band 6 in Food technology and Design and Technology and to all our HSC students who achieved a high standard.

Peter Reid
Faculty Coordinator
TAS/PDHPE



Chess Club

NSW Secondary Schools (Western Region) Competition. OAGS has been very successful in this competition over the last 5 years (premiers twice and runner's up once). It is a knockout competition for a team of 4 players against other schools in the region. Games are played approximately every 4 weeks and we eagerly await distribution of the draw to see who our first opponents will be.

During Term 2 and 3 we run a school competition to determine the champions of upper and lower Secondary and Primary School. We also take students to represent the school at external competitions.

Master Class – Available to stage 3 and senior school students on Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm to learn from Mr Cummins. Players who would like to represent the school should consider attending these sessions

Mr Terry Nye
Chess Coordinator



SPORT @OAGS

Contact sport@oags.nsw.edu.au



Celebrating Success: Basketball Trials Update

We are thrilled to share exciting news from our basketball team! Our first 10 basketball side recently travelled to Kinross to participate in the WAS trials, and their performance was nothing short of exceptional.

The boys showcased their talent and dedication as they played several games representing OAGS team. Following these games, they split into possibles and probables for further matchups. We are proud to announce that from this rigorous selection process, five of our boys have been chosen to represent the WAS side at the upcoming AICES trials in Sydney.

Their selection is a testament to their hard work, skill, and commitment to the sport. Throughout the trials, our boys exhibited true sportsmanship, playing with pride and demonstrating the values of teamwork, respect, and fair play.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the selected players and commend all members of the team for their effort and dedication. Your achievements reflect positively on our school community, and we couldn't be prouder.

Well done, boys! Keep shining on the court and representing OAGS with pride.

Congratulations to: Harper Thompson, Marley Ash, Oliver Molloy, Jacob Hassan and Tom Horan.

Mrs Erin Purvis

Master in Charge - Basketball



HICES Basketball Success - Primary

We are delighted to share some fantastic news from our Primary basketball team! Three of our talented players embarked on a journey to Sydney to participate in the HICES selections, aiming to earn a spot on the CIS team.

The day was brimming with excitement as our students engaged in skills sessions and intense gameplay, offering them valuable experience in competitive trials. Their determination and skill were evident throughout the day, reflecting their dedication to the sport.

We are incredibly proud to announce that two of our Year 6 students, Callum Oh and Jovi Birkin, have been selected to be a part of the prestigious HICES side. This achievement is a testament to their hard work, perseverance, and exceptional talent on the basketball court.

Their selection paves the way for them to represent our school in the upcoming CIS trials later this term, where they will have the opportunity to showcase their skills at an even higher level.

Congratulations, Callum and Jovi, on your remarkable basketball success! Your dedication and passion have truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of your accomplishments.



Mrs Erin Purvis

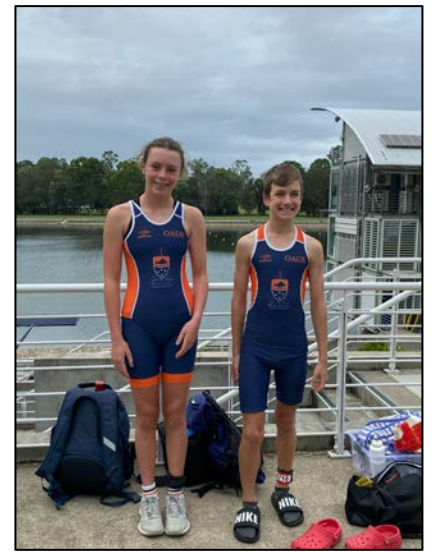
Master in Charge - Basketball

NSW All Schools Triathlon

On Wednesday 21st February, OAGS sent 4 dedicated athletes to compete in the NSW All Schools Triathlon at the Penrith Regatta Centre. Not only did these athletes back up the day after the OAGS Swimming Carnival, the event had to change its format due to poor water quality. With no swim leg and an added run leg, our athletes were ready to race. Ethan started the day in the senior boys category placing 37th in his field. Poppy was next in the Intermediate girls race placing 44th. Rose and Josh both raced well in the Junior category. Rose finished 54th in her division while Josh finished an impressive 27th from 99 athletes in his division.

We are extremely proud of Ethan, Poppy, Rose and Josh and their hard work and dedication. Well done!

Miss Stephanie Harrison
Triathlon Coordinator





252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

Cadets News

Recruiting. This is going well with 15 new members so far. We now have at least one member from every High school in Orange. If you have any friends in years 8-11 at other schools, please encourage them and/or their parents to come along on a Monday night for a "try before you buy" session. To simplify and expedite the online application process a staff member will assist with completion onsite.

Gnoo Blas Car show. Thank you to those that assisted at this event. It was very worthwhile and allowed me to network with the RFS, SES, NSW Police Museum and Orange helicopters for future training/visit activities.

RSM Pacestick. See photo. On behalf of the Unit we gratefully thank Mr Mark Hopcraft (a chance encounter at the Bunnings BBQ) who has donated a pacestick (property of his late brother-in-law). This is a most welcome addition (saving us over \$400) and something that will inspire our future leaders. Once unit numbers increase to above 120 we can raise our authorised establishment which entitles us to a Warrant Officer Class 1 (RSM) whose badge of office is the pace stick.

NAVY DISPLAY. The Commanding Officer of HMAS *Harman* will be leading a team of sailors from Canberra on a regional tour of Central NSW to commemorate Navy Week 2024 and celebrate the Navy's 123rd anniversary.

On Friday 1 Mar 24 the sailors will conduct a "Beat to Quarters" Ceremony in Robertson Park commencing at 5:45pm – ALL WELCOME

The 'Beat to Quarters' and 'Ceremonial Sunset' are derived from the oldest of naval ceremonies, dating back centuries to the age of sail. Originally, the ship's drums were beaten as a call for the ship's company to man the quarters, or action stations, when battle was imminent. Ceremonial Sunset reflects the worldwide naval tradition of saluting the lowering of the ensign at sunset each day in ships in harbour and shore establishments.

Dates for your Diary

1 Mar	1745h Navy Beat to Quarters at Robertson Park
2 Mar	Rank & Staff Training Day
9 & 10 Mar	Orange Running Festival support - community engagement
6 & 7 Apr	Recruit Induction weekend & Uniform Issue - Rank, Staff and Recruits
7-15 Apr	Adventure Training Award (Tasmania) volunteer
25 Apr	ANZAC DAY – march in Orange - ALL
6-13 Jul	NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only
8-9 May	T2 Bivouac – ALL – Lewis Ponds – To be confirmed
26-28 Jul	Term 3 Biv - Cudal
21-28 Sep	AFX (Annual Camp) - Singleton

CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye
Officer Commanding
252 ACU



Community Update on Mulch

It is currently being reported that asbestos contaminated mulch products are being manufactured and supplied by a company registered as Greenlife Resource Recovery Pty Ltd and applied to Council parklands, Council playgrounds, Transport of NSW rail corridors, and private properties throughout NSW.

We are pleased to confirm that no mulch used on campus contains asbestos.

The majority of the mulch used is sourced from branches of our own trees that are processed through an onsite chipper.

The remaining mulch is provided by ANL which is not affiliated with Greenlife Resource Recovery Pty Ltd.

Circus Tickets

Circus Rio have delivered one complimentary kids ticket for every student under 12 at OAGS with a paying adult. If your family would like to take advantage of this offer please send your child to Student Services to collect a ticket.



Dear OAGS 2025 Parents,

It's time to order the *School Uniform* for students entering:
Prep, Kindy, Year 7 and Year 11.

1. Book an appointment.
2. We will assist with fittings (Takes 15-30 Mins)
3. Place your order with 20% deposit
4. Pay progressively (This is optional)
5. Final payment & pick-up in December 2024

Fittings are compulsory.

To guarantee availability, orders must be placed.

(Sizes may be changed if necessary)

*(*Note: Refunds will be provided if a student does not return in 2025)*

Fittings will commence Monday 1st July and will continue until Friday 6th September 2024 and will be by **Appointment only**

To make an appointment
Call Bernadette, Kirby, or Jessy
on 02 6361 1512 or book with the App:

<https://appt.link/meet-with-orange-clothing-co-school-shop>



Orange Clothing Company
4 McNamara Street, Orange NSW 2800

BUS SAFETY

How OAGS Families Can Help

Getting to and from the bus stop



- Always supervise your child and hold their hand when walking to and from the bus stop or interchange and when crossing the road.
- When waiting for the bus, hold hands and wait as far back from the passing traffic as possible.
- Remind your children to get on the bus and take a seat quickly and buckle up if there's a seatbelt on the bus.
- Your child is most at risk in the minutes after they get off the bus. Meet your child AT the bus stop or interchange after school.
- NEVER wait on the opposite side of the road and call them across.
- If you cannot meet your child, organise for a trusted adult to take your place.
- Always wait until the bus has gone, then use a safe place to cross.

USING THE OAGS BUS



Parents and carers also play an important role in ensuring the safety of their child around informal bus stops.

If your child needs to use an informal bus stop, think about whether it's located in a safe spot that allows buses to stop away from the road, with good lines of sight in both directions, and includes a safe place for you to park your vehicle and wait.



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