



Securing Success...

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It's a date...

Canberra Royal Show
Friday 24th to Sunday 26th February

P&F Welcome Afternoon
Saturday 25th February

Richard III English Excursion
Wednesday 8th March
Year 11 & 12

Year 11 Commencement Dinner
Thursday 9th March

NAPLAN
15th to 27th March
Year 3, 5, 7 & 9

Athletics Carnival
Friday 31st March

Easter Fair
Thursday 6th April

ANZAC Day March
Tuesday 25th April

School Photo Day
Monday 1st May

From the Deputy Headmaster...

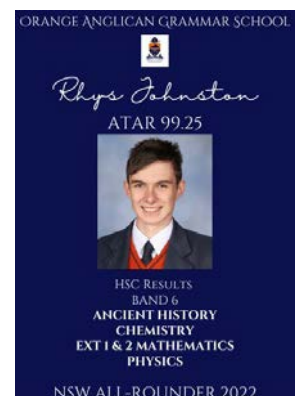
The Vice Chancellor of Sydney University recently stated that: "Early domination in any market does not ensure future success". How true that often seems for students and their schooling journey? Much heartache is felt by parents of teenagers for whom school was a breeze when they were much younger, but now they're battling to motivate and connect with this 15 year old 'alien' who lives behind a firmly closed bedroom door! But, we also know that the pre-teenage season gives way to genuine adolescence which flourishes into adulthood which opens doors beyond the school gate. Through consistent love, boundaries and encouragement we see our children mature and grow in accordance with their own commitment to their studies. Rhys Johnston (graduating class of 2022) personified commitment and success by dominating not only his 'early market' years, but seeing it through to future success despite significant challenges. He of course is one of many who had to endure the COVID years, as well as occasional bouts of fatigue and illness. Rhys never lost sight of his goal and as a result his ATAR of 99.25 stands as the highest across our Anglican Schools network and the broader Central West. Of Rhys we are very proud.



"The roads into the university are wide and smooth from certain schools and certain suburbs. I think a student with an ATAR of 93 at Mount Druitt might be the equivalent of a 99 in Mosman. A student who's achieved so well to get that ATAR from a disadvantaged school might well flourish here if you put the support around them. And we believe we can take students in without diluting our standards." University of Sydney Vice Chancellor, Mark Scott.

The Vice Chancellor raises a compelling point here, and one that is 'on point' at this time of NAPLAN release and the inevitable comparisons that are drawn between schools. At OAGS we know that HSC success is a critical measure of our success, but it is not the only measure. I am excited to be currently working with the Headmaster and Executive staff to crystallise our strategic intent for the foreseeable future. It is a rewarding task to try and capture the essence of why OAGS is capable of producing not only the very highest academic results, but also the ability to build the character of our students and staff through a carefully crafted culture.

Blessings for the weekend,
Scott Hazelton
Deputy Headmaster





FAITH

Contact david.whittingham@oags.nsw.edu.au



Big Night In

On Saturday, over 50 Secondary Students attended our Big Night In: Last Days of Summer. The first half of the evening had lots of games that involved getting wet, while the second half involved keeping out of the storm. It was certainly interesting to see rain travel horizontally through the entire length of the Hangar! Our time together culminated with a Bible talk from Chris Holding, youth minister at Orange Evangelical Church. He challenged the students not to presume that they were 'on board' with Jesus just because they go to OAGS or church, but rather to invest in getting to know him, discovering how good He is and reflecting on what He has done for them. Chris issued a standing invitation for all OAGS students to dig deeper at OEC Youth programs.



David Whittingham
Chaplaincy Coordinator

Secondary School Chapel

This term in Secondary School Chapel we have been learning from the book of Revelation. This challenging book is full of imagery and beautiful truths about God and the eternal hope we can have in Jesus. Our chapel band have been helping us to reflect on God's character and what He has done through music and song. Our Secondary students are encouraged to join us at CRU on Wednesdays during the first break to continue exploring the Bible and have deeper conversations with one another.

Mr James Esson,
Secondary School Chaplain
& Learning Assistant





THRIVE CENTRE

Getting to know Mrs St Julian

At the start of the year we welcomed Mrs Kate St Julian as our new manager of the Thrive centre. Kate joins the OAGS community with substantial experience in the education sector as both a teacher's aide and in delivering Library services to children and youth. I took a few moments to get to know her better and hear how she is settling in.

What is a brief history of your experience working in schools?

I started delivering Library services at The Fisher Library at Sydney University in 1996. Since then, I've worked at The Arthur Holt Library at Trinity Grammar School, which focused on Years 3 to 12. Before that I was at Woollahra Municipal Council Children's Library, Double Bay. During this appointment, I took leave to care for my sons, James Hugo and Henry. I have also consulted with Nepean Christian School, Mulgoa, in the establishment of their new Library.

What do you love about the Thrive Centre?

It is such an exciting space! Our catalogue contains a wealth of information and experiences; it is an incredibly important resource. While the core function is the support of the School curriculum, allowing students to develop the skills to explore a vast array of ideas and information, there is so much more. It is also a space where students and staff can come together to have fun, connect, interact and develop lasting relationships with people and books.

What has impressed you at OAGS?

My boys started at OAGS in 2020. This provided an insight into how schooling can be delivered in a positive and affirming way. I was impressed with the support structures placed around them and the willingness of teachers to drill down into their learning needs. I love the way the school is affirming of the teachings of Jesus, but provides a space for those who don't yet believe. This gives students the opportunity to discover other world views and to be challenged in their beliefs. What a great life skill to be able to listen to and discuss other points of view!

What are you looking forward to in the role of Thrive Manager and Teacher's Aide?

Connecting with students and staff to provide the unique sense of comfort that the centre provides, whether it is providing knowledge, resources and curriculum support, facilities, or generating a feeling of inner contentment.

Your role at the School also encompasses that of Teachers Aide. Are you enjoying this?

Very much so. It is a privilege to be invited into a classroom to share the learning journey of those students.

What do you like doing in your leisure time?

Recently I have been learning to grow trees from seed. There has been success and failure, but I have enjoyed every moment. I also love fabric, so when I have the time, I love sewing clothing.

What is your favourite...?

Food: Vietnamese

Colour: Navy

Sport: Hockey

Passage in the Bible: James 2:18 - Someone will say, "You have faith. I do good deeds." Show me your faith that doesn't cause you to do good deeds. And I will show you my faith by the goods deeds I do.

Game: 500

Gemstone: Sapphire

Animal: West Highland White Terrier

Clothing: My green and white maxi-skirt





PREP NEWS

Connections

Prep Dragonflies and Prep Caterpillar classes have been on a learning journey around the importance of cooperative and social learning. Cooperative play and social learning helps children to develop social skills as they figure out how to negotiate group dynamics. Students learn how to collaborate and compromise with others, recognize and respond to others' feelings, share, show affection, resolve conflicts, and adhere to the rules. In turn, these important early lessons help children understand the roles and rules of society! This is very evident within the current teaching practice in our classroom. As teachers plan and implement provocations we draw on current pedagogy and use outcomes to guide children to reach learning goals.

What are the benefits of social play and learning?

Improves social skills

Having strong social skills will help young children succeed in many aspects of life. Through these interactions' children learn how to work together, solve arguments amongst themselves and establish friendships.

Builds confidence

Social play helps to build confidence. Often when children play together there is less direct adult supervision, meaning children cannot rely on an adult to tell them what to do - instead they have to organise themselves. This offers children the chance to gain confidence by thinking independently, taking on leadership roles and voicing their opinions.

Develops emotional intelligence

Social play helps to develop emotional intelligence and empathy which is just as important in later life as academic intelligence. Emotional intelligence is the key to forming good relationships with others, relationships which are vital to both personal and professional success later in life.

Encourages teamwork

While some young children naturally work well as part of a team, others need more time to develop that ability. Social play, especially taking part in team games, encourages children to lead, or support their teammates, with a wealth of opportunities to share, take turns and show respect for others. It is a great way of encouraging children to learn and to practise all the skills that working together requires. These skills are very much valued and demonstrated within our classroom and learning environments.

Mr James Bornen
Classroom Teacher/Prep Assistant Coordinator





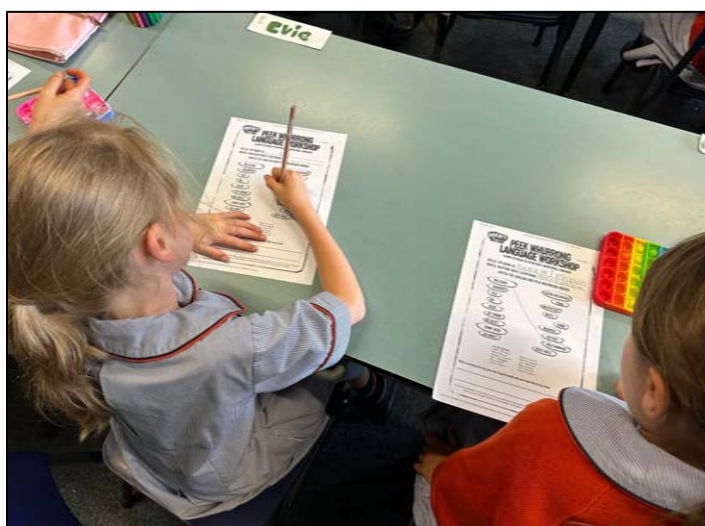
PRIMARY NEWS

Reading in Stage 2

Last week, students in Stage 2 were introduced to the incredible story of Wylah: The Koorie Warrior. Wylah is an enthralling tale of adventure and bravery, told from the perspective of a young Indigenous woman. The unit of work began with an in-depth look at the importance of country and connection to Indigenous people. Over the last two weeks, students have continued to engage with the incredible world of megafauna and flora as well as learn more about Indigenous culture as they explore the language and traditions of our First Nations people. Students can be seen below engaging with a language activity, learning common words used by the Peek Whurrong people. Stage 2 cannot wait to see what happens to Wylah and her friends next.



Mr Tim Herbert
Stage 2 Jack Jumper Ants





SECONDARY NEWS

Secondary Study Skills

The word study (particularly in the lead up to examination periods) can bring with it negative connotations. And to be honest, it can be hard, because choosing to study requires self discipline and sacrifice as students prioritise learning over other appealing alternatives.

Studying however, can be a more positive experience when students know where to start and how to be effective. On Wednesday 15th February we invited Elevate Education, Australia's number 1 study skills provider, to come and run 3 study skills sessions with our Year 7, 11 and 12 students. These informative and engaging 1 hour seminars were tailored to meet the students age and academic needs. Study techniques like effective reading, note taking, memorising and practise papers were covered and examples of how these can be applied to a students' study routine were considered.



The event was well received by the students and there will be follow-up sessions at school as well as a second seminar on the 7th of June that will help students to consolidate their learning.

Elevate also provides additional study skills resources on their website that students have been given access to. As a parent, if you're interested in accessing those resources too, so you can support your child at home in their study, please go to: <https://au.elevateeducation.com/home>
If you're prompted for a password, the word is: rondo

I look forward to seeing our students put these new skills into practice.

Mr Tim Brown
Director of Secondary



STUDENT ADVOCACY

Access The Thrive

Exciting opportunities will be available for students from next week in The Thrive Centre.

The Centre will be open on Monday and Tuesday afternoons for **secondary students** from Years 7-12 to drop in and **Access** help with their studies between 3.30 and 5pm.

Every **Monday**, Mrs Kimmins will be available to help individual students with English, History and Geography and every **Tuesday**, Mr Johnston will be available to help with Maths and Science.

Students are invited to come for part or all of the session and work on homework or assessment tasks, knowing help will be available in English, Maths, Science and H.S.I.E if required.

Students who do not wish to access help, but would like to complete their homework are most welcome to attend.

There is no need, at this stage, to sign up for these sessions, just turn up.

The Learning Support staff will be available for **primary students** from Years 1-6 to **Access** every morning before school from 8.00am - 8.50am. Help will be either given individually or in small groups in Literacy and Numeracy. Sessions must be booked by parents and may be done so by emailing the writer.

Please contact me for further information or to discuss either opportunity.

Pauline Dwyer
Coordinator of Learning Support
pauline.dwyer@oags.nsw.edu.au

Student Representative Council (SRC)

Our Secondary leaders met this week as an SRC for the first time. Opportunities for student voice have taken on many different forms at OAGS, and this year sees the development of an SRC to provide a direct way for students to contribute towards decision making within our school community.

Students have already identified a number of initiatives that they are passionate about, with a big emphasis on more opportunities for cross year group interaction. All secondary students will be given an opportunity to propose their ideas and communicate concerns to their SRC, the process of which will be presented to students this term.

Our elected student leaders will receive support in further developing their leadership skills throughout this process, as well as learning the workplace skills of running effective meetings, event planning and networking.

Watch this space for the great things coming from our passionate student representatives!

Mrs Katie Wallace
School Psychologist

Cyber Parent Masterclass

Screen Kids: 5 Skills Every Child Needs in a Tech-Driven World

- Learn WHY your child's brain is at risk & what the research says
- Develop confidence to implement new screen rules

Monday or Wednesday 8:15pm

4 x 1hr sessions

Online video course + discussion

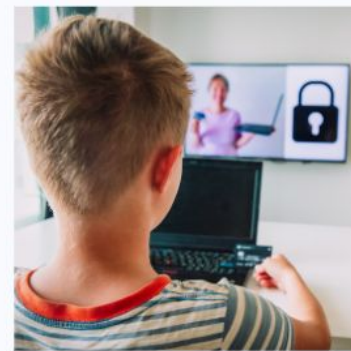


Rego: Robyn Grant, OT

0459240399

robyn@skillsconnection.com.au

Cost: \$107



TUNING INTO TWEENS+TEENS

Emotion Coaching Parenting Course

When: 8-9:30pm Tuesday
February +March (5 weeks)
Online via zoom

Cost: \$160

Rego: Robyn Grant 0459 240 399
robyn@skillsconnection.com.au



Payment Link given after 10min discovery call





SPORT @OAGS

Contact sport@oags.nsw.edu.au



NSW All Schools Triathlon Championships

On Thursday 23rd February, the OAGS Triathlon Team had 4 members travel to Penrith to compete at the NSW All Schools Triathlon Championships. It was the first time for Poppy, Rose, Liam and Ethan competing as individuals at this event. They have been training hard in the pool since last term and were ready to take on the Regatta Centre. The junior athletes had to swim 400m, ride 10km and run 3km, while the intermediate athletes had to swim 600m, ride 15km and run 4km. All four athletes had great results.

Rose placed 20th in the Junior Girls.

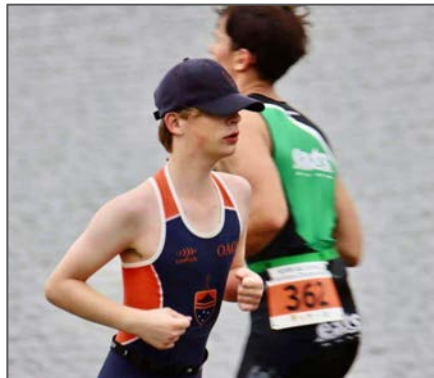
Poppy placed 53rd in the Junior Girls.

Liam placed 69th in the Junior Boys.

Ethan placed 67th in the Intermediate boys.

Well done Rose, Poppy, Liam and Ethan on your efforts! We are so proud of you and your hard work. We are looking forward to the future of triathlon at OAGS.

Miss Stephanie Harrison
Triathlon Coordinator





252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

Recruiting

Numbers have been very encouraging with over 30 attending the last 2 Mondays who are now in the process of completing the online application. To continue the positive overall growth of the unit I am hopeful that we will reach 40 before we close for new recruits in mid-March.

Unit diagnostics

An analysis of our numbers indicates a very healthy composition. Currently we have around 80 Cadets with 48 percent females and 25 percent from other schools. This is very encouraging as we continue to grow and attract more members from other schools

The next opportunity to join will be in August (Term 3).

Information session

Parents, if you missed the information session on 13 Feb, please visit during a Monday Parade (anytime during 4.30-7.30pm) to find out more information. Students are also welcome to attend a Monday 4.30-7.30pm to gain a better idea.

Important Dates

No Monday Parades during OAGS School Holiday break

3-5 Mar	Term 1 Bivouac (2022 Cadets only) – Marrangaroo Army Camp (Lithgow)
13 MAR	RECRUITING CLOSES
1-2 Apr	Recruit Induction weekend & Uniform Issue - (Recruits & Rank) overnight sleepover
Apr Holiday	Adventure Training Award (Tasmania) volunteer only (senior cadets)
22 Apr	RAAF C130 Hercules familiarisation flight (selected personnel)
25 Apr	ANZAC DAY – ALL 8am meet at OAGS - Orange City march
25 Apr	Bunnings BBQ - selected personnel
5-7 May	T2 Bivouac - ALL - Lewis Ponds
1-8 Jul	NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only
3-4 Jul	CACTC (sth QLD) – Senior cadets
21-23 Jul	Term 2 Biv - Cudal
23-30 Sep	AFX (Annual Camp) - ALL - Singleton

CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye
Officer Commanding
252 ACU

Chess

The OAGS Chess club is now back into routine with friendly games each Thursday. Having a longer break for Secondary students has been a huge advantage which allows games to be completed rather than abandoned/adjudicated at the most crucial stage.

Chess Master Class – This has commenced again on Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm. The aim is for interested players (Y6-Y12) to learn the more advanced skills and strategies, plus set piece, opening and defensive moves.

NSW Secondary Schools Country Championship (Western Region) – We eagerly await the release of the 2023 draw. OAGS has a great track record having been the winner or runner up for the last 5 years. Senior students are completing a round robin of games each Thursday to determine the team priority and reserves to represent OAGS in this competition.

Mr Terry Nye
Chess Coordinator



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Contact admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

Arranging Pick Up for Appointments

If your child has an off-site appointment booked during school hours, could you please let Student Services know by emailing the office a few hours before the appointment so we can be prepared before you arrive. We will try our hardest to have your children waiting for you in Student Services.

Primary & Secondary breaks are the worst times to collect your children as they are all out of classes so we have no way of contacting them. The best way to avoid this is picking them up right before the end of the lesson prior. Thank you so much for your consideration.

OAGS Plus

For the upcoming Easter holidays, we have listened to our parents and made the booking process simpler by switching to one easy to use platform in Flexischools. Your booking and payment will now be required in one transaction per child and we will book them in to the days you choose. We would like to let you know that OAGS Plus has a limited amount of places and once the positions are filled it will close off the day. If you have booked 2 out of 3 children and it closes off during your booking process, please let us know by contacting oagsplus@oags.nsw.edu.au



OAGS Plus Vacation Care April 2023



<p>10th No Program Public Holiday</p>  <p>Public Holiday</p>	<p>11th Easter Theme Day</p>  <p>Mega Egg Hunt</p>	<p>12th Excursion: Botanic Gardens nature walk & playground +\$20</p> 	<p>13th Science Experiments in the laboratory</p> 	<p>14th Obstacle Course</p> 
<p>17th Excursion: to Odeon 5 +\$20</p> 	<p>18th Circus Activities</p>  <p>Face painting and more</p>	<p>19th OAGs Plus Master Chef</p> 	<p>20th Gymnastics and yoga</p> 	<p>21st Mystery Day</p>  <p>Bring Your thinking shoes</p>

Bookings are open now as we are aware that it is important to be able to schedule your work and leave over the school holidays.

Please go to Flexischools > Payments > Holiday Care > OAGS Holiday Care Program and book the days you require.

Craft Club

Craft club is a group that meets together on Monday afternoons for an hour to create handmade cards and papercrafts. The students have been learning skills such as stamping, colouring, paper folding, scrapbooking and simply enjoying the creative process. Students have commented that "It's the best part of the week" with parents sharing that their child "Cannot wait for craft club each week."

There are currently 4 spaces available for the craft club this year. Craft club is open for students in stage 3 and up and is run by Krisha Thomas and Becky Jefferis. There is a cost of \$30 per term to cover the cost of all resources and the group runs from 3.30 to 4.30 Monday afternoons. If your child is interested in attending, please email Krisha.thomas@oags.nsw.edu.au a waitlist will be compiled once the spaces fill.



ENROLMENT

Contact enrol@oags.nsw.edu.au

Twilight tour

Thursday 2nd
March 2023
@ 5:30pm



ORANGE ANGLICAN
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

02 6360 4811
www.oags.nsw.edu.au





CYBER PARENTING SEMINAR 22ND MARCH 2023

GUEST SPEAKERS



**SIMONE & JAMES
BOSWELL**

Authors of Cyber Parenting



ROBYN GRANT

Occupational
Therapist

REGISTRATION

(02) 6360 4811

admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

Cost: \$10.00



ORANGE ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

7 Murphy Lane (PO Box 308), Orange NSW 2800

P: 02 6360 4811 E: admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

www.oags.nsw.edu.au

