

OAGS News



Securing Success...

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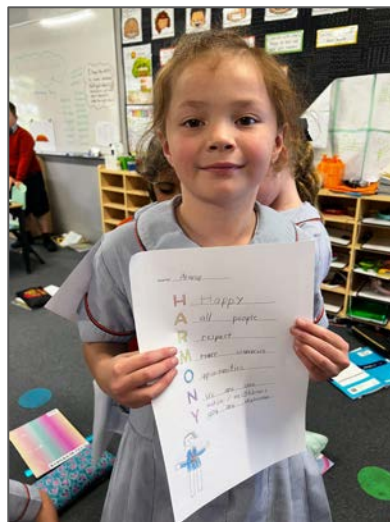
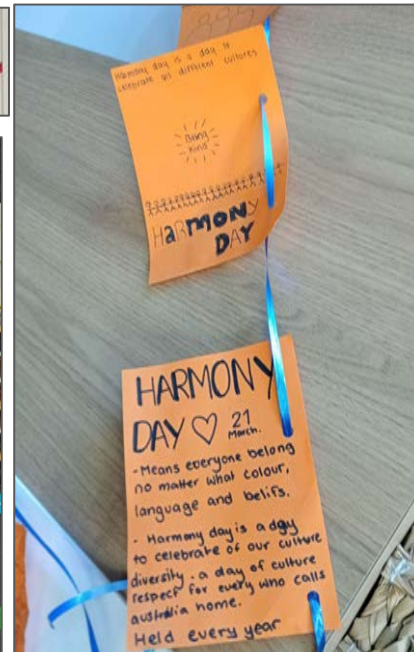
Harmony Day at OAGS

This week at OAGS our school has taken some time to discuss and reflect upon the Harmony Week 2024 theme of 'Everyone Belongs'. In primary our students have created some beautiful hand prints with their 'buddies', and spoken about what we need to do in our school to create an environment where everyone feels as though they belong.

In high school this week the students reflected on what Harmony Day means to them during their Pastoral Care time. They were asked to write a letter of reflection, or to write about how the theme of 'Everyone Belongs' can be embraced by our community and our school.

We are fortunate to have families from many cultures at OAGS. It is our hope that as we work together as a school community at our sporting achievements, learning opportunities, playground projects and other school events, our students will know that everyone here is valued. We value our similarities and differences as we all learn from each other and encourage each other through our school community.

Georgina Willis - Director of Engagement





PRIMARY NEWS

Watch Them Grow!

In Year 3, students are introduced to the concept of germination – the magical process where a seed sprouts and begins to grow into a plant. What better way to witness this phenomenon than by observing bean seeds?

The journey begins with the simple act of planting bean seeds in soil-filled cups or in clear plastic bags. With a sprinkle of water and a touch of sunlight, the stage is set for nature's spectacle to unfold. As the days pass, students eagerly watch for signs of life, their curiosity piqued by the anticipation of new growth.

One of the most fascinating aspects of observing bean seeds is the visible transformation they undergo. From tiny, dormant seeds buried in the soil, emerges a delicate shoot reaching towards the sky. With each passing day, this shoot elongates, unfurling its first set of leaves, a testament to the miraculous process of germination.

Year 3 students are not mere spectators in this journey; they are active participants, engaging in hands-on activities to nurture their bean seeds.

They learn the importance of providing the right conditions – adequate water, sunlight, and warmth – for optimal growth. Through careful observation and record-keeping, they document the changes their bean seeds undergo, fostering a deeper understanding of plant life cycles.

But the journey doesn't end with germination. As the bean plants continue to grow, students witness the emergence of flowers, followed by the development of pods containing new seeds. This cycle of growth and reproduction offers a rich learning experience, highlighting the interconnectedness of life in the natural world.



Mrs Anita Venter
Year 3 Clownfish



Stage 3 Camp - Vision Valley

During week 7, Stage 3 ventured off to Sydney for a week of fun, adventure and exploration at Vision Valley. With an early start on Monday morning, students were very excited to get on the bus and start the camp experience.

Upon arrival we were greeted by the friendly staff and fed a delicious lunch. Students were then placed into 5 groups for our daily activities. These groups were the Red Snakes, Green Echidnas, Yellow Wallabies, Blue Lyrebirds and Pink Koalas. Each group completed the following activities throughout the course of the week; Bushwalk and Damper making, Crate Stack, Vertical Playpen, Canoeing, Raft Building, Archery, Abseiling, Rock Climbing, Orienteering, Sugar Glider, Archery Tag, Mountain Biking, Team Challenge, Donkey Kong and the Egg Drop. Here are some highlights from Stage 3:

- My highlight of camp was playing archery tag. We played three rounds of it, each with a different team. I had heaps of fun trying to shoot my friends and Mrs Purvis. I also loved rock climbing, where I went on the highest wall and made it to the very top. then I got to glide down on the rope. Altogether, camp was an awesome experience for me. **Hugo G**
- A highlight of my camp experience was going abseiling. **Sadie K**
- My favourite activity was the vertical playpen, it was so fun to climb and watch. The food was good, the French toast was so yum. I also liked archery tag because it was so fun to get to shoot my friends and teachers. **Hunter G**
- Vision Valley was amazing in general, but some of the highlights were the high rope activities. One thing we all liked was definitely the food. The chefs made all of the food fresh and every dish was amazing. The pool and waterslide were SUPER fun. **Charlotte J**
- A fun thing that I did was Donkey Kong. I liked this one because of how it made me face my fear of heights. Ever since I was eight I would NEVER climb anything high, but Donkey Kong changed that and it was so much fun to walk along the beams then jump off when you're done. **Nadiya H**
- One highlight from camp was the crate stack with Toby and making new connections with friends. I loved the height activities where I could try and push through the fear, my group's encouragement made a warm and welcoming feeling to our group. **Ezekiel D**
- My highlight of camp was Archery Tag because I liked shooting Mr Herbert and dodging the arrows. **James C**



With the warm weather at Vision Valley, a favourite was the water slide and pool each afternoon, with some of the teachers joining in the fun! The fun didn't stop at night time, with the instructors hosting nightly activities such as mini olympics, trivia, a mini market and games night.

While this is a short summary of camp, there were so many wonderful experiences shared and memories made. As their teachers, we are so proud of the way our Stage 3 Students enthusiastically embraced each activity, the kindness they showed to one another and their willingness to persevere when things challenged them.

Stage 3 Teachers



Gardening Club

This term the Garden Club has been enjoying a lovely crop of corn, beans, tomatoes, zucchinis and cucumbers. The students have loved sampling all of our delicious produce. However, our fruit and vegetables aren't the only things that have been growing! Garden skills, teamwork and friendships have been thriving in our time together during Garden Club. If you would like to join us, we meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during Morning Break after eating time.

Mrs Churchill, Mrs Hazelton and Mrs Downie





SECONDARY NEWS

Getting to know Dr Sewell

At the start of this year we welcomed Dr Sewell as the Coordinator of Science in the Secondary School. He joins the OAGS community with many years experience as both a science teacher and head of faculty, most recently at Great Lakes College. I took a few minutes earlier out of Dr Sewell's day, to hear how he is settling in and get to know him better.

What did you do prior to teaching?

Upon graduating with a first class honours degree in Science from La Trobe University in Melbourne, I undertook my PhD at the ANU Research School of Biological Sciences in Canberra, and worked as a research scientist with the CSIRO at their Black Mountain laboratories. My particular area of expertise was the population biology of social insects. This led me to undertake research in many areas of Australia, including the south-west coast of Western Australia where I discovered a new species of termite.

Since I became a teacher I have also been extremely fortunate to have experienced many aspects of education outside the classroom.

These include working for ACER to produce a book on assessment in senior level Biology throughout Australia, working as a science consultant for the NSW Department of Education, and being awarded an ASTA fellowship to study the teaching of marine science in the USA and the Virgin Islands. As a science teacher, I have taught in Victoria, the ACT and NSW, including Norfolk Island, as well as at the British International School in Kiev, Ukraine. I have given lectures at tertiary institutions, and taught adults at night school. I was also appointed to the position of Head Teacher of Science at the Great Lakes College in Forster- Tuncurry.



What do you love about teaching Science?

Teaching Science is all about student engagement and curiosity. This includes questioning established laws and theories, and thinking about and exploring alternative explanations. I love watching and listening to students as they undertake the scientific method to investigate a hypothesis in order to validate their ideas. Science should never be boring! It is all about the real world, whose aspects affect all of us in our daily lives. I firmly believe young people today can contribute to a much safer and sustainable world in the future through their knowledge of Science. This includes a recognition and understanding of the often complex interactions between living and nonliving things, and how Science, through God, operates to perpetuate life on this planet.

What has impressed you in your first few weeks in your leadership of the Science faculty?

I have been hugely impressed by the many amazing staff at OAGS. I have seldom experienced such helpful, friendly, giving and collaborative colleagues during my time in education. As a newcomer, still coming to terms with how everything operates, I have been blessed by the help and support I have received by staff at OAGS.

What are you most looking forward to in Semester 1?

By the end of the first semester, I should have a much clearer idea and a clearer understanding of how things work at OAGS. I am also looking forward to seeing how my science students complete their first term of learning under my teaching.

Thanks Dr Sewell for your time. We are fortunate to have such an experienced, dedicated and passionate teacher here at OAGS. We look forward to your leadership of Science and are so grateful for the positive impact we have already seen in your first month.

Mr Tim Brown
Director of Secondary



CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Seussical Update

The cast and production team for "Seussical the Musical" have been rehearsing three days a week this term, to produce a high quality production for the Orange Community. We have finally finished learning Act 1 and steadily working through the wonderful songs in Act 2. We can't wait to show the school and broader community the amazing production and the incredible talent we have here at OAGS.

Matinee and night performances will be held at the Orange Civic Theatre from the 3rd to the 4th of May. Get in quick to secure your seats.

Tickets are on sale soon through Ticketek.

Mrs Rachel Crane
Musical Director



Orange Anglican Grammar School Presents



Seussical

3rd & 4th
May 2024

Orange Civic Theatre

collins
booksellers



PARENTS & FRIENDS
ASSOCIATION



Join us this Easter!

HOLY TRINITY

GOOD FRIDAY

9am All-Age Service

EASTER SUNDAY

8.30am Traditional Communion

9.30am Family Fun

Easter Craft - Easter Hunt - Morning Tea

10.30am Family Service

 holytrinityorange.com.au

ST BARNABAS

GOOD FRIDAY

9.30am A reflective service of readings, prayers & songs

EASTER SUNDAY

7.30am Traditional Communion

9.30am All-Age Communion Service with kids' programme

 stbarneys.com.au

EASTER FAIR

Thursday 28th March



PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

BBQ

Order through Flexischools before Friday 22 March

Please note that the canteen will be closed all day.

Students can bring a packed lunch, or order a BBQ lunch through Flexischools, catered by the P&F.

Students ordering a BBQ lunch will receive a sausage in a hot dog roll and their choice of soft drink or water. Gluten Free option available

Orders for Students must be completed via Flexischools.

Parents we are offering lunch packs for you too - just add your parent order to one of your children's orders to assist with catering.

We will also be selling Zooper Doopers and Lolly Bags for \$1

We are seeking volunteers to help out on the day - if you are available between 10am - 1pm please email us oagspandf@gmail.com



PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Second Hand Clothing Shop will be OPEN at the EASTER FAIR

The P&F will be opening the Second-hand Clothing stall at the Easter Fair from 11am - 2pm.

If you are attending the Easter Fair please drop in and say hello and purchase what you need for Term 2.

If you have any old school uniform items to donate - please drop them into the front office in the coming weeks.

Cash and Card payments available.

We are seeking volunteers to help out on the day. If you are available between 10 - 2 please email us oagspandf@gmail.com



OAGS P&F

Easter Fair

Please note that the canteen will only have desserts available during the Easter Fair.

Students can bring a packed lunch, or order lunch through Flexischools, catered by the P&F.

Orders for student lunch packs **must be** completed via Flexischools. Parents and carers can add their own lunch order to their child's order and pick-up from the P&F at any time during the afternoon.

Simply log into your Flexischools account and choose the option you wish to order. This will then enable collection of lunch without delay or missing out.

Order cut off Friday, 22nd of March at 3pm.

\$8.50 per meal pack

Includes the following:

- BBQ Sausage on a hot dog roll (GF option available)
- Lemonade, Coke or Water

OTHER ITEMS sold on the day

- Soft Drink Cans - \$2.50
- Water - \$2.50
- Zooper Doopers - \$1.00
- Mixed Lollies - \$1.00

P&F SECOND HAND CLOTHING STALL

The P&F will be opening the Second-hand Clothing stall from 11am – 2pm. We encourage parents who are attending the Easter Fair to drop in and say hello, and purchase what you need for Term 2. This is also a great opportunity to meet our wonderful P&F Volunteers and consider joining them in their community building and fundraising endeavours.

If you have any old school uniform items to donate - please drop them into the front office in the coming weeks.

Cash and Card payments available.

If you would like to assist the P&F at either the Clothing Store or BBQ, please get in touch with the P&F via email: oagspandf@gmail.com

The P&F BBQ will be outside of the Media Centre, with the clothing pool inside the Media Centre.



252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

Weekly Training. It is important that cadets attend every week to ensure their online training records are up to date. These practical and theory lessons are part of the Cadet Development Continuum and prepare cadets for field activities as well as eligibility to attend future promotion courses. Cadets with injuries are encouraged to attend so they remain engaged and involved with their "team" - their physical participation can be adjusted as necessary.

Promotion Courses (6-13 July) These are conducted by the NSW Brigade and it is the responsibility of cadets to be proactive and respond to all emails (or notify me if they did not receive any emails that their peers received). Cadets in Y8-11 should speak with me asap if interested in attending these courses. Online nominations must be accepted asap when they are emailed to their cadetnet account.

- CPL course. Must accept online nomination and complete the online workbook. Attendance for 4 Days only (exact date tba as there are 2 groups (6-9 Jul and 10-13 Jul) at Singleton.
- SGT and CWC. Will attend Singleton for the full period 6-13 July.

Anzac Day – 25 April ALL unit members not absent on holiday are asked to attend. The unit will march behind the veterans in the Orange city march from the Services Club to Robertson Park. The RSL sub Branch have also requested we carry flags and banners. Unit to **meet at OAGS at 8am** to check uniforms (**DPCU ceremonial**) and practice marching. We will also ensure everyone is well hydrated and has a snack before being transported by coach into the city. A detailed information sheet will be issued before the end of Term.

AFX (Annual Field Exercise) Sat 28 Sep- Fri 4 Oct. This is expected to be held at the Singleton Army Field Training Area adjacent to the military camp. Please note the corrected dates – it is the first week of the NSW state school holidays BUT it is the **middle week** of the OAGS holidays.

Dates for your Diary

6 Apr	Recruit Induction Day & Uniform Issue - Rank, Staff and Recruits
25 Apr	ANZAC DAY – march in Orange - ALL
6-13 Jul	NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only
26-28 Jul	Term 3 - Cudal
28 Sep- 4 Oct	AFX (Annual Camp) - Singleton

CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye
Officer Commanding
252 ACU

Chess Club

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.

NSW Secondary Schools (Western Region) Competition

On Thursday 21st March OAGS Chess team went to OCS and had SUCCESS. The team defeated OCS 3 games to 1 in our first round of the knockout competition. Stay tuned for further results

Mr Terry Nye
Chess Coordinator



OAGS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

THE OAGS CANTEEN WILL BE
CELEBRATING OUR 2024 ATHLETICS
CARNIVAL WITH A SPECIAL MENU
AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

HOTDOG \$4.50

OR

CHICKEN & GRAVY ROLL \$5.50

**WITH AN OPTION TO ADD ON A JUICE
BOMB OR WATER**

**PLEASE PLACE ALL ORDERS THROUGH THE
FLEXISCHOOLS APP. ORDERS WILL CUT OFF
WEDNESDAY, 27TH OF MARCH**

PLEASE NOTE: THE CANTEEN WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR BOTH PRIMARY
AND HIGH SCHOOL ON EACH DAY AT A REDUCED MENU TO ENABLE
US TO ACCOMODATE FOR LARGE ORDER NUMBERS

HIGH SCHOOL - TUESDAY, 2ND APRIL 2024

PRIMARY SCHOOL - THURSDAY, 4TH APRIL 2024



Orange Autumn Holidays Junior Chess Tournament

Trophies for 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Trophies and medals for age prizes

This is a fun tournament.
Basic knowledge of the rules is
required and tournament
conditions will be applied.

The time control is 15 minutes
plus 5 seconds per move.
An explanation of chess clocks will
be given at the start of the day.

An event for all players
under 18 years of age

Entry Fee

One Child	\$25
More Siblings	\$20

Payment to be made to:
Account Name: Bevan Clouston
BSB: 082-171
Acc: 12-468-7406

**Saturday 27th
April 2024
9:30 – 3:30**

**St Barnabus
Anglican
Church
Parish Hall,
Orange**

To enter, please contact
Bevan Clouston at
bevanc@nswjcl.org.au

 0415 828 613

The Annual Orange Community Easter Festival has been running for over 30 years. This year we are back in Robertson Park with activities and events galore for all the family. The best thing about the Festival is that it is all FREE! Yes, even the food, drink and fairy floss!! We have some great artists lined up to entertain us, some interviews with key people and OAGS will be involved! Put this date in your diary; Sunday MARCH 24th from 12-3pm. And remember it's not too late if you wish to get involved. Email orangeeasterfestival@gmail.com or search our Facebook page. Let's Celebrate Jesus together this Easter!

THE CHURCHES OF ORANGE PRESENT
**THE ANNUAL ORANGE
FAMILY
EASTER
FESTIVAL**

 **free event** 

**SUNDAY MARCH 24TH 2024,
12-3PM @ ROBERSTON PARK**

*SAUSAGE SIZZLE, FOOD & DRINK, LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT, JUMPING CASTLE, ART
& CRAFT, PUPPET SHOW AND MORE ...*

CELEBRATING JESUS!



OrangeEasterFestival



OrangeEasterFestival@gmail.com



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