



Securing Success...

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## It's a date...

### 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 Headmaster...

### Keeping our Young People Safe Online

Online activity through laptops, phones and even wrist watches provide our children a world of connectivity and access to resources greater than most libraries held in hard copy. The downside is that young people need skills to differentiate the true from the untrue, the important from the trite and the balanced from the prejudicial.

At OAGS we have programs on digital citizenship designed to encourage responsible use of social media and to warn students of the inherent dangers in navigating the digital world. Too often young people can unintentionally find themselves dealing with the consequences of ill considered online actions that have placed themselves and others at risk. We point out to them the need to leave a good digital footprint for their future. Most prospective employers will now google candidates as part of their hiring process.

Pornography is a multi-million dollar international industry. It is readily available online on student phones and sometimes intrudes even when not sought after. While we hear little of these matters here at OAGS due to our extensive web marshalling, firewalls and protective measures, it would be naive to think our students are unaffected by them. We want to encourage our young people to seek the good, not the bad and in the words of the Apostle Paul, to concentrate on...

*...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*  
Philippians 4:8

We want our young people to produce quality outcomes and quality lives, we want our children to concentrate on those things which are worthy and worthwhile. Are young people influenced by these warnings? Sometimes. Often our children live in the immediate moment without a lot of forethought for the future. At OAGS, we invite parents to partner with us in this process of helping our young people lay a good foundation for the future.

While digital platforms provide us with a great many benefits, there are dangers that we and our children need to be aware of. I encourage you to consider the age appropriate parental controls used within your home. These are not fire and forget measures, but need to change and adapt as our children and technologies change and develop. It may also be a helpful reminder to hold a family discussion about internet use and what to do if your child stumbles across unwanted material.

In order to help you navigate these challenging conversations, OAGS is hosting a seminar on 22nd March that you are warmly invited to attend. The Cyber Parenting Seminar will be presented by renowned authors and a highly experienced local Occupational Therapist currently working in mental health. The night will include a variety of topics about parenting in the digital age. As we work together in partnership, we encourage you to use this seminar to build your knowledge and create preventative strategies to suit your family.

Blessings to you all.  
Rev. Louis Stringer  
**Headmaster**





# YEAR 11 COMMENCEMENT







# PREP NEWS

## Prep Stick Insects and The Great Beetle Mystery

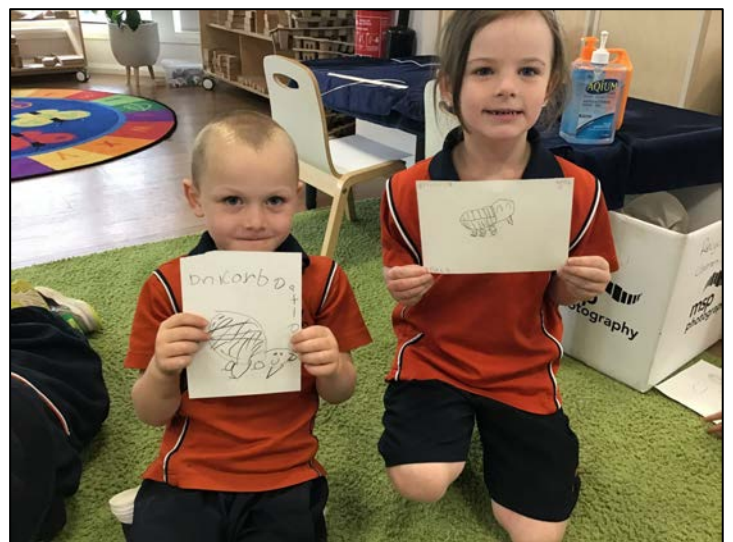
Prep stick insects have been engaged in an emergent learning project based on the topic of eggs. In an emergent project, the teacher provides a starting point for investigation and the knowledge, interests, and questions of the students inform the direction the investigation will go. We started with the topic of eggs because so many things come from eggs - even echidnas!

When a mystery beetle was discovered in our yard, some investigation led us to discover that insects and beetles come from eggs. However, we soon discovered a problem - we could not identify our beetle. We looked in all the insect and bug books in our classroom, we looked at all the insect and bug books from our library, and we did a google image search - but still could not identify our beetle. We discovered more of our beetles in our yard and decided to ask all of the teachers at school, suggestions came flooding in - is it a rain beetle, a bark beetle, a rhinoceros beetle, a stag beetle, an African black beetle, or a dung beetle? We looked up images of each of these suggestions and compared the image with our beetle - but none of them were the same as our beetle.



We liked the idea of it being a dung beetle so we began to learn about dung beetles - did you know that they eat poo, roll poo into balls, and push it around with their back legs to where they want to bury it to lay eggs in? We went up to the school farm (what the students call our Agricultural area) to have a look at the dung beetle farm, only to discover that the dung beetles are hibernating. This has led us to believe that our beetle is not a dung beetle. So, the investigation continues. Do you know what sort of beetle we have or any suggestions as to where we could find out? The student would love to hear from you, please email Miss Thomas at [krisha.thomas@oags.nsw.edu.au](mailto:krisha.thomas@oags.nsw.edu.au)

**Krisha Thomas**  
Prep Stick Insects





# PRIMARY NEWS

## **Getting to know Miss Collins**

It is with great excitement that we welcomed several new staff members to the teaching team in Primary. Each has been carefully selected from a range of high-calibre candidates because of their skills and experience and for their passion for supporting students to achieve their best.

One of our new staff members is Miss Molly Collins who is teaching Stage 3 Snails this year. As a new graduate teacher, Molly brings with her a good foundation of teaching in local schools, an exceptional knowledge of teaching strategies and curriculum content, an enthusiastic approach to developing a positive learning environment and an exceptional academic record, having received numerous awards for her studies, including achieving the highest GPA of any student in her course. I recently spoke with Miss Collins to see how she was settling in and to ask her a few important questions about herself.

### **How long have you been teaching?**

I formally started teaching in 2022, splitting my time as an Early Childhood Teacher and Primary RFF Teacher.

### **Why did you choose to become a teacher?**

I decided to become a teacher because I love learning and I wanted to be able to develop that love of learning in others.

### **What are your first impressions of OAGS?**

Inviting and supportive. It's always daunting starting at a new school, but the whole OAGS community has been so welcoming and helped me to settle in.

### **What is your greatest accomplishment to date?**

Graduating from university with distinction and the highest GPA in my course.

### **What is your favourite type of chocolate?**

I love all chocolate, but I will never turn down a malteaser.

### **What do you do in your spare time?**

Spend time with family and friends, and if I'm not doing that I like to exercise and bake delicious treats: balance!

We welcome Miss Collins to OAGS and look forward to watching her share her love of learning with our students. Stay tuned for more interviews from our amazing staff in future newsletters.

**Mrs Jessica Willis**  
**Director of Primary**





## Stage 2 Sizzling Stories

Stage 2 has been developing the skills of crafting a narrative based on the popular Seven Steps to Writing approach. Students have been experimenting with different approaches to begin their narratives in ways that immediately 'hook' the reader with a 'sizzling start' (as opposed to boring cliché openings). This could involve a sense of mystery, humour, action, dialogue or onomatopoeia. As the story begins to unfold, students are building a sense of tension through the creative weaving of complications, some trivial, some significant, ensuring that their main character, who the reader grows attached to, almost fails, but not quite.



Students have been careful to try to drag out the tension scenes, sometimes with dynamic dialogue, sometimes through simply 'painting a picture', whereby they 'show' us what is happening, rather than simply telling us. Above all, students are challenged to be critical of their writing, to 'ban the boring' and keep the reader engaged with cleverly constructed twists and turns that hopefully, keep us wanting to continue reading, being swept away in another world.

**Paul Lipscomb**  
Stage 2 Coordinator

## Stage 1 and Stage 2 Thrive

In Thrive this term, we have been exploring our identity, focusing particularly on our values and our character strengths in recent weeks. We have learnt that, much like the muscles in our body, character strengths can also grow with training and practice.

This week, we turned our attention to our classmates' strengths. We discovered that we can all identify strengths in the people in our class even if they aren't our closest friend. However, we also realised that we don't often tell each other what strengths we see and appreciate.

To help us think about this, students wrote each others strength on a piece of paper taped to the back of each student. This made it less "awkward" to share a compliment with each other and made for a nice surprise when the paper was removed and each student could see all the wonderful things that their classmates saw in them.

It was incredibly uplifting to see words like proactive, a leader, a hard worker, kind, funny, smart, caring, team player and generous written on so many pieces of paper. We have so many wonderful strengths on display in our school every day.

**Jessica Willis**  
Director of Primary





# SECONDARY NEWS

## **Getting to know Mrs Nealon**

Mrs Nealon joined the OAGS community at the start of this year and has been making a positive difference in the lives of our students, particularly our year 9 and 10 students in her role as Coordinator of Pastoral Care. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to get to know Mrs Nealon why not enjoy reading what she has to share below.

### **What are you most looking forward to as the leader of Stage 5 Pastoral Care?**

Well... Camp next term is going to be so much fun!

I am looking forward to finding a way for all of my wonderful Stage 5 students to enjoy school as much as I love teaching. That means not just getting through, but finding something to really enjoy every day.

### **How long have you been teaching Science?**

I first started teaching Science in Inverell 20ish years ago. I had a great mentor teacher who was so passionate about teaching science, it was contagious! I now love to show students how fun the practical application of science can be.

### **What do you love about teaching Biology?**

I love digging into how diverse life is. Growing things and dissecting things is particularly fun! I also like getting the deep understanding that we are all connected and we rely on each other to survive.

I am looking forward to getting a fish tank in my class room and growing plants and mould [probably contained] and really getting into the hands-on aspects of Biology.

### **What has impressed you in your first term at Orange Anglican Grammar?**

The amazing positive attitude and general respect and support I have received from the students has been overwhelming. All of this strengthened by the prayer and support of the Staff, I feel very blessed to be here.

Thanks Mrs Nealon for your time. I'm confident that the school will really benefit from the teaching experience and professionalism you bring to our community.

**Mr Tim Brown**  
**Director of Secondary**



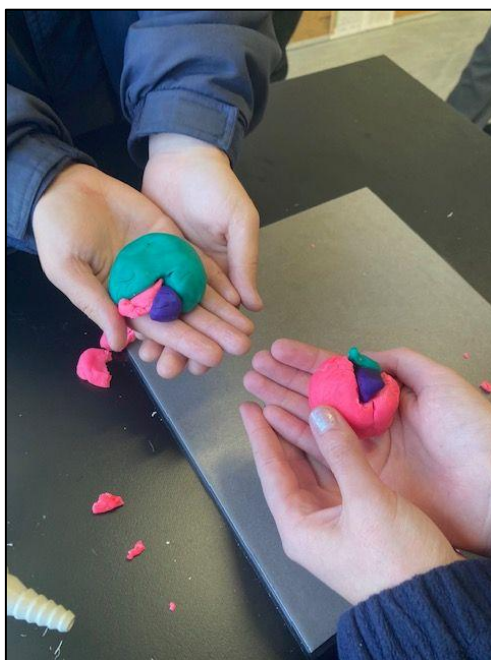


## Science News

Stage 5 has been investigating light as part of a broader study into waves and modelling in science. The students applied knowledge of the angle of incidence and the angle of reflection to understand the law of reflection. We had a bit of fun with the convex and concave prisms also, learning about how lenses can be used to bend (refract) light.



Year 11 Biology have been working with bubbles to better understand the fluid mosaic model, They have also utilised the microscopes to identify cells, and used playdough to model an enzyme and substrate production.



**Mrs Nicole Nealon**  
Science Teacher





# CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

## *New Classrooms in the Chestnuts*



A new building was erected in the Chestnut precinct over the school holiday break. There are 2 classrooms and a staff room and storage space for the Creative and Performing Arts faculty. C10, on the left, is a general classroom. C11, on the right, is where music classes are now situated. This places Music in line with the Art and Drama classrooms, creating a CAPA precinct in the secondary school. The music classroom is fully equipped for curriculum classes as well as providing an effective rehearsal venue for many of the school's musical ensembles.



**Noel Annett**  
CAPA Coordinator



## Drama Club

Drama Clubs across the Primary and Secondary School have kicked off to a roaring start with close to 50 students participating in improvisation games, playbuilding and workshopping plays for performances on a weekly basis. Students enjoy connecting with like minded drama students, learning new skills and supporting each other in their own creative processes.

In the Secondary Drama Club, students have played games, theatre sports and also assisted HSC drama students in the development of their HSC Individual Projects. It is wonderful to see a supportive drama community developing.

If your child would like to be involved in a Drama Club, please contact Mrs Rachel Crane (Secondary) or Mr Kyle Palmer (Primary).



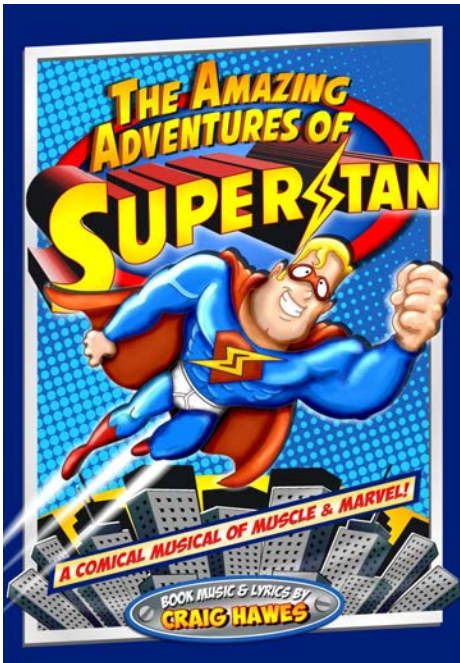
**Rachel Crane**  
Drama Teacher

## Primary Show 2023

Every student from Prep to Yr 6 will be involved in putting on a show at the end of Term 2. The Primary Show is an inclusive celebration of every child in the school, and a taste of the experience and team work of putting on a show together. We will be learning parts, songs and dances in our allocated Music and CAPA periods during the school week.

We will be performing *The Amazing Adventures of Superstan*, a hilarious show about an ordinary boy who dreams of being a superhero like the ones in his beloved comic books - and who finds out his Grannies' hidden secret when his town is threatened by The Candy King and his mind-control gobstoppers!

Students from Stage 2 and 3 will be invited to audition for lead roles in the coming weeks.



**Rachel Crane**  
Drama Teacher

## Kindy Dance

The Kindy Dance group has been running for a couple of weeks now and they are happy to show off their moves already. Check out the adorable team below.







# AG @OAGS

Contact [sarah.eyb@oags.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sarah.eyb@oags.nsw.edu.au)



## Champions in the Open Ring for OAGS

The days were long - 5am till 10pm. The work was hard. The dust was thick. But the OAGS Livestock Exhibition Team took on all comers in the schools division at the Royal Canberra Show. We went on to pick up broad ribbons in the open classes for our sponsors.

The school showed cattle on behalf of three studs Macquarie Vale Charolais, Elberta Limousins and The Trap Shorthorns. What an outstanding job - we collected ribbons for all three studs.

Congratulations to all the children who placed alongside the OAGS Livestock

For a team who only attended their first show in May last year, the students performed well beyond expectations and they looked so amazing as a team that they were selected to be the face of the Canberra Times Royal Show feature - I doubt there was a single copy left in circulation after OAGS left town!

A big thank you to the Eyb family and parents for all their hard work.

**Mrs Sarah Eyb**  
Ace Coordinator







# 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](mailto:pauline.dwyer@oags.nsw.edu.au)

### Volunteering Opportunities

Please can we ask if there are any OAGS community members that would like to volunteer in the classroom. Whether it be reading groups, art afternoons, or phonics fun. We're looking for mums, dads, aunts, uncles, nans and pops.

It's free to apply for a "Working with Children" Check and you'd be invaluable to our Learning Support Team.  
[Click here to apply.](#)

Please contact the office if you have a current WWC and would like to offer your time.





# SPORT @OAGS

Contact [sport@oags.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sport@oags.nsw.edu.au)



## WAS Swimming

Secondary students headed to Kinross last Friday to compete at the WAS Swimming Carnival. This carnival is a progressional step that gives swimmers the opportunity to represent their school at the AICES Championship. Lachlan Thompson broke two records on the day and will attend AICES along with 9 other swimmers, more information as well as time from the WAS carnival will be sent out to families in the coming days.



## HICES Swimming

28 Primary students represented OAGS in 55 events at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. For many it was their first time swimming in this amazing pool and they loved every minute of it. Swimmers were rewarded with ribbons when they placed first through to fourth place in their races. A huge congratulations to Ruben Oxenburgh and Emily McGreal who have progressed to the CIS Swimming championship in the Multiclass divisions.

## Sport News

Kayne Birkin is in Year 8 at OAGS and loves everything about sport, however, Softball is his sport of choice and he is taking the game by storm. Kayne has recently been selected in the Australian U14 Travelling Squad which will head to New Zealand in the Easter Holidays. This is an amazing opportunity for him to learn so much from Olympic coaches and trainers. Congratulations Kayne on this awesome achievement!

Congratulations to Michael Berndt and Kayne Birkin for making the CIS Open Boys Softball team. The boys play at the NSW All Schools championship on Tuesday 14th March. Good luck!

Amendment to Swimming Carnival Champions - Milla Jurd and Rebecca Kemp 15 Years Girls Age Champion and Emily Strahan 16 Years Girls Reserve Champion.

## Dates for your Calendar

OAGS Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 31st March on Trinity Oval. Students from Years 3-12 participate in the whole day carnival. A note will go out next week with more details as well as pre entry forms into some of the longer distance races.

OAGS Athletics Carnival Assembly will be held on Wednesday 5th April at 2:30pm. All are welcome to come.

**Mrs Dominique Hutchinson**  
Head of K-12 Sport



## **Charli Hunter performing with the best in all codes!**



OAGS' very own Charli Hunter has had a busy schedule. In Touch Football last week, she made the OAGS inter-school team, rounded up some students to enter a U18 WAS Touch football team, refereed all the WAS trial Touch Football games and finished runner up at the local Wednesday U15 girls Touch Football competition in a close Grand Final in which she was a star player. In between all of this she flew down to Sydney, stayed at Sydney Uni and represented the Lloyd McDermott U16 national indigenous team at the Ella Rugby 7's, and travelled to the Central Coast to play at Tuggerah. Charli played well with plenty of tries and conversions to her name.

Some talent scouts caught up with her after their match, so watch this space. An amazing achievement as Charli was the only member of the team from this region of NSW. She has been invited down to Sydney again this weekend as part of the U17 GWS development team to take on U17 Sydney Swans. Well done Charli your efforts are paying off and your future is bright!

**Mr Chris Doyle**  
PDHPE Teacher

## **Worlds Greatest Shave**

Like many of you, Cancer has impacted my friends and family lives. On Wednesday the 15th of March I will be shaving my hair off to raise funds for research resources. I will speak to the students at the school assembly on Friday the 10th March to spread awareness and to remind students to donate online or to bring money on Monday the 13th March. The hair will be made into wigs for Cancer patients via the Pantene Beautiful Lengths Foundation. If you'd like to make a donation please send the donation directly through the link below <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/chrisdoyle>

Thank you

**Mr Chris Doyle**  
PDHPE Teacher





# 252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

## **Recruiting**

Numbers have now stabilised and we are busy completing the online registration. Next Monday is the last opportunity for anyone interested to come along as we will concentrate on training our newest members. The next opportunity to join will be in Term 3.

## **17-19 March Bivouac (Lithgow)**

This is for the 2022 cadets (not new 2023 recruits). We will be linking with other units from Lithgow, Dubbo, and Dee Why. A detailed Information sheet will be distributed next Monday.

## **1-2 April Recruit Bivouac**

This event is overnight at OAGS commencing at 0830h Saturday and ends at 1100h Sunday. Uniforms will be issued and recruits will learn many new skills plus learn how to prepare ration pack meals. A detailed Information sheet will be issued next week.

## **Important Dates**

No Monday Parades during OAGS School Holiday break

<b>13 MAR</b>	<b>RECRUITING CLOSES</b>
<b>17-19 Mar</b>	<b>Term1 Bivouac (2022 Cadets only) - Marrangaroo Army Camp (Lithgow)</b>
<b>1-2 Apr</b>	<b>Recruit Induction weekend &amp; Uniform Issue - (Recruits &amp; Rank) overnight sleepover</b>
<b>Apr Holiday</b>	<b>Adventure Training Award (Tasmania) - volunteer only (senior cadets)</b>
<b>22 Apr</b>	<b>RAAF C130 Hercules familiarisation flight (selected personnel)</b>
<b>25 Apr</b>	<b>ANZAC DAY – ALL 8am meet at OAGS - Orange City march</b>
<b>25 Apr</b>	<b>Bunnings BBQ - selected personnel</b>
<b>5-7 May</b>	<b>T2 Bivouac - ALL - Lewis Ponds</b>
<b>1-8 Jul</b>	<b>NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only</b>
<b>3-4 Jul</b>	<b>CACTC (sth QLD) – Senior cadets</b>
<b>21-23 Jul</b>	<b>Term 3 Biv - ALL - Cudal</b>
<b>23-30 Sep</b>	<b>AFX (Annual Camp) - ALL - Canberra</b>

**CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye**  
**Officer Commanding**  
**252 ACU**

## **Chess Club**

Chess club numbers continue to grow as many spectators drop in each Thursday to see their friends play.

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

NSW Secondary Schools Country Championship (Western Region) – The draw has arrived – Our Round 1 match is against Molong in the coming weeks. Final team selection is very tight between Archie Casey, Rohan Mittal, Charlotte Johnstone, Liam Nyers-Saunders, Bec Kemp, Oliver Inman, Mykayla Hazelton.

**Mr Terry Nye**  
**Chess Coordinator**





## Orange ADF Careers Expo

When: 6pm - 9pm, Tuesday 28th March 2023  
 Where: Romani Barracks, Margaret Street, Orange

**Register now online**

Register via <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/event/EXJZIE9>

## THE LEEANNE PALMER NSW COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

BE READY, STAY READY!

THESE DAY CAMPS ARE TO ASSIST PLAYERS AND COACHES FROM COUNTRY NSW TO FURTHER THEIR SKILL AND DEVELOPMENT AS THEY CONTINUE TO PLAY DURING THEIR LOCAL AND REPRESENTATIVE SEASONS.

OPEN TO MALE AND FEMALE PLAYERS IN THE FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS: U14 - U16 - U18

19TH MAR - ORANGE

29TH APR - QUEANBEYAN

19TH APR - NIAGARA PARK

30TH APR - BYRON BAY

21ST APR - WAGGA WAGGA

TIME: 9.30 AM - 3.00 PM

COST: \$95

TO REGISTER ONLINE VISIT

[WWW.BNSW.COM.AU/PLAYERS/](http://WWW.BNSW.COM.AU/PLAYERS/)



## JUNIOR REP TRIALS

### SUNDAY 12th MARCH:

- U15 Boys: 10am - 11am
- U13 Boys: 11:15am - 12:30pm
- U18 Boys: 1pm - 2pm
- U18 Girls: 2:15pm - 4pm

### SUNDAY 19th MARCH

- U13 Girls: 10am - 12pm
- U15 Girls: 12:30am - 2:30pm
- U11 Boys & Girls: 3pm - 4pm

**IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE ABOVE DATES, YOU MUST EMAIL [ojhi.rep@gmail.com](mailto:ojhi.rep@gmail.com) PRIOR TO THE TRIAL DATE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION**





# ORANGE ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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