

OAGS News



Securing Success...

In this issue...

- Deputy Headmaster p1
- Prep News p2
- Primary News p3
- Secondary News p5
- AG @ OAGS p6
- Sport @ OAGS p9
- 252 Army Cadets p11



From the Deputy Headmaster

The past fortnight has been jam packed full of events and opportunities for the students and families of OAGS. Our P-12 Athletics carnival was held during a beautiful spell of weather with sunshine prevailing throughout the day. Thank you for the families who turned out in force to support their children. We will recognise our athletes via a presentation assembly on June 2nd.

The Primary school disco was a raging success with fantastic attendance by many students from K-6. A big thank you to Benny & the Decks for the music and good vibes!

We stand on the doorstep of a hugely important week for the Secondary School with our Yrs 7-10 camps heading away in week 5. We wish them all a great week of fun and community as they travel to different areas of the state;

- Yr 7 - Springwood
- Yr 8 - Shoalhaven
- Yr 9 - Lake Macquarie
- Yr 10 - Urban Challenge

I'd like to wish our Yr 11 & 12 students all the very best as they undertake their Half Yearly Exams - please join us in praying for clear minds, good recall of content learnt, ability to focus and concentrate and ongoing good health.

Have a blessed weekend,
Scott Hazelton
Deputy Headmaster





PREP NEWS

Loose part play in Prep

When you think back to your childhood and consider your favourite play experiences, what were the key elements? Was it the latest fad toy or gadget or was it the cardboard fridge box, the leftover building supplies or the items you gathered from the environment around you? For most people it's the last three items and these are the basis of what is known as loose parts play.

Loose parts play involves children using various found items to express their creativity and develop their imaginative and critical thinking skills.

Consider the children in the photos below.



They have collected rocks from around the yard (natural items) and began lining them up on the footpath. As the play progressed a story emerged: "We are blocking the road...there is a hole in the road and we don't want anyone to fall down it." As More children joined in, more rocks were collected and transported in wheelbarrows and on the back of the bikes. Leaves and bark were sprinkled on top, "It's the concrete to hold it all together." As they worked, conversation centred around what tools were needed. Someone suggested there was water on the road and this was why there was a hole. Pipes were collected from the sandpit road so that the water could drain away, Paint brushes were found to push back the dirt and bark from the side of the road so that they didn't block the drains. 6 or 7 children were involved in this activity, some stayed the whole time, and others came and went, however this child directed play utilised loose parts to build students communication and social skills, their critical thinking and problem solving skills, their awareness of space, size and shape. They worked together to develop a play narrative, to find solutions and to encourage and support each other.

The amount of learning that happened in this 40 minute play episode was deep and scaffolds further learning into the future - this was all possible because of the loose parts the students were able to find around the yard.

We are in the process of building our large loose parts to continue to allow students to develop their learning and skills through loose part play. If you are a tradesman who has any clean leftover items from jobs that may be useful to our play such as pallets, pipes, wood off-cuts, conduit reels, bricks or pavers, 1-1.5m branches or other building items, and would be happy to share them with us, please contact krisha.thomas@oags.nsw.edu.au It would be wonderful to see what the students can create with additional resources.

Krishna Thomas
Prep - Stick Insects



PRIMARY NEWS

Kindergarten News

Term 2 of Kindergarten has seen our littlest learners in full swing of classroom life. We have started an Integrated unit this term called 'Celebrations'. The last few weeks we have learnt all about ANZAC day, what it means, where our soldiers fought and why we remember them and march every year on the 25th of April. We had so much fun exploring on google earth and finding Anzac Cove in Turkey. In Week 3 of school we discussed Mothers Day and how we celebrate our mothers. We made beautiful gifts for our mothers and recorded some special messages for them. In Science we have been discovering all about Weather and the symbols that represent weather. We are looking forward to understanding why and how weather affects people, plants and animals.

In English we have been reading 'The Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle, we have been exploring grammatical features of this text and have even started writing our own "The Very Hungry Kindergarteners" book. We have drawn illustrations to match our sentences and can't wait to write the next pages of our very own class book.

In sport Kindergarten have been focusing on novelty events for our Athletics Carnival.

Erin Purvis
Kindergarten - Ladybirds



Stage 2 Camp Success

Last week, Stage 2 thoroughly enjoyed the experience of a 3-day CRU Camp in Galston, amongst the leafy backdrop of Berowra National Park, Sydney. Across the 3 days, students participated in a range of challenging, yet fun activities that not only allowed them to build connections with each other but also confidence in their growing independence level and resilience.

Students threw themselves into indoor rock climbing, learning survival skills in bushwalking, cooking damper, developing bike riding skills, team problem solving, archery, orienteering, low ropes and milk crate climbing whilst attached to harnesses. The wide variety of physical and social skills encompassed in the activities meant that all students were included and engaged. If that wasn't enough, students also enjoyed a mini Olympics, a strategy based outdoor wide game, night time Spotto and a big night of large group games.

The CRU leaders, all of whom love God as their Lord and Saviour, led us through a series of Christian discovery sessions, including engaging Bible talks, singing and small group discussion, focusing around the narrative of the gospel and Jesus being the true bread of life.

For some students this was their first experience of being away from the comfort of their own bed, mum and dad and the support that comes with this familiarity. Stage 2 showed ever growing independence during this camp and participated fully in each activity and embraced the entire camp experience. On the bus ride back to school, many students were already discussing what they hope they can do for next year's camp, and how much they didn't want to leave camp!

Stage 2 Teachers





SECONDARY NEWS

Getting to know Ms Anita Gregor

Ms Gregor joined the OAGS community at the start of this term. A passionate Spanish and English speaker and teacher she brings with her a deep love of both languages and their cultures. To help our community get to know Ms Gregor better, here are some reflections from a conversation we recently shared together.

What do you enjoy most about teaching English?

I thoroughly enjoy explicit teaching and making the program accessible to everyone.

Why is Spanish such a great language?

As Spanish is one of the most spoken languages in the world, we are giving students access to employment opportunities as well as travel and sporting opportunities. It is also a phonetic based language which makes it easier to learn.

What do you love about teaching Spanish?

I am passionate about sharing my knowledge of other cultures and languages and want to share this with my students, so that they can use Spanish in their chosen career, travel, or sporting opportunities that may arise in their futures.

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

Collegiality, and the respect students have towards their teachers.

Thank you Ms Gregor. We look forward to the positive difference you will have in the lives of our secondary students.

Mr Tim Brown
Director of Secondary



Twilight tour

Thursday 1st
June 2023
@ 5:30pm





AG @OAGS

Contact sarah.eyb@oags.nsw.edu.au



Orange Show Report

The Agriculture team pulled out all stops at the Orange Show on the weekend representing OAGS in everything from cattle to chickens, Rural Achievers to poultry, collecting ribbons in all divisions. Stepping up in the Young Achievers, Hannah Flynn in Year 9 impressed the judges with her interview outlining her passion for agriculture and understanding of agricultural issues to be placed first in the Rural Achievers program.

Our cattle team were absolutely on point showing for several local studs including The Trap Shorthorns, Elberta Limousins and Macquarie View Charolais with all our students impressing judge Nathan Leach in livestock, parading and junior judging events.

Our Year 7 team in the Young Farmers competition may not have been the biggest competitors in the field but for speed they couldn't be beaten, placing a very credible third against two teams of HSC students. We even had a Year 2 student, Mackenzie Flynn, who was part of one senior team doing her best to push a wool bale across the showground! In the Poultry section, Year 8 student Joshua King prepared the school Australorp bantams to perfection collecting a first and second in the junior soft feather division.

Nearly every student was awarded a ribbon in events, and a picture speaks a thousand words, so [click here](#) for a Youtube link with all the action of the show.



Down on the Farm

Autumn is a busy season for the Agriculture team at OAGS. From farm visits with Year 11 and 12, lambing, and the arrival of the new season trout for Year 7, it's been a very busy time.

The apple season is in full swing, and the combined senior agriculture class have completed a unit of work on the dramatic changes taking place in horticulture both in marketing and innovation. We have been privileged in being able to take part in a number of farm visits to Hillside Harvest where traditional farming has combined a niche tourism market to sell high quality fresh fruit. The students have also been to visit the Cunial farm featuring a high intensity trellised orchard utilising computer packing and platform picking.

Our meat lamb program was a huge success with all five lambs sold within minutes. The lambs were bred, raised and managed by Stage 5. Other products developed by students include gelato combining honey and home grown figs, meat chickens and our award winning OAGS mixed blossom honey.





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

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.

We are looking for a full-time volunteer to work with one student one on one each day if that's something you could offer and would find rewarding please contact admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

We appreciate all the parents who have contacted us already and will be starting here at school in Term 2.

Thank you so much!





SPORT @OAGS

Contact sport@oags.nsw.edu.au



OAGS Netball

The 2023 Netball season is well underway with 7 OAGS teams participating in the ONA Winter Competition. Teams have been working hard in training to fine tune their skills as well as getting to know their teams. The first round of competition was unfortunately washed out, but teams enjoyed the beautiful sunshine for Round 2 and 3. In Round 2, the OAGS Aces, Raspberries and Gummy Bears all took away wins from their games and in Round 3 the OAGS Aces went back to back winning their game by 36 points. A few OAGS teams will have a well deserved break from Netball this weekend as they have the bye. Nearly all teams are coached by student coaches with a couple of teams coached by some of our wonderful OAGS parents. Thank you to all coaches, we are looking forward to watching your teams develop their skills under your guidance throughout the season.

- OAGS Chupa Chups coached by Zara Singh, Amelia McMaster and Lizzy Fuller.
- OAGS Skittles coached by Scarlett Petty and Adelaide Thompson.
- OAGS Gummy Bears coached by Darcy Speers and Macey Paul.
- OAGS Chiefs coached by Manvir Kaur and Emma Davis.
- OAGS Fantales coached by Sarah Whittingham and Lucille Moller.
- OAGS Aces coached by Stephanie Harrison.
- OAGS Raspberries coached by Geoff and Bianca Newcombe.



Miss Stephanie Harrison
Netball Coordinator

Netball NSW Schools Cup - Primary Gala Day

On Wednesday 3rd May, the OAGS Chiefs travelled to Dubbo to participate in the Netball NSW Schools Cup Primary Gala Day. It was the first time the Chiefs took to the courts as a team and they were ready for a fun day filled with netball. The girls played five games over the course of the day. Of those 5 games, the Chiefs drew 2 games, lost 2 games and won 1 game to finish third in the Year 5/6 Pool A. This meant the girls got to play a bonus game at the end against the team who finished fourth in Pool B. The Chiefs won this game quite convincingly.

The OAGS Chiefs were great sports both on and off the courts, improving with each game and showing true OAGS Spirit. A big thank you to super coaches Manvir Kaur and Emma Davis for your encouragement, knowledge and umpiring skills on the day. OAGS Netball is certainly lucky to have such dedicated and knowledgeable coaches sharing their passion with our players. Well done OAGS Chiefs!

Stay tuned for the upcoming Secondary Gala Day later in the term where the OAGS Aces will take the court as well as an all boys team.



WAS Netball

During Term 1, the OAGS Aces trialed to be selected as part of the WAS team. Macey Paul and Darcy Speers were successful in being selected for this team, while Lucille Moller was selected as a shadow player. Isla Stringer was also successful in gaining a spot on the Open WAS team.

On Wednesday 3rd May, Macey Paul and Darcy Speers represented OAGS and WAS to participate in the AICES U15 Girls netball championship. Over 8 different sporting associations attended the day held at Netball Central where all players vied for a place in the combined AICES team.

Macey and Darcy had a great day being part of the team and loved the experience of playing with and against other girls of a high calibre.

Both girls play for OAGS in the ONA competition as well as coaching a primary school team together which they have done for the past 2 years.

Congratulations girls!



TEEN LEVELS CLASS

Central West Gymsports offers a 'Teen Levels' class every Friday from 5:30 – 7pm. Come and test out your Gymnastics skills learning Bars, Beam, Floor and Trampoline.

A fantastic opportunity for those attending Gymnastics for Sport this term to further develop their skills or even Beginners to learn the basics.

No previous experience necessary.

Enquire now – email us centralwestgym@hotmail.com or call 63691028 for further info or to book a free trial



252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

Army Cadets – 252 ACU

Orange Show

Thank you to those cadets, staff and parent volunteers that assisted us to work alongside the SES and Scouts to control the entry gates at the show. Assisting at community events such as this raises the profile of the unit and also gives a positive message to the community about the Army cadet program, The unit will also receive a financial donation for our efforts which will help keep our fees low and allow us to purchase equipment to provide better training opportunities and activities for our cadets.

T2 Bivouac

Note new dates of **9-11 June**. Consent notes are available on cadetnet and must be submitted asap so Transport and food can be organised. A more detailed Information sheet will be available soon.

Staff

Congratulations to Brynn Player (our former CUO) who has returned as adult staff and recently been promoted to 2LT. You will see him in the Q store on Mondays. Thank you to other adults that are helping when they can on Mondays. We are always happy to see adults come along to find out more about the program.

Chief of Army Cadet Team Challenge

25 Battalion is sending a team of 10 cadets to QLD (3-8 July) to represent NSW against the other states. The CACTC is the ultimate cadet team challenge available in the AAC program and is a culmination of many elements of the Cadet Development Continuum. Teams will complete a number of assessed activities that cover Navigation, Fieldcraft, Radio communications and procedures, First aid treatment and scenarios, field engineering and problem solving (initiative skills). Training will occur on 20/21 May at Lithgow and during Monday parades. Some selected cadets from 252 ACU have the opportunity to participate in this competition.

Important Dates - No Monday Parades during OAGS School Holiday breaks

20-21 May	CACTC Training at Lithgow (selected cadets)
9-11 June	T2 Bivouac – ALL – Lewis Ponds
1-8 Jul	NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only
1-8 Jul	CACTC (south QLD) – Senior cadets
21-23 Jul	T3 Biv – ALL - Cudal
24-29 Sep	AFX (Annual Camp) – Majura Range (Canberra) - ALL

CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye
Officer Commanding
252 ACU

Chess Club

Master Class – 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. Currently we have 6 regular attendees but there is room to take a few more.

NSW Secondary Schools Country Championship (Western Region) – Our round 2 match against Denison College-Bathurst High Campus took place on Wednesday 10 May here at OAGS. Our players were very excited to play as we won the first round by forfeit. Our players commenced the games and held strong positions but eventually they all succumbed and we finished with a 4-0 loss to our opponents.

Our representatives were Archie Casey, Rohan Mittal, Charlotte Johnstone, Liam Nyers-Saunders, Rebecca Kemp, Oliver Inman and Mykayla Hazelton.

OAGS Competition - Primary school players are already completing matches each week. The secondary school competition to be played each week commenced yesterday.

Mr Terry Nye
Chess Coordinator



Year 7 Experience Day

Thursday 8th June 2023

9am - 3pm

Students interested in starting Year 7 in 2024 are invited to experience a day in the life of an OAGS Secondary Student!

Come and explore the facilities and opportunities Orange Anglican Grammar School has to offer.

Scan the QR code to book your place





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