



The Oakdale Newsletter

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Term 1, Week 2, 2014

Date: Tuesday, 4th February



Dates to remember

Coming up in February

- *3^{rd/4th} – Kindergarten vision screening
- *3rd – Tackling Bullying Wests Rugby League 3-6
- *5th – School swimming carnival 2-6
K-2 Sun and water safety
- *11th – K-2 Meet the teacher Years 1 & 2 - 3.45
K – 4.00
- *17th – 3-6 Meet the teacher Years 3 & 4 – 4.15
5 & 6 – 3.45
- *20th – Primary assembly commences plus Captains,
Library Monitors and Class Councillors receive
badges
- *28th – Zone swimming

Coming up in March

- *3rd – K-2 assembly open to parents
- *6th – Primary assembly
- *13th – 3-6 science groups commence
- *14th – Year 2 sleepover
- *17th – Camden High Tour Night
- *18th – Regional swimming
- *20th - Year 6 - EOI high school forms due
- *21st – Harmony Day – Everyone Belongs
- *24th – School photos (summer uniform)
- *31st – Young Leaders Day – School captains and
Mrs Green attend conference



From the Principal's desk

Welcome back to what looks like being another wonderful year at Oakdale Public School. I would like to welcome our new families to the school and I am sure they will settle well into the school and the community.

This year we are putting a lot of our resources into improving Literacy and Numeracy K-6. We are starting Mathematics groups one day per week in Week 5. We have set times for Mathematics blocks and support will be allocated to each classroom. Many students will receive individual support for reading; parents will receive a note to confirm if their child is receiving support. If your child is receiving additional support we ask parents to please make the most of this opportunity by ensuring their child reads each night and returns their reader when required. If your child is experiencing any difficulties at school please approach the class teacher firstly and come to see me if you need to as well.

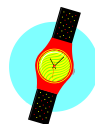
The talented Artist program will continue in Term 1 for all students with drama being offered to each class in Term 2 and gymnastics Term 3.

The office area will be carpeted on Friday of Week 2 and seating for our outdoor area installed over the coming weeks (thanks to the P&C fundraising efforts in 2013)

We want our students to settle well into their routines and perform to the best of their ability on a daily basis. A good breakfast, regular bed time, completing home studies and keeping in close contact with the school can support our children to have a positive school experience.

Wearing School Uniform

It was great to see all of our students arriving to school to start 2014 in school uniform. I would like to see this high standard continue for the remainder of the year. Coloured jumpers, shoes and jewellery are not part of the uniform and I urge parents to encourage students to insist their children wear our uniform with pride. If any families are experiencing financial difficulties please call Mrs Green for assistance.



Arrival to School and Pick up of Students

The playground is supervised by staff from 9.00am and this is the designated time for student arrival. Students arriving before this time are to remain seated outside the Year 6 rooms until collected by a teacher.

Students are asked to place their bags on the court and go to the back playground. Parents are asked to send their children to the back playground on arrival and not stay up at the classroom. It is very difficult to reinforce our playground rules and supervise students if they are scattered all over the place in the morning.

PICK UP

Parents please wait to collect children at the end of school at the following areas:

*K-2 at the end of the K-3 classrooms near the fence

*3-6 under the COLA outside the Library

This allows teachers to give last minute messages to students and ensure that teachers are aware that all children have been collected.

K-1 children will be walked down to parents by their teacher.

Attendance - MISSING SCHOOL MEANS MISSING OUT

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?

This year all staff will focus on the attendance of students. Parents need to supply a note for absences within 7 days. If the reason for the absence is unacceptable the roll will be marked as unjustified. It is important that students are not having days off to go and have a haircut, go shopping or other unsuitable reasons. Rolls are regularly checked by The Home School Liaison Officer and action will be taken if attendance is not satisfactory. Referrals may be made under "Educational Neglect

School Rules

Students are expected to follow the school rules. We will be speaking about what the rules mean in class over the next few weeks. Our discipline procedures revolve around these rules so we would like parents to reinforce and explain what they mean at home as well.

1. Be Attentive – Follow staff instructions.
 2. Be Safe – Keep yourself Safe.
 3. Be Polite – Be respectful and courteous to others.
 4. Be Kind – Care for the property of the school, others and the environment.
 5. Be Honest – Always tell the truth.
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Changes to Assemblies

Many teachers raised concerns about not being able to get through the required lessons set in the new syllabus documents. In order to have more time in class and more time for instruction 3-6 assemblies will be held fortnightly and not weekly. K-2 students will still have weekly assemblies as it is good training on how to listen and behave in a more formal situation.

Our Aussie of the Month assemblies will take on a new name and be held each term.



CRUNCH AND SIP

All families are reminded that Oakdale Public School is an accredited Crunch and Sip School and as a result a scheduled fruit/ vegetable break is timetabled for every class each morning. This ensures that children rehydrate and refuel to enhance not only their daily nutrition but also their active learning in the crucial morning session.

It is expected that all students participate and items that are permitted include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, in cups in natural juice as well as vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, cucumber, carrot sticks, gherkins and olives.

Please remember that this is a short break so the size of the fruit/vegetable packed needs only to be small or cut up in a small reusable container (6-10 pieces).

The canteen will have available from Thursdays a small Crunch and Sip pack that includes fruit and water for \$2 if you find the cupboard is bare later in the week.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub will operate again this year with 2 issues per term.

Orders for all students in the same family can be placed in the one sealed envelope and be paid for with one total payment.

The payment needs to be for the exact amount and can be made via cash, cheque made payable to Scholastic Australia or by credit card over the phone or online with the payment number included on the order form in the designated spot. Refer to order form.

Please ensure the child's name is on both the order form and the envelope. Order forms will be issued on a Friday and orders close the following Friday. Issue 1 will go out on the 7th February and close on 14th February.

For orders that you don't want the children to receive to take home please write the word **HOLD** on the **ORDER FORM** and the office will contact you to collect.

Thank you to all those families that have supported Bookclub for not only does it encourage the love of books and literacy in your child but helps the school receive many quality resources at no cost. Any questions please speak to Mrs Berger.



Multicultural Public Speaking Competition

We are once again entering the Multicultural Public Speaking competition. Students are asked to prepare a speech according to the stage requirements stated. Speeches are to be ready for presentation by May, 5th 2014 and are not compulsory. Please let Mrs Green know if you intend to enter so you can be supported through the process.

What are the speaking requirements?

At each stage of the competition contestants present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For their prepared speech, contestants must choose a topic from the list of multicultural topics at bottom of the next page. The prepared speech must have multicultural content. The impromptu speech is chosen by the adjudicator on the day, and will be on a general, non-multicultural theme. Contestants will have 5 minutes to write their impromptu speeches. The speaking times for each speech and division are outlined below. Note that speakers are expected to finish at or just beyond the official speaking time, and it will be considered poor timing to reach the continuous bell.

Division / Speech	Warning bell	Speaking time (2 bells)	Continuous bell
Years 3&4 prepared speech	2 minutes	3 minutes	4 minutes
Years 3&4 impromptu speech	30 seconds	1 minute	1 ½ minutes
Years 5&6 prepared speech	3 minutes	4 minutes	5 minutes
Years 5&6 impromptu speech	1 ½ minutes	2 minutes	2 ½ minutes

What are the prepared speech topics for 2014?

2014 Years 3&4 topics	2014 Years 5&6 topics
Racism is bullying	Asylum seekers
Multiculturalism at the FIFA World Cup	The meaning of Australia Day
Empathising with other people	Getting a multicultural education
How kids can make a difference	Learning different languages
Harmony Day	Religion
Every family has a story	Multiculturalism in the media
My overseas connections	The same but different
When does a migrant become an Australian?	Un-Australian
Multiculturalism at school	Stereotypes
What makes a community?	Living between cultures

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Lauren-Marie Green

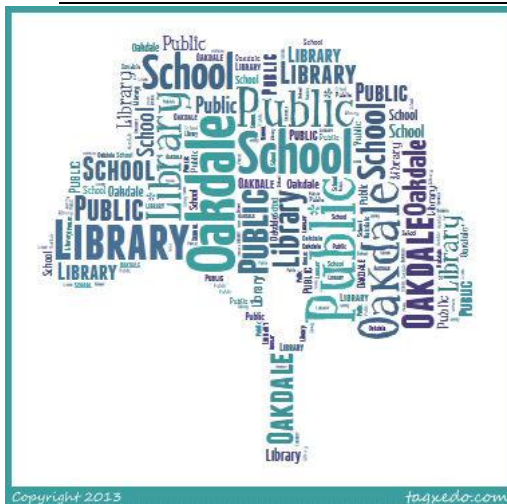
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Book Bonus

Thank you to Jessica Webber & Family, Reagan Austin & Family, and Esther Brown & Family for raising \$114 through the 2013 Book Bonus Fundraiser! This gave us \$57 to spend at Dymocks and then Mrs Webber generously donated another \$50, so now we have \$107 to spend on some lovely new books!

Book Week

Book Week 2014 is in August and Connect to Reading. We will be Parade so start thinking of costume



this year's theme is: having a Book ideas!

Premier's Reading Challenge

PRC begins on March 1st and there is a new PRC Garden in the Library. Each class has a flower and when a student completes the challenge, they get to colour in a petal and pin it onto their class flower. K-2 will definitely have beautiful flowers but I wonder which 3-6 class will create the most beautiful flower! I'll post some progress photos throughout the year.

KB, 1C & 2H:

- Will be completing the PRC in class.
- Mrs Berger, Mrs Coppola & Mrs Hooper will be reading 30 PRC books to their classes.

3B, 4L, 5F & 6W:

- Need to read a total of 20 books, with a minimum of 5 personal choice books that are not on the PRC list (available online).
- Each class will fill out the *PRC Reading Log* on paper in their classroom. Class Teachers will then give students time on the computers to enter their data online (after March 1st)
- There is a *PRC Blog* available exclusively for Years 3-6. Students can access this blog (and their email) from home via the Student Portal <https://student.det.nsw.edu.au/>
- *House Points* will be given to students who participate. Students will receive 1 point for reading 10 books and 5 more points for completing the challenge (only 10 additional books). These points will combine with the sports points and go towards the Winning House at the end of the year.

Miss Hannaford ☺

Oakdale Public School Sporting News

We are already in full swing in the sporting arena this year with Aislinn D'Arcy and Caitlan McSavaney trying out for the Razorback basketball team this week and James Roberts trying out for the Sydney South West tennis team early next month. The school Swimming Carnival is being held this Wednesday at Wollondilly Leisure Centre, with the Cross Country Carnival being held in the last week of Term 1. The school Athletics Carnival will be held in Term 3 as the Zone Carnival is being held once again in September. As always students in Years 3-6 will be afforded the opportunity to compete in gala days this year.

This year we are running some exiting new sporting programs in conjunction with the Australian Sports Commission and the Active After-school Communities program. We will be conducting the program during school hours on a Wednesday and Friday

afternoon. In Term 1, Years 3 & 4 will be participating on Wednesdays and Years 5 & 6 on Fridays. As part of the program the school receives funding for sporting coaches and equipment as well as supplying healthy snacks to the children. The AASC program aims to provide primary school children with a positive and fun atmosphere, which motivates them to be active for life.

House Captains & Vice Captains 2014

House meetings were conducted last Friday to elect Captains and Vice Captains for the Thunderbolts and Meteorites for 2014. Students from K-6 were able to vote. Congratulations to the following students. Badges will be presented at the presentation assembly in Week 4.

Thunderbolts Boy Captain: Hassan Dirani

Thunderbolts Girl Captain: Sarah Hooper

Thunderbolts Boy Vice Captain: James Roberts

Thunderbolts Girl Vice Captain: Chelsea Nink

Meteorites Boy Captain: Casey Ramp

Meteorites Girl Captain: Shaylee Robinson

Meteorites Boy Vice Captain: Emmitt Carlile

Meteorites Girl Vice Captain: Ebonnie Brincat

Swimming Carnival

A reminder that the school swimming carnival is being held on Wednesday for 3-6 students and competent 8 year olds in Year 2 (competing in events only) at the Wollondilly Leisure Centre. **The bus will be leaving school at 9:30am sharp so please ensure your child is on time.** Students need to bring: sun cream, swimmers, change of underwear, towel, hat, sunglasses (optional), shoes (no sandals or thongs on the bus), lunch, recess, plenty of food and drink. Entry cost for spectators is \$2.50, so come and support your child. If you are able to assist with time-keeping or acting as a lifesaver please let Mr Luckman know. All assistance is greatly appreciated.

Razorback Representation

It is always encouraging to see lots of enthusiastic students trying out to represent at zone level for various sports (excluding swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals.) Most sports only allow 2 students from each school to try out. If students are selected to try out at zone level, transportation needs to be organised privately and not through the school. It should also be noted that if students make any Razorback, Sydney South West or State team, they must be available to attend all training sessions and of course the carnivals for that sport. Training sessions are normally held after school. If students are unable to attend training sessions or events (without good reason) they may face a 12 month ban from any further PSSA sporting representation. This policy is in place so as other students who would like to represent at higher levels, do not miss out on the opportunity.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM 1

Wednesday 5th February (Week 2) – School Swimming Carnival

Thursday 27th February (Week 5) – Zone Swimming Carnival

Friday 28th February (Week 5) – Zone Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 18th March (Week 8) – Regional Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 8th April (Week 11) – School Cross Country

Wednesday 9th April and Thursday 10th April (Week 11) – State Swimming

If your child has competed in any sporting events outside of school we want to know. Send the details to barry.luckman@det.nsw.edu.au or Dale.Barr@det.nsw.edu.au, so we can recognise all achievements of our students in and out of school. Alternatively, you can contact us at school.

Mr Luckman and Mr Barr
Sports Coordinators
