RESPECT TOLERANCE PERSONAL BEST COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE - MR TIM O’BRIEN - 67661677

Once again the school year at Oxley High School has come to an end. Throughout 2011 this school has experienced many successes across all facets of school life. These will be celebrated at our Presentation Night Awards on Monday 12 December at 7.00pm. I encourage all parents to attend to share in their child’s success.

In 2012 Oxley High School will see our school structure change from one of a focus on Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and Years 11 and 12 to a structure centred around Middle School (Years 7, 8 and 9) and Senior School (Years 10, 11 and 12). These changes are to embed literacy, numeracy, social development and leadership in the Middle School and to ensure academic rigour and more thorough preparation and readiness for students as they leave for tertiary education, further education at TAFE and enter the workforce.

We will also play a pivotal role in the newly formed Oxley Learning Community [OLC] representing a partnership with our primary schools, Tamworth Public, Oxley Vale Public and smaller schools. The OLC will focus on improving transition from Stage 3 to Year 7 and Middle School at Oxley High School.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P & C, all our parent volunteers and members of the wider school community who have supported our school in 2011.

On behalf of the staff I wish all our students and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Looking forward to the Year 2012.

Year 11 Geography on tour in Port Macquarie - What does the sign mean?

WE’VE BEEN TO BONNY HILLS

In Week 7, Year 11 Geography students undertook a three day field trip to Port Macquarie as part of their study of the HSC topic ‘Ecosystems at Risk’.

The students were accompanied by their Geography teachers Mr Redmayne, Mr Maltby and Mr Squires and accommodated at the Bonny Hills Conference Centre. The students had the opportunity to work with a number of field experts and completed a range of activities to further develop their understanding of wetland and rainforest ecosystems and the management issues affecting them.

The students all showed great maturity and perseverance in the completion of the fieldwork in wet conditions. Many students commented that “they enjoyed the serenity” and the ‘vibe’, particularly, in the ‘oxygen rich’ Sea Acres rainforest. Mention should be made of the disco bus. What an experience! Some of the students showed signs of disappointment, however, when Mr Maltby and Mr Redmayne once again took out the Bonny Hills Conference Centre Table Tennis Doubles’ Championships. Under the rules of the tournament, a lack of competent challengers and table, as was the case on this occasion, means the current titleholders retain the trophy. Mr Maltby and Mr Redmayne have held this title continuously for the last ten years.

The school is most grateful to parent, Mrs Louise Howard, who accompanied the group as girl’s supervisor and the Oxley P&C who provided subsidised travel for the group through their support of the School minibuses. All students are to be congratulated for the way that they represented Oxley on this excursion.

At Miners Beach - Notice the bitou bush
SELECTION IN NSW INDIGENOUS NETBALL SIDE
On Sunday 20 November 2011 Emma Gifford (Y8) and Makayla Gardner (Y11) trialled at Sydney Uni Sports and Aquatic Centre for the Junior Girls and Senior Girls State Indigenous Netball sides respectively. Both of the girls were recently viewed at the recent Koori Games and were asked to attend the trials based on their solid performances. Seven girls were invited to trial for the State side, called the ‘Echidnas’, from this area. Makayla made the run on side for the senior girls in the positions of Goal Keeper and Goal Defence. Emma was selected as shadow reserve for the junior side in the same positions.

Makayla is going to the Gold Coast Tallebudgera Leisure Centre on the 12-15 January 2012 to represent NSW in the tournament. Participation will double as a selection for the Australian Indigenous Schoolgirl Squad called ‘The Budgies’. This Indigenous Australian Team will compete in the Trans Tasman Challenge held in Adelaide later in the year. This is an outstanding achievement for both of the girls as there were 80 players vying for the positions. Well done girls and we wish Makayla all the best for the Australian selections in January.

CAREERS NEWS
1. Congratulations to the Year 10 CHACE class who, along with Tamworth High School students, celebrated a momentous year at their Presentation Day at TAFE last Friday. During the year, students studied Workplace Communication on Thursdays, whilst on Fridays they participated in a Trade course in Childcare, Hairdressing, Animal Care or Construction. Each student benefitted greatly by learning the skills and knowledge requirements towards a Certificate II in the career of their choice as well as becoming confident and mature potential employees. Cassandra Van Maanan spoke from a student’s perspective about her journey this year and each student was awarded a Certificate of Participation. Achievement Awards were presented to Bradley Way in Workplace Communication, Luke Abra for Construction and Tori Ridgeway for Childcare. As a direct result of this initiative, Dillon Forwood and Tylo Taylor are completing a three month probation period for an apprenticeship at Belmore Engineering.

2. Year 10 Work Experience Program - after completing the School Certificate, 100 students took the opportunity to discover what it is like to work in a business or industry of their choice. Oxley High School appreciates the effort of all the employers who participated in our program because they have contributed significantly towards shaping the future career goals of our students.

3. SBA/Ts - Congratulations to the students who have gained School Based Apprenticeships or Traineeships for 2012-13 - Caitlin Somerville at Colour by Numbers; Katlyn Pinchen at the Commonwealth Bank; William Faulkner, Lachlan Paddison and Andrew Swain at Peel Valley Machinery; Bradley Way at the National Australia Bank and Cameron Skewes is in the process of acquiring one in Agriculture. Students entering Year 11 who are planning a trade career may be able to work in paid employment for one day per week over the two senior years as they study a TVET course. At the end of Year 12, students will gain an HSC and will have completed one year of their Apprenticeship / Traineeship.

See Mrs Smith or Ms Dalley if interested.

OPEN GIRLS CRICKET
Oxley played Narrabri High in the Marie Cornish Trophy on Tuesday 6 December. Narrabri won the toss and batted first scoring 4/219 off their 40 overs. Paris Sharp (2-39) and Rebecca McGoldrick (1-15) being the best of the Oxley bowlers. In reply Oxley found the going tough against a strong Narrabri bowling line up. Oxley finished their 40 overs with the score at 5-98. The best for Oxley with the bat were Stephanie Court 19, Erin Skewes 15 and Paris Sharp 14 not out. The girls should be congratulated on their efforts and with a young side look promising in the years to come.

OXLEY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS STAR OF THE YEAR
AWARDS AND SPORTS TRIVIA NIGHT
Our School Trivia night is on tonight Friday 9 December commenting 6.45pm for 7.00pm start. Finger Food will be provided and drinks can be purchased throughout the night in our School Auditorium. This is a school function, strictly no alcohol is to be brought to this function. Enjoy the evening for those who are participating. This night sold out very quickly.

Thank you to those in advance for their support of the new format and to the many businesses that have supported the school with donations for prizes.

YEARS 7 AND 8 BOOK PACKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL CANTEEN FOR $20
SCHOOL DIARIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE FOR $10

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<tr>
<th>MONDAY 12 DECEMBER</th>
<th>TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 10: Oxley High School Presentation Night 7pm</td>
<td>Peer Buddy Training Duke of Edinburgh Award Tasmania - P Davis / B Bryan - OUT ALL WEEK</td>
<td>Peer Buddy Training Duke of Edinburgh Award</td>
<td>Assembly PDHPE/Science Duke of Edinburgh Award</td>
<td>Duke of Edinburgh Award LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS. ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY BREAK</td>
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