Welcome to the new school year

Tennis ace: Kaecia Beattie was selected from video footage to be one of 28 young indigenous tennis aces to be off to the Evonne Goolagong Development Camp in Melbourne in January.

Photo: Geoff O’Neill 21121502

Toy story: Oxley High students raised funds to purchase Christmas presents to be dispersed to less fortunate families in Tamworth through the Salvation Army and Uniting Care. Back, from left, Oxley High students Abby Rowlings, Emma Tarlinton, Ojaswi Shilpakar, Geordie Brown, Alexandra Haywood and Amy Zhou. Front, from left, Lorraine Furze from the Uniting church, Annie O’Regan and Vivienne Kings from Salvation Army and Fay Gifford from the Uniting church.

Photo: Gareth Gardner 111215GGB001

Wonderful gesture to end 2015

Drama excursion: In the first week of Term One, Mr McInnes, Mrs Hill and six lucky Drama students travelled to Sydney to see Roald Dahl's Matilda at the Lyric Theatre. They also attended the Seymour Centre to see OnSTAGE which is a selection of the top HSC drama performances from the previous year.

Devising theatre: This is about opening up the imagination of performers and empowering them in the act of creating through performing. The Senior Drama students were involved in this workshop to provide a platform in which they can start to explore their HSC group project. The workshop was centred on using two hours to create a mini group devised piece that was shown to the rest of the class at the end of the session.
Welcome to 2016 at Oxley High School. I trust that everyone in our community has had a wonderful Christmas and is well rested for another exciting year at Oxley.

School Enrolment and Limited Places at Oxley:
2016 has seen the student enrolment grow from 900 to 935 students with places becoming extremely limited in Years 7-10. Essentially our enrolment for this year is full in the Middle School with waiting lists in operation. With growth in enrolments we are mindful of Oxley High School valuing students, through strong education, welfare and social programs so that students feel connected to our school community.

Valuing your place in our great School: In saying this I ask every student, parent and carer to demonstrate that they value their place at this wonderful school by:
• Supporting the wearing of the uniform every day.
• Communicating positive stories about Oxley High school with children, staff and the community.
• Ensuring that students have the full access to the curriculum by supplying pens, pencils, books etc.
• Supporting the teachers to have high standards of student work and behaviour.
• Paying both the elective and school fees in full and on time.
• Supporting whole school cultural events such as International Night, Knockout Sports and Performance Nights.
• Being active members of committees and teams such as P&C, House Captains, etc.

Congratulations to our School Representatives:
I wish to congratulate the following students on their representative selections for sport and cultural activities:
• Keasha Beattie  • Lara Graham  • Tom Fitzgerald
• Samantha Schuberth  • Matt Bryant
I am sure that we will hear some excellent personal stories of success and look forward to the list of successful students grow over the coming year.

Principal to meet with all of our new Students:
I will be seeking to meet with all Year 7 students this term to discuss their beginnings at Oxley. I look forward to meeting everyone in Year 7 and hearing some great stories of their transition to High School.

Year 12 HSC and Australia Day successes:
On behalf of Oxley High School I would like to extend my congratulations to all of our HSC students for 2015. Our results saw Toby Harradine achieve an excellent ATAR above 93 and a number of students following closely behind him. Of note were the results of Lea Gilchrist, Ryan McDonald, Courtney Mead, Jake Read, Jack Reading, Matt Hollinworth and Kirsten Thomas. Band 6 HSC Results were awarded to Tom Byrnes, Lea Gilchrist, Toby Harradine, Ethan Latsinos and Courtney Mead. The 2015 HSC class was the significant improvement of HSC results for the middle cohort of students; some students improving up to 10 marks on estimated NAPLAN results.

I would like also to take the time to congratulate Toby Harradine on being awarded the Tamworth Young Australian of the Year. Toby is an excellent choice for this award and I wish him (and all of our Year 12 graduates) all the best for their future.

Oxley Clontarf Academy Rugby League Afternoon:
The Oxley Clontarf Academy will host the Armidale Clontarf Academy on Wednesday 10th February at 3:30pm in the afternoon. I look forward to watching our Academy playing at “Fortress Oxley” (refurbished sporting field) and seeing these young men represent our school with pride. All interested families are invited to attend and support our team.

50 Years of Oxley High School Celebration: As the time draws closer to the 50th year of Oxley High School, I would like to now ask people in the community who have had an association with Oxley High School (either as a past student, teacher or parent) to contact the school if you are interested in being part of our 50 Year celebration Committee. Please contact the school on 67661677 and leave your contact details. We will contact you with the details of when we will seek to organise this exciting event on our (not too distant) school calendar.

New Staff at Oxley High School: A warm welcome to the following new and returned staff:
• Mr Davis – Back to PDHPE after a year in Canada
• Mr Ash – Back to TAS after Long Service Leave
• Mr Kennedy – English Faculty
• Mr Rowlings – PDHPE Faculty
• Ms Lewin – Literacy and Numeracy support in English Faculty
• Ms Steep – English Faculty
• Ms Holder – English Faculty
• Ms Beckinsale – HSIE Faculty
• Ms Byrnes Reeves – Maths Faculty
• Mr Staines – TAS Faculty
Updating your School Records for 2016:
• Family address
• Phone numbers
• Child’s living arrangements
• Desire for your child to attend Special Religious Education lessons (scripture)
• Permission for your child to have photos in the Newsletter, School Magazine (Quest) or appear in any other types of media.

Please contact Oxley High School as soon as possible if there are any changes to the above. We ask every family to ensure that all documentation is corrected and returned to the school.

School Finance and Fees: Please ensure that you are talking with your child and Oxley High School regarding the payment of Elective Fees. The Head Teachers will begin to distribute information regarding fee payment to students in the coming days and your support during this process is need and very much appreciated.

The collection of fees ensures that we can purchase the appropriate material and resources early in the year to minimise costs to families and ensure that courses are continually updated.

In cases where fees have not been paid in time, students have been excluded from extra-curricular activities such as school representation and non-mandatory excursions, not been allowed to purchase Year 12 jumpers or attend the Year 12 Formal dinner and/or have had their elective changed to a non-fee paying course.

If your family is having difficulty paying fees, please contact the school and we will organise a fee payment schedule which will ensure that your child is able to participate in the full range of activities that Oxley High School has to offer.

I look forward to sharing some great stories of our school's success over the coming year.

Yours sincerely,
2016 Interschool Chess Tournament

Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School Tamworth
Wednesday, 16th March 2016

Registration is from 8:30am – 9:15am on the day of the tournament. Round 1 begins at 9:30am. Prize giving will commence at approximately 2:00pm.

Format: Individual 'Swiss' competition with 7 rounds, meaning that no-one is knocked out of the tournament. Schools may enter any number of players and the winning school is determined by adding the 4 highest scorers from each school.

Time Limit: Chess clocks will be used in this event, with a time limit of 15 minutes per player per game. There will be a short demonstration on the use of chess clocks before the start of the tournament. We have chess clocks so interested students can practice playing with them.

Prizes: Trophies will be awarded for the top scoring players: 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, 4th Place and 5th Place. Trophies will also be given out to the top 3 placed schools in each heat. All participants in the tournament will receive a certificate of participation. The top 3 schools from each heat will qualify for the Regional Semi-Finals, held in Term 3.

Cost: $21

Collect entry form and note from Mrs Chaffey in the Library BEFORE Thursday, March 10th

Enjoy playing Chess? Want to compete against other schools? See Mrs Chaffey (Library) ASAP

Do you have a daughter who likes to DANCE?

Tamworth BJP Physie Club offers affordable dance classes for girls and Ladies aged 3 years and up.

Fun, upbeat, pop music is the soundtrack to a sport that fuses together dance styles such as jazz, ballet, hip hop, contemporary, aerobic dance and even yoga!

We promote fitness and self confidence in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

Come and give Physie a try! Your first lesson is FREE!!

Classes are held at St Patrick’s Hall, Denison Street Tamworth.

View our website at: www.tamworthphysie.com, or visit our facebook page (Tamworth BJP Physie Club) or contact Jenny on 0414806269 for further information.

TAMWORTH FOOTBALL CLUB REGISTRATION

Players from all ages are welcome to register to play football (soccer) with Tamworth FC for the 2016 season.

Online registrations can be completed at www.myfootballclub.com.au from the 1st February 2016.

Tamworth Football Club is also conducting registration days at Gipps St fields on the following dates:

- Tuesday 9th February 4:00pm – 5:30pm
- Tuesday 23rd February 4:00pm – 5:30pm
- Saturday 27th February TBA
- Tuesday 8th March 4:00pm – 5:30pm

If you would like any further information in regards to the 2016 season registrations, please contact the club via email at tamworthfc@northerninlandfootball.net.au

Hillvue Rovers Football and Sporting Club
Registration Day for all players:
- 5 years to Seniors are welcome.
- Wednesday 17 February 2016 from 4 pm to 6pm
- Wednesday 24 February 2016 from 4 pm to 6pm
- Wednesday 2 March 2016 from 4pm to 6pm
- All on Field 16 at the Gipps Street Field

For information call ALF SMALL - 67664144 or VERONICA FULWOOD - 0427607272
Oxley P&C Association

Welcome to the 2016 school year. A big welcome to all our new families starting at Oxley this year, we look forward to meeting you at some stage during the year at one of our meetings or events or while volunteering in the Canteen.

Our first general meeting for the year will be held on Monday, 22nd February 2016 at 6.45pm in the meeting room (in front of the Principal’s Office in Macquarie Block).

We will later hold our Year 7 Welcome BBQ starting at 6pm on Wednesday, 23rd March followed by a Welcome Disco in the hall. While the children enjoy the Disco, join us at 6.45pm for a cuppa and light supper during the March P & C meeting in the meeting room in the Macquarie Block.

The March meeting will be our AGM and all positions will be declared vacant. We have positions that need filling so if you would like to take an active role in your child’s school then please come along – you will be made feel very welcome.

Memberships cost $1 and to be able to vote at the AGM you will need to pay this fee prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Oxley Canteen

It has been a great start to the year with quite a few new parents and grandparents volunteering in the Canteen. We still need a few more, especially on a Thursday when we have no volunteers at all. So if you can spare a few hours once a month, once a fortnight or once a week please call the Canteen directly on 67661131, leave your name and contact details at the Front Office or email us at the new Canteen email address: oxleyhighcanteen@gmail.com

It makes such a difference having two parents helping out at the same time instead of just one.

Online Ordering - Don’t forget to register for ordering at: www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au

We would love to see many more parents, students and staff using the system, so please go to and register today (see attached information). We still have a lot of children arriving later at the lunch break, especially on a Friday and we have run out of hot food.

Please encourage your children to order either online or face to face at the canteen before school starts or even at recess to ensure they are getting something other than chips and yoghurt sticks to eat at lunchtime.

REMEMBER TO PARENTS: Your child requires a note from parent/guardian to obtain a Leave Pass. Do not just turn up and ask to take your child out as this takes a long time to find the student and get them out of class.

Special Note: Phone the school for after-school change of plans for EMERGENCY changes only.
OXLEY COMMUNITY TOUR
TO KENYA JULY 2016
Ex-Oxley student, Michael Hawthorne, has set up three NGO’s (Charities) in Kenya, one of which includes a school at Rang’i.

A group from Tamworth has been travelling to Kenya each July school holidays since 2009 to do volunteer work at the school as well as see some of Kenya. The first group consisted entirely of Oxley High School students, staff and family. Subsequently other school and community members have also become involved.

The 2016 Tour will be from 30th June to 17th July. It includes a visit to the Elephant Orphanage, the Kenyan National Museum, the Giraffe sanctuary, a 2 day Safari in the Masai Mara, a guided visit to a slum, working and living at the St Jennifer Hawthorne Samber Quality School, Friends of Rang’i Community Resource Centre and SEP community resource Centre for 9 days, building a mud hut, plus lots more.

The size of group is limited to 12. Deposits are already being taken.

For more information contact Mrs Jenny Hawthorne at: jenny.hawthorne@friendsofrangi.org or pick up a copy of the itinerary and costing from Mrs Chaffey in the Library.

OXLEY HIGH SCHOOL
2016 SWIMMING CARNIVAL
A NORMAL DAY 9 TIMETABLE WILL RUN ON THE SWIMMING CARNIVAL DAY.
Please be prepared for all of your periods on this day!

SWIMMING CARNIVAL. Thursday 25 February at the Tamworth Town Pool.

Students are expected to attend school on the Thursday and then the Swimming Carnival until 8pm that night. If you have a VALID reason as to why you need to leave the carnival before 8pm, you need to complete a form found inside the PE staffroom on the sports note board. This needs to be completed, signed by your parent and returned to your PC Teacher BEFORE WEDNESDAY. It will then be decided by the Principal if your request is approved or not.

PLEASE NOTE: NO LEAVE PASSES WILL BE GIVEN ON THE DAY OF THE CARNIVAL.

Notice to Parents Regarding Year 7 Vaccinations
Vaccinations will be taking place at Oxley High School on the 14th March, 2016.

All Year 7 students will receive a Consent and Information Package.

Parent Information Kit includes:

• Frequently asked questions
• Information about each of the vaccines
• Privacy Statement
• Checklist
• One single consent form

Students will need to return the consent form on the day of the Vaccinations.

If a student says they do not require a vaccine they will still be given an information package to take home for their parents/ guardians to read through.

In 2016 vaccination will be offered to Year 7 students and any Year 8 student who commenced vaccination last year and remains incomplete in 2016.

Vaccines offered in 2016: for ALL Year 7 Students.

• Varicella vaccine (chicken pox) as a single dose - for any student who has not been previously vaccinated or had chickenpox disease

• Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) (dTpa) adult vaccine – as a single dose to all year 7 students who have not received a previous adult dose. This should be considered the first adult booster against these diseases.

• Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine – in a 3-dose schedule with 2 month gap between doses 1 & 2 and a 4 month gap between doses 2 & 3.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
StudentCover Student Accident Insurance
This important protection is available for just $29 per year.
StudentCover is only available online.

For further information and to apply, go to: www.studentcover.com.au