



A New World of Learning...

ORANGE ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

22 March 2019

From the Deputy Headmaster....

I feel like the last 2 weeks at OAGS should perhaps be called 'community fortnight' thanks to the very public and deliberate wellbeing initiatives that our student body have engaged with. The National Day of Action against bullying in week 7, followed by Harmony day in week 8 showcased a united acknowledgement of the need for solidarity in taking a stand against bullying and discrimination.



Of course, working against such divisive forces for an hour here or a moment there is only a small part of what it takes to develop school culture. We are after-all working with children as young as four and as old as 18 who are faced with a world full of choices that oftentimes rewards selfish behaviour as a means to 'get ahead' at another person's expense. It is almost as if we are hard-wired to fall into this pattern of behaviour and before we know it, people and relationships are hurting. As adults we know too well that human nature, no matter the age, will oftentimes manifest with the ugly behaviours of bullying and exclusion. I am proud to be associated with a school that is committed to raising awareness and taking a stand against such behaviours. Indeed, it was a privilege to witness our Year 11 students present at Primary School Assembly by engaging their younger peers in identifying bullying behaviours and trouble-shooting how to respond to them.

Having celebrated these important moments, it is with excitement that we are now only a week away from the OAGS Easter Fair. Yet another day where we down tools and invest in one another as a school community. Please remember that all parents and friends of the school are invited to join us from **11:30am** in the new covered Hard Courts area for an Easter Parade, and then to join with us for lunch and the Easter Fair in the afternoon. Please note we have built into the day an hour for our community to enjoy each



It's a date...

For all of our important dates please visit the live calendar on the Website

SS AICES Swimming Carnival
26 March 2019

OAGS Athletics Carnival
Postponed

OAGS Easter Fair
29 March 2019

252ACU Cadet Camp
30 – 31 March 2019

WAS Netball Trials
4 April 2019

Mixed All Schools Touch Football
5 April 2019

Stage 3 Camp, Burrendong
1 - 5 April 2019

Stage 4 Urban Challenge
8 – 12 April 2019

Year 9 Somerset Camp
8 – 12 April 2019

Year 10 Urban Odyssey
8 – 12 April 2019

End of Term 1
12 April 2019

Anzac Day
25 April 2019

Stay in touch...

Facebook www.facebook.com/orangegrammar/

Website <http://www.oags.nsw.edu.au/>

Parent Portal <https://edumate.orangegrammar.nsw.edu.au/>

other's company over some food. Please come along and support the PnF BBQ that will be open to parents from **12pm**, as well as the all-important coffee van! So, do come if you possibly can, and purchase some lunch and a coffee from 12pm and enjoy connecting with other parents from the OAGS community. Between 12-1pm students will be back in classes so you won't have to compete with them for a place in line!



Safety first!

The morning drop off times can be particularly busy in the bottom car park adjacent to the Administration and Transition buildings. This is just a friendly reminder to please avoid walking/running across the carpark road, and when exiting your vehicle please use the footpaths adjacent to each side of the car park.

We love visitors!

At OAGS we love visitors. Schools are at their best when they are an extension of the community and not an isolated 'drop off' point for students. However, as part of our WHS requirements and duty of care, it is vital that we know who is on campus and when. Could you please assist us with this by ensuring that whenever you need to visit the school campus and come onsite (ie. through a gate and onto the grounds themselves) that you *come via the front office* and make sure one of the Admin team knows that you're here. Most of the time if you're staying onsite for a period of time you will be required to sign in - it only takes 30 seconds. If you're dropping off a forgotten lunch, hat or piece of homework etc., the ladies will likely point you in the right direction and a sign-in may not be required. I understand that this may at times be inconvenient, but in the interests of ensuring that we can account for all persons on the campus, and justify their presence, it is important that we all commit to this process. Happy weekend to all, I look forward to seeing you next Friday.

Warm Regards,

Mr Scott Hazelton
Deputy Headmaster

Wellbeing @ OAGS

Harmony Day 2019

Harmony Day is held each year on March 21st. It's a day to celebrate our cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

The message of Harmony Day is WE ALL BELONG. Read more about our fabulous celebration here: <https://www.oags.nsw.edu.au/single-post/2019/03/21/Harmony-Day-2019-OAGS>



Save the Date!
Wellness Night - 10th April
Topic: 'Caring for our Carers'
More information to follow

Mr Keith Macleay
Leader of Wellbeing

Teacher and Parent Relationships

Most back-to-school articles are focused on children returning to classrooms. But what about teachers and parents? Shouldn't we spend time getting prepared, inspired, and motivated for the school year? When all adults are equipped with mindsets to facilitate learning, children will get a good education.

We must view parents and teachers as partners in education. Why? As philosopher George Santayana simply said, "A child educated only at school is an uneducated child." When both groups are inspired to facilitate learning, children are the winners.

Recently, the Welfare Team participated in a Professional Development day which, among other things, highlighted the importance of shared responsibility between home and school. There were some strategies discussed around what effective communication looks like between parents and teachers.

Communication is a key element of a successful relationship. OAGS uses phone calls, face-to-face meetings and email as primary methods to communicate between home and school.

Effective interactions between teachers and parents should include the following key elements:

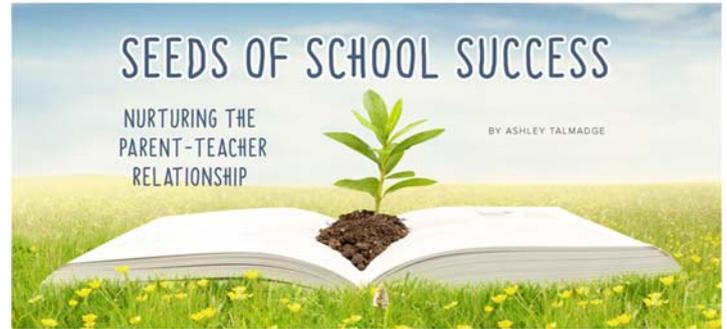
- Active listening between both parties
- Polite and respectful manner
- Asking questions to clarify understanding
- Agree upon a course of action to move forward in a positive way
- Keep confidential when necessary

Sometimes there are factors that can affect the relationship you have with your child/children's teacher, some of these may be;

- Cultural beliefs
- Negative childhood experiences
- Unsure about how to express concerns
- A belief that criticisms or questions will put your child at a disadvantage
- Expectations

It is our hope at Orange Anglican Grammar, that we can bridge those barriers and work together in a positive partnerships with you all.

Mrs. Lisa Fowler
Primary Welfare



Science Update

Science is off to a great start for the year and students in the secondary school are enjoying being hands-on in their scientific discoveries. From magnetic races and playdough shape competitions to determining the amount of energy in the food we eat and how effective antacids can be- it's all happening in the science labs at Orange Anglican Grammar School!

Year 7 have particularly enjoyed obtaining their Bunsen burner licences and are keen to put their new skills to use.



Recently there were no shortages of volunteers when it came to double blind taste testing trials for the Year 12 Investigating Science assessment task.



Keep up the good work young scientists. The sky is the limit if we keep those inquisitive minds open and active.

Mrs Kate Collins
Science Teacher

Sports Department@OAGS

Congratulations

Term 1 has seen a number of our students selected in representative sporting teams in a range of sports. A huge congratulations to following students for their achievements so far:

Ben Polley - Open Primary HICES Football Team

Brooke Windus - Under 15 WAS Hockey

Jock Johnston - Open WAS Touch

Harry Buckland - Open WAS Touch

Andrew Ingham - U15 WAS Touch

Hailey Spirit-Jones - Open WAS Basketball

Harry Taylor - Open WAS Touch

Oscar Watson - Open WAS Touch

Kynan Lane - Open WAS Touch

Nate Lee - U15 WAS Touch

Good luck to the touch players and footballers who will be competing to be selected for AICES and CIS after the holidays

Touch Football Gala Day

On Friday 8th of March our secondary boys and girls Touch Football teams headed to Waratahs Sports Fields for the 2019 Connaughton Cup Touch Football gala day. All games were played in good spirit and after a few wins in the mixed touch rounds, OAGS managed to secure 3rd place overall. A highlight was a particularly close final game against Canobolas Rural Technology High School with our mixed team claiming a 5-4 victory right on the final siren. Tom Dale also took home an individual prize after winning the Open Boys fastest player race. Well done to all.

HICES Swimming

In Week 6 our Primary Swim Team made the annual overnight trip to the 2019 HICES Swimming Championships. The team represented the school with pride and came home with an impressive collection of ribbons. In saying that, what was even more impressive was the incredible improvements that all of our swimmers made to their personal best times!



Senior Boys Basketball – The Band Keeps Playing....

This last week the Senior Boys Basketball team played their Semi-Final in a knockout, loser goes home elimination game and they did not disappoint. Despite getting off to a slow start, the team kept their composure and, after Harry "Buckets" Buckland drained our first points of the game on a put-back offensive rebound, the flood gates opened.

As with most weeks we had contributions from everybody, especially on a night when Tim Phiri's usually reliable shot was not on song. In a testament to Tim's resolve, he channelled his inner Allen Iverson, whom also lost his shooting touch in the 2001 Eastern Conference Finals. Like Iverson, Tim impacted the game with his heart, passing and rebounding. The most memorable of which was a full-court pass through two defenders to Ryan Chirenje for a fast-break finger-roll lay-up. It was also a call back to my previous article, as it was reminiscent of a Stockton to Malone game winning play in the 1997 NBA Finals and is great to see us playing fundamentally sound basketball.

Campbell Preston was a presence on the boards, cleaning both offensive and defensive glass. He also had a highlight of the game with a volleyball style spike block, which let Kinross know that if they were to venture into the paint our bigs would be waiting to send their shots into the bleachers.

Oliver Colgan as always brought his all-around game on both ends of the floor, which was instrumental in us getting out to a big lead. Jock Johnston ignited our offensive, which if not for his constant cutting and movement without the ball, would have been stagnant. This is something that we can all learn from as an offensive predicated on constant movement will result in easy baskets. Aaran Maxon brought calmness and composure to us during some fraught moments in the game and has really improved his playmaking ability in recent weeks. Last, but certainly not least was Harry Taylor, whose ball handling prowess and playmaking ability led to the conversion of transition baskets, keeping us in the lead to stay.

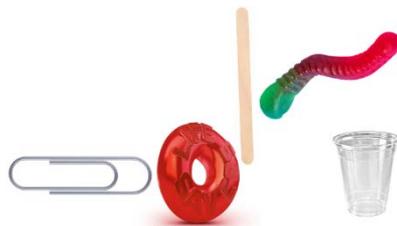
We move on to another elimination round this coming Monday, it would be great to get a crowd of supporters to cheer us on. A big thanks to our cheer squad this last week, they know who they are (Luca, Brooke and Zac), your support is greatly appreciated.



Mr Luke Simkins
Coach of Basketball

Saving Sam - LEAP@OAGS 2019

This last week, Junior LEAP participated in a problem-solving challenge, which required both higher-order thinking skills and an ability to work as part of a team. Randomly, students chose slips of paper to form four teams of three and were given the following resources:



- 1 Gummy worm – Sam
- 1 Life-Saver – life vest
- 1 plastic cup – boat
- 1 paddle pop stick – oar
- 1 paper clip per group member

Teams had to place the life vest under the cup (which was flipped over). Sam was to be placed on top of the cup, along with his oar. The desk around Sam's boat was water and Sam was unable to swim. Sam was a living thing and thus cannot be poked or ripped. Groups could only touch the paper clips and only use these to interact with Sam, his boat and the life vest.

The goal of the challenge was for the group to save Sam by getting the life vest out from under the boat and onto him, using only the paper clips provided. Each member of the group had to also be physically involved in the challenge at all times, otherwise the challenge would reset and they would have to start from the beginning again.



A maximum of 25 LEAP points were up for grabs for the team that placed first, with an extra five points available for any team who completed the challenge in under five minutes. All teams struggled at the start, with all four having to reset more than twice. Another point of contention was communication and working with others whom students did not usually gravitate towards. The team of Bridget, Amelie and Luke took out first place in the challenge and also came in just under five minutes to earn the five bonus points. All teams finished the challenge, however, due to Isla's squashing her team's Sam through the Life-Saver, I am pretty sure he is currently on life-support!

At the conclusion of the task, we were able to have a very rich conversation about the trials and tribulations faced and ultimately overcome. I was very impressed by the participation of all members in the discussion and support for each other during this process. One example is that students believed that some of their more undesirable traits came to the forefront during this challenge. For instance, they all agreed that their default mode can



sometimes be one in which blame is assigned to others, rather than reflecting upon their own shortcomings, particularly when the chips are down. Ultimately, students came to the conclusion that there is not a need to always assign blame to others or ourselves and that it is much better to be open with others, express our feelings, stress less and enjoy challenges that present themselves in both work and play.

Mr Luke Simkins
Coordinator of LEAP

Transition News

It has been another busy couple of weeks for the Transition Turtles. This week we have been exploring our senses, as part of our unit 'Our Differences Make Us Who We Are'. To support our learning, we had a visit from Mr. Goodacre and his guide dog Obie. There were lots of questions and excitement from the students. I apologise to Transition parents for the resulting request for a puppy!





We did some listening experiments using balloons and metal coat hangers and we used our sense of taste to taste foods whilst we closed our eyes. This led to a discussion about how much our eyes help us when we eat.



We also have been exploring our sense of touch and building our vocabulary to describe the touch sensation with fluffy sand (sand with shaving cream). We explored how sound travels through air, wood and metal, and used lots of adjectives to describe how fluffy sand feels.



In addition, this week we had a visit from Net Waste's Early Learning Team who shared information and taught us about litter and its impact on our community.

Mrs Sally Drury
Early Learning Coordinator



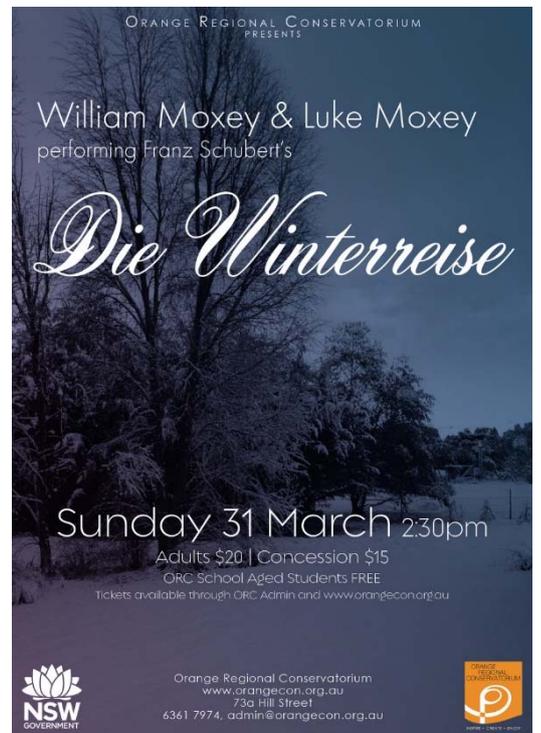
[Click HERE to learn an instrument at OAGS](#)

OAGS' vocal tutor Mr Bill Moxey in concert:

Franz Schubert's masterpiece 'Die Winterreise' performed by William Moxey and Luke Moxey. Father and son duo, William (voice) and Luke Moxey (piano) perform the much loved work 'Die Winterreise'. The second of the two great song cycles on Müller poems, Die Winterreise conjures a dark winter landscape, a reflection of the state of mind of the composer during its completion just one year before his death.

[Buy tickets HERE](#)

Mr Noel Annett





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Friends of the Orange Botanic Gardens
PLANT SALE

Sunday 7 April 2019
from 8.30am to 12.00noon
at Orange Botanic Gardens propagation area
*Bird walk from 8.30am to 10.00am
Meet at the function centre OBG*

2019
OAGS
EASTER
FAIR

It is with great anticipation that we invite you to attend the Orange Anglican Grammar School 2019 Easter Fair. It is our sincere hope and prayer that we can gather together as a community for Easter and celebrate heartily this most significant of events in the Christian Calendar.

All the fun of a fair will be there.

Face painting, lucky dips, LIVE MUSIC, nail painting, hair streaking, ice cream and a giant book stall. Additionally, some external providers will be onsite with jumping castles, bungee runs and cliff hanger activities. We will have an amazing P&F GOURMET BBQ ~~and~~ food providers such as coffee vans, fairy floss, popcorn and snow-cones. See you there!

FRIDAY
MARCH
29TH

@ 1PM –
3PM



Winter Wellness

Before the cold weather hits join us to learn how to boost your family's immunity naturally

Christine & Bec will show you how to make

- cough syrup
- immune boosting rub
- hand sanitiser

Come and explore family wellness naturally with dōTERRA essential oils

<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/winterwellness>

Tuesday 26 March 10:30am at Pee Wee's Play Centre

Tuesday 26 March 2pm at Byng Street Local Store

Tuesday 26 March 7:30pm at The Oriana

Wednesday 27 March 10:30am at Cafe Connect

Wednesday 27 March 2pm at Byng Street Local Store

Wednesday 27 March 7:30pm at The Oriana

Follow **Christine Chiarella Wellness** on Facebook & Instagram
Enquiries christine.chiarella.wellness@gmail.com or 0414486452

These are ticketed events due to demand & limited class sizes. Tickets are \$10pp and include a gift bag and a drink on arrival (or entry for 1 child to Pee Wee's Play Centre). Children of all ages welcome!

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