

Dear Parents/Carers

FOOD FOR FARMERS CHRISTMAS APPEAL: BEGINS WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2019



We invite the community to join us in donating non-perishable foods to the drought appeal. Please throw a few extra non-perishable goods into the shopping trolley at

your next shop. These goods will be given to 'Our Plate to Their Paddocks'. Further information follows in the newsletter.

Summer Holidays:

Last day for students Wednesday 18 December 2020.

School resumes:

Year 1-6 Wednesday 29 January 2019.
Kindergarten begins Monday 3 February 2020.



OPAL Card Usage

I have received a letter from the bus company urging me to remind bus users to tap on and off the bus daily. In order to justify and maintain the bus service to our school, Hills Bus, must supply data to Transport NSW of patronage. This data is predominantly via the OPAL card. Please ensure your children have their OPAL card with them every day and use these appropriately.

Year 6 Prepare for High School

This week our students are preparing for high school. Their day has been divided up into periods, each subject with a designated teacher. Students carry all their belongings around with them, moving around the school at the designated time. They are required to read a timetable, arrive to class on time, move around the school independently and responsibly and be prepared for the lesson. This is a small taste of high school life, and an experience we hope will support their transition to high school.

The G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S Challenge

School teams are made up of students who exhibit advanced abilities across the curriculum. Over the course of a day teams rotate through a number of Challenge activities. The focus is on teamwork over individual performance. Each child has an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in one of the challenges. Strong emphasis is placed on creativity, lateral thinking and problem-solving skills. This year three Stage 2 teams entered the competition. Each team creates their own name. They were The Academic Acorns; Harine R, George T, Elizabeth W and Hannah P. The Academic Acorns were

Dates for your Diary

Week 7

Wednesday 27 November

Kindy & 1S Gymnastics
Band Gala Night 6:30pm at
Cherrybrook Technology High
School

Thursday 28 November

K-2 Assembly – Hall 2:00pm
Kindy 2020 Orientation
Year 6 Band and Choir
Students – Music Orientation -
Cherrybrook Technology High
School

Friday 29 November

Scripture & Ethics
Christmas Service Rehearsal
Summer PSSA Semi finals

Week 8

Monday 2 December

Year 2 Swimming Scheme – all
week

Tuesday 3 December

Year 6 High School Orientation
9:00am – 11:00am

Wednesday 4 December

Kindy & 1S Gymnastics –
double sessions

Thursday 5 December

3-6 Assembly – Hall 1:50pm
Helpers Thank You Morning
Tea – Hall 10:30am

Friday 6 December

Scripture – Combined
Christmas Service & Ethics
Summer PSSA Grand Finals

commended for the respectful and thoughtful way they communicated with one another, as well as their approach, The Smart Squirrels; Daniel L, Max C, Madeleine W and Isabel M. The Smart Squirrels were placed 8th in the challenge and are congratulated for staying calm under pressure, remaining focused and resilient and The Distinguished Dragons; Edric F, Jacob A, Bill W, Kyan R, came 3rd in this heat of the challenge. GATEWAYS leaders commented on how well prepared, focused and organised they were as a team. They kept calm, delegated according to strengths and displayed an exceptional ability to strategies and think creatively. We are thrilled for all these students and hope the experience continues to motivate them to apply their knowledge to solve world class problems of the future. We thank Mrs Paterson for her guidance in preparing these teams.

Year 2 Swimming Scheme

This very worthwhile program began this week. Ten days of intensive tuition is extremely effective in improving students' swimming skills. Furthermore, it begins to teach students important life skills such as independence and responsibility. Please allow your children to practice skills such as towel drying themselves, getting dressed independently, brushing their own hair and packing their own bag. I expect that these students will sleep very well over the next two weeks. Many thanks to our coordinating teachers and the teachers who have volunteered to get in the pool with our students.

Extreme Weather

Sydney experienced some extreme weather conditions last week, with fierce winds and dust and smoke. In such circumstances, be assured the welfare of our students and staff is paramount. We assess the conditions outside and decide to either keep students indoors or allow them to play outdoors in safe areas of the school. This is exactly what occurred last week.

Planning for 2020

Planning for 2020 is well underway and as always it is critical that we receive information to assist us in this process. **If you are planning on withdrawing your child/ren from the school at the end of this year, you must advise us in writing now. Also, please advise us in writing, if your child/ren will be late to start the new school year.** It is a government requirement that we are informed of the school your children will be attending in the future. Also, if you have a child beginning Kindergarten next year or know of a neighbour with a child starting school, please ensure the school office is contacted regarding enrolment.

Betty Ploeg
Principal

Wellbeing Wednesday Christmas Appeal

This year, we will be asking our students and the community to show kindness to our farmers. Last year we collected toys from families and donated them to the Salvation Army to give to less fortunate children. This year, we will be collecting non-perishable food items to be given to the farmers, who are struggling during the drought. With our help, many families will be able to enjoy the holiday season, without the worry of having enough food. **Please ensure you check the expiry date.**

During the week before Wellbeing Wednesday, from Wednesday 4 December, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable foods, which our Year 6 students will be packing into boxes, ready to be collected by an organisation called 'Our Plate to Their Paddock'. This charity was started by Tahlia Cowan, a local teenager, to help others. For more information please click on the link:

<https://9now.nine.com.au/today/tahlia-cowan-and-simone-cowan-campaign-to-help-australian-farmers-struggling-in-the-drought/cd85fbb8-772f-430a-bf90-c9c00edb5e22>

Tahlia has agreed to come and speak with our students on Thursday 12 December when she collects our donations. This will be a great message of practising kindness and initiative for our students.

The community response last year was overwhelming in their generosity, so let's do it again this year. **From next Wednesday, please bring in one, two or more items of non-perishable foods and leave in the COLA.** This is a



wonderful opportunity for children to be involved in practising kindness by giving to others less fortunate. Let's change the world for our farmers with kindness. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Helen Paris
Deputy Principal

Wellbeing – LEARN IT, LIVE IT, TEACH IT!

Quality Relationships and Wellbeing



“Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.” — James M Barrie.

Choose Kindness

You may have noticed that our electronic sign has been referring to the Golden Rule and reminding us all to choose kindness. Research shows that when people show kindness towards others, they improve their own wellbeing. At Oakhill Drive, we discuss and practise the Golden Rule: Treat others as you would like to be treated” and we encourage students to be kind to others.

Below is an excerpt from Luke McKenna from Unleashing Personal Potential and his excellent book “Making Wellbeing Practical”.



Kindness can be defined as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Affection, gentleness, warmth, concern, and care are all associated with kindness. People who are kind and compassionate are usually the most successful (Brooks, 2011). Kindness is an interpersonal skill and can be learned through trained repetition. Being kind to others improves our wellbeing, connectedness and makes us happier (Lyubomirsky, 2008). There are many ways to bring about the benefits of kindness into our lives. We can perform random acts of kindness, or write down when people show kindness to us. We can also perform acts of kindness that are not random, but are deliberately directed towards others, when we notice an opportunity. Another very powerful way for us to foster more kindness in our lives is to think of times that we ourselves have been kind to others. In a study done by Adam Grant at Wharton Business school (2013), people who were asked to remember the times that they themselves had been kind, gave more generously to others than those people who were asked to remember times when others had been kind to them. Recalling our actions of kindness helps us reinforce and build a vivid self-image of ourselves as a kind person. We then find ways to live up to the ‘kind person’ image and become more kind.

An example of activities that we include in our Positive Education lessons: Kindness Catching

1. Think of three times that you have been kind to others in the past.
2. Go through each of the three memories and visualise it in your mind. Think of the way you felt at the time and how the person responded to your kindness.
3. Now write down those three times you have been kind, giving as many details as you remember.

Celebrations

We will hold our end of year Presentation Day Assembly at Cherrybrook Technology High School on Monday 9 December. We will transport all students K-6 via bus to and from this event. Permission notes have been sent home. A copy can be found on our school website in the 'School Notes' tab. Some students in each class will be recognised by an award during this assembly. Our student leadership team (Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects) will also be announced.

Our Sport Celebration Assembly will be held at school on Friday 13 December. All students in Years 2-6 will attend. Once again, we will be celebrating the sporting achievements of our students and announcing the House Captains and House Vice Captains.

All families are invited to attend both of these celebrations. Parents of children receiving awards will receive a letter in the mail.

Learning at Oakhill Drive Public School

NSW primary school syllabuses are updated on an ongoing basis. This latest syllabus to be rewritten is the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) K-6 syllabus. Teachers will start teaching from this syllabus next year.

This key learning area develops students' skills to enhance their own and others' health, safety and wellbeing. Students practise and develop the physical, cognitive, social and emotional skills that are important for engaging in movement and leading a healthy, safe and physically active life. The syllabus is comprised of five interrelated propositions and organised into three content strands: Health, Wellbeing & Relationships; Movement, Skill & Performance; and Healthy, Safe & Active Lifestyles. The new syllabus incorporates much of the content that we include in our Positive Education philosophy which means that we are able to integrate this more deeply.

You can read more about the syllabus at <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/pdhpe/pdhpe-k-6-syllabus>.

Like other subject areas, learning is on a continuum from Kindergarten to Year 6 (and beyond to Year 10) with skills progressively becoming more sophisticated. We thank Mr Steel, Miss Chamberlain and Mrs Brito who are leading this project and our teachers who are currently preparing units of learning for the new syllabus.

Transition Kindergarten 2020

Over the last three weeks, 92 children have attended transition sessions in preparation for Kindergarten next year. The girls and boys are showing that they are ready for school as they can wait, take turns, share and independently take care of their belongings.

At the same time, our current Kindergarten children have shown their resilience by learning with different teachers and in alternate spaces and this week our Year 6 students have been exposed to High School type learning by moving locations for classes and following a timetable.

Some students at Oakhill Drive Public School may require additional opportunities to transition to the next grade; when this is the case, the Learning and Support Team will arrange for these students to attend classes with the next grade to gain some familiarity with what's to come the following year.

Julie Torney
Deputy Principal

Notes Due	
Presentation Day Assembly	Thursday 28 November
Kindergarten Scienza Viva Incursion	Friday 29 November
Springboard Maths Breakfast – selected students only	Monday 2 December
Year 6 First Aid Course	Tuesday 3 December

3-6 Assemblies

In Week 8, we will have as 2 classes performing their assembly items (5/6M & 4C), as well as Legends' awards to present. Please note that the assembly in Week 8 will start at 1:50pm.

The Week 10 Assembly will be held on Monday 16 December at 11:20am. The dance troupes will be performing their Christmas items at this assembly.

Kelly Cartwright
Assistant Principal

Medication

Families leaving the school prior to Wednesday 18 December 2019, are reminded to pick up their medication from the office on their child's last day of school. Students returning in 2020, will have their medications returned to them on the last day of school.

Medication will need to be returned to school on the first day back in 2020.

2020 Dance Auditions

On Friday 13 December, from lunch time, Mr Aaron John and Miss Chamberlain will be running auditions for the junior, hip hop and senior dance troupes for 2020. These troupe will not be finalised until Term 1 next year, to allow new students or students who are absent on this day to audition.

Students from the current Years 2-5 are invited to audition in the hall on this day. Announcements will be made for students to come down to the hall for the relevant troupe. We would encourage the students who want to audition to remain in the COLA for that lunch time so they do not miss the announcement for their audition. The following grades will be able to audition for the dance troupes:

Junior – Current Year 2 & 3 students

Hip Hop – Current Year 2, 3, 4 & 5 Students

Senior – Current Year 4 & 5 students

If your child is away on the day of the audition and they wish to audition next year, please advise the school in writing via email.

Miss Chamberlain
Dance Coordinator

Trash Free Tuesday

The K-2 Week 6 Trash Free Tuesday winner is KM with 73%.

The 3-6 Week 6 Trash Free Tuesday winners are 3A and 4W with 86%.

Congratulations to these classes!

Thank you to everyone who recycled their bottles and cans on Fun Day. We made \$94 through Return and Earn in total!

So far this year, we have made over \$343 from our Return and Earn recycling that Eco Club collects each week. Thank you to the families who have been donating their recycling for Return and Earn. We are looking to use the funds to purchase some additional gardening equipment.

Sustainability Committee
Miss Siratkov

2020 PSSA and Home Sport

Due to the large number of students and the limited school grounds we have at Oakhill Drive Public School, PSSA and home sport will change format in 2020. This change was ratified by the P&C.

From next year, only students in Years 4-6 will be able to trial and participate in PSSA competitions. In 2020, Year 3 students will participate in a separate home sport program and will be involved in a Swim School Scheme as part of their sport. Year 3 sport will not run on Fridays. This is to ensure that there is ample space for all students to safely and actively participate in sport.

Students in Years 4-6 not selected for a PSSA team will participate in a home sport program aimed at developing specific skills required for different sports. Further information will be provided early in 2020. We thank you for your support in transitioning to this new format of sport at our school. We hope that this structure will allow all students to safely, enthusiastically and actively participate in sport.

2020 PSSA Trials

Summer PSSA trials for students in Years 3-5 this year will be held on Tuesday 10 December (Week 9) this term. This is to alleviate the time pressures of trialling in Term 1. During Week 9, only students who have completed and submitted the trial note will participate in Summer PSSA trials for 2020. A note will be sent out later in the week regarding trial information.

Miss Chamberlain
Sports Coordinator

PSSA Summer 2019

PSSA Sport – 29 November Semi Finals Week	
Sport	Venue
Touch Football (Boys and Girls)	Dural Park to play sport
Cricket	
T-Ball (Boys and Girls)	
Basketball Boys – Semi finals/Girls – Playing off for 6 th or 7 th	Fred Caterson
Softball Girls – Semi finals/Boys Supporting	Eric Mobbs

Anna Chamberlain
Sport Coordinator

Canteen News

Thank you to all our volunteers. Next week's roster is:

Mon	2/12	Jennifer L, Louise J
Tues	3/12	Cindy C, Aruni S
Wed	4/12	Jane M, Claire G, Mina
Thurs	5/12	Jina, Grace, Mia
Fri	6/12	Nicole J, Belinda R, Fiona D

If you would like to volunteer in the canteen next year, please drop in and see either Mel, Helen or Liz.

Remember Tuesdays are Pizza wrap days: cheese pizza/meat lovers pizza \$3. Order through Flexischools

Melanie and Helen
Canteen Managers

Uniform Shop**TERM 4 – 2019 – SHOP HOURS**

- **Thursday 28 November – 8:30am to 9:30am**
- **Kindy 2020 Orientation Uniform shop Times will run across 25, 26 and 28 November (Open 9:00am to 12:30pm)**
- Thursday 5 December - Flexischools Orders (Shop Closed)
- **Thursday 12 December – 8:30am to 9:30am**
- Thursday 19 December – Flexischools Orders (Shop Closed)

FLEXISCHOOLS ORDERS CAN BE MADE AT ANYTIME AND WILL BE DELIVERED TO YOUR CHILDS CLASSROOM ON THURSDAY'S

If you find you have ordered the incorrect size for your child, feel free to place the item back in a plastic bag with details of the correct size you wish to exchange it for. Please include your child's name and classroom and pass it onto the office who will ensure I receive it for exchange. Provided the item still has the label attached and has not been worn you may exchange the item for a like item (i.e. no price difference). Please also remember that the school canteen sells hats. **Cash only for items from the canteen.**

Georgina Brown
Uniform Shop Coordinator

School Banking

The last school banking will be next week, Week 8. If your child has received a reward slip, please ensure it is returned to the office by next Monday 2 December to ensure the order can be filled.

School Banking Coordinators

ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020

If you have a child or children that are turning 5 or 6 in 2020, enrolment packs are now available from the school office. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's school readiness please contact Ms Mesiti on 9634 1033.

**Non returning enrolment**

Should your child **not be returning** to Oakhill Drive Public School in 2020, please print and complete this section, and return it to school as soon as possible.

Child's name: _____

Class in 2019: _____

In 2020 my child will be attending _____



OAKHILL DRIVE PUBLIC SCHOOL P & C Association

1-5 Oakhill Drive, Castle Hill NSW 2154
Telephone: (02) 9634 1033 Fax: (02) 9634 4285
Email: oakhilldr-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.oakhilldr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

November 13, 2019

Notice of Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) Annual General Meeting PLUS Positions to be filled.

Becoming involved in the Oakhill Drive Public School Parents and Citizens Association is a great way to support your child's education, get to know other parents, find out what is happening in your child's school and become part of our community!

The P&C meets on the second Monday of every month in the staff common room from 7.30pm.

In accordance with the Associations by-laws, the P&C is required to hold an Annual General Meeting. All office bearer positions are open for election at the AGM. The ODPS P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on **Monday 9th December, 2019**

If you are interested in putting your name forward for a position on the P&C, please complete the nomination form below and send it to the Secretary by **Friday 6th December, 2019** Nominations can be emailed to odps.p.and.c.secretary@gmail.com or be placed in the P&C box in the front office.

If you are not sure and would like to find out more about the positions, you can speak to the current incumbent and they will be happy to answer any questions.

Several of our wonderful volunteers have children finishing at Oakhill Drive Public School and their roles will be need to be filled. It would be advantageous to have a reasonable handover period so if you would like to volunteer for these roles please do so as soon as possible!

I, _____ would like to nominate for the position of _____
_____ on the 2019/2020 ODPS P&C Committee.

Student Name and Class _____ Mobile Number _____

Email Address _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please email to odps.p.and.c.secretary@gmail.com or place in the P&C box in the front office –
Thank you.

ELECTED POSITIONS:

Please note **ALL Executive Committee positions are open for election and must be voted on at the AGM.**

PRESIDENT – Sits on the Executive Committee and chairs P&C meetings. Prepares report for School Magazine/Report on the P&C. Very occasionally, addresses a gathering of the school community on behalf of the P&C (e.g. Kindergarten Orientation, Presentation Day). Is also responsible for overseeing the Canteen Sub-committee. Approximately 4-5 hours a month.

VICE-PRESIDENT x 2 - Sits on the Executive Committee and stands in when the President is unavailable. Is also responsible for overseeing one of the P & C subcommittees.

P&C TREASURER - The Treasurer sits on the P&C Executive Committee and keeps financial records of the P&C activities including bank reconciliation and profit & loss statements. The treasurer looks after the reconciliation of all three sub-committees working with the P&C Sub committee book keeper.

Cheque signatory for all P&C accounts and is responsible for banking of income (excluding canteen, band and uniform income). Consolidates financial statements of sub-accounts and co-ordinates year end audit. Reports to P&C meetings twice per term. Time required is approximately 4 hours per month.

SECRETARY – Sits on the Executive Committee and is responsible for carrying out the administrative tasks related to the decisions of the meetings as resolved. The Secretary prepares all meeting agendas and is required to attend P&C Association meetings and take notes of the discussions in order to produce a set of minutes for subsequent distribution to members and for receipt, possible amendment and adoption at the following meeting. Further, the position includes receiving and tabling all correspondence as well as writing and dispatching outgoing correspondence as appropriate. The Secretary also issues notice of all meetings and maintains official records of the P&C Association such as the constitution, by-laws, rules of subcommittees, list of financial (voting) members, minutes and attendance book. Is also responsible for overseeing the Band Sub-committee. Approximately 8 hours per month.

OTHER POSITIONS:

Please note that while the following positions are voluntary, should more than one person volunteer for the position it will be taken to a vote.

COMMUNITY EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR/S – We are currently looking for a Community Events Co-ordinator. This person or persons aim to run two social events during the calendar year. Usually a Disco and/or a Movie Night however this is open to new ideas. The role also involves the coordination of the annual Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls. The job is very well defined and it runs like clockwork with the aid of an established roster of key helpers and many other parents who volunteer.

SCHOOL BANKING – We are currently looking for a two people to oversee the school banking. Responsibilities included, collecting the student banking each Tuesday morning, entering details into bank database (via computer in school office), verifying all amounts collected and banking the money. For audit and security purposes, a team of at least 2 people is required for this position. Approximately 2 hours each Tuesday.

WELCOME BBQ – We are currently looking for a person/s to run our annual Welcome BBQ held in February. It is tradition for a parent/s of the current 2019 kindergarten class to organise the event for the new 2020 families.

We look forward to your nominations.

Jo Pai – ODPS P&C Secretary

Community News

DISCLAIMER

We sincerely thank our advertisers for their support of our school. While Oakhill Drive Public School is selective in the advertisements it runs, parents are advised to use their own discretion in supporting these services.



THE CAGETM CHALLENGE

Starlight children's foundation

A SOCCER CHALLENGE LIKE YOU NEVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE

TEAMS OF 3 / MEDALS / MVP
U7S TO U14S
10AM - 4PM / SATURDAY 7/12/19
VANESSA STREET - BEVERLY HILLS
\$70 PER PLAYER / MUSIC & BBQ
REGISTER NOW AT
INFO@SOCCERDIBRAZIL.COM

3v3



TRY HOCKEY! FREE SESSIONS

SESSION 1
SATURDAY
30TH NOV 2019

SESSION 2
TUESDAY
14TH JAN 2020

SESSION 3
SATURDAY
8TH FEB 2020

5:30PM - 7:00PM
Pennant Hills Park Hockey Fields

For Boys & Girls Aged 5 to 12
REGISTER ONLINE NO LATER THAN 28TH NOVEMBER 2019
baulkhamhillshockey.org.au

WHAT TO BRING

- ☐ Hockey Stick
- ☐ Mouthguard
- ☐ Shin Pads
- ☐ Water Bottle
- ☐ Hat
- ☐ Sunscreen!

No stick? No problem, we'll lend you one.
Mouthguards (\$5) and shinpads (\$10) will also be available.

Come Join us!

Hockey is an inexpensive and family-oriented sport kids love. Our annual pre-season hockey clinic is a great way to try hockey and get a feel for our club. We hope to see you there!

For Enquiries, please email:
communications.bhbc@gmail.com



All parents and volunteers please remember to sign in and out at the Front Office each time you visit the school to work with students. Also, please ensure you have completed an Appendix 5 form available at the office. This only needs to be done once and covers all the years you help at the school provided it is continuous service.

Supervision of Students

Our teachers supervise children at the following times in the playground:

8:40am-9:00am - Before school

10:55am-11:20am - Recess

1:10pm-2:00pm - Lunch

3:00pm-3:30pm - Bus children only

No child should be at school before 8:30am

No child should remain playing on site without parent supervision in the afternoon.

SCHOOL SECURITY

If you see trespassers in the school out of hours please call school security.
1300 880 021 (24 hours)



1-5 Oakhill Drive, Castle Hill 2154

T: 9634 1033

E: oakhilldr-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

W: www.oakhilldr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au