

Term 3 Week 6  
27 August 2019

# The Oaktree

OAKHILL DRIVE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OAKHILL  
DRIVE  
PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

## CONGRATULATIONS:

Senior Netball A

PSSA competition winners!! Congratulations girls and Mrs Dixon.

## Concert Band

Our Concert Band performed at The King's School on the weekend. They received a Gold Award for their efforts - the highest award granted by this competition. The Australian School Band and Orchestral Festival uses a merit-based award system, rather than a ranking between groups. Gold awards are rarely given out and so, for our Concert Band students to receive this award in their first time of participating in this event, is very exciting. Congratulations to our students and Renee Burrows (conductor) for your persistence towards excellence.

## Selective High School Success

Twelve students have been offered positions to selective high schools in the first round offers, with another three students on a reserve list. I congratulate these students for their drive and passion for learning, along with their teachers and parents. This is 10% of the cohort and does not include the five students who accepted positions to Opportunity Class at the end of Year 4. We are thrilled for these students.

## School Administrative Staff (SAS) Recognition Week

Our SAS include Mrs Maddalena, Mrs Sparkes, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Randell, Mr Bleakley and all of our SLSOs (teacher's aides). This week we celebrate and acknowledge their contribution of school administration to the success of the school and to all students. They work in the office, classrooms, library and school grounds. This week is an opportunity for the school community to show their appreciation and acknowledge the vital role that SAS staff play. On behalf of our staff I thank our SAS team.

*Thank  
You*

## Student Voice

Student voice is an approach to education that values the perspectives, experiences and aspirations of students. Student voice helps shape and enrich our schools and communities and actively influences our decision-making as we strive beyond excellence.

Research shows that the quality of teacher and student interactions impacts directly on student participation and wellbeing. The four factors that have the most impact for all students are: *student voice; influence;*

## Dates for your Diary

### Week 6

#### **Wednesday 28 August**

Gymnastics Yrs 3 4 & 5 (excluding 5/6M)

#### **Thursday 29 August**

3-6 Assembly – Hall 2:00pm  
Year 2 Rouse Hill Farm Excursion  
Year 6 Heritage Park Excursion  
Cricket Blast – Eric Mobbs Reserve  
Maths Masterclass – Parent Workshop 5:30pm

#### **Friday 30 August**

Scripture & Ethics  
Grade sport  
Father's Day Stall

### Week 7

#### **Monday 2 September**

NO Play-On Sessions  
Kindy Field of Mars Excursion  
GATEWAYS at Oakhill Drive Public School

#### **Tuesday 3 September**

Play-On K-2  
Year 5 Heritage Park Excursion

#### **Wednesday 4 September**

Gymnastics Yrs 3 4 & 5 (excluding 5/6M)

#### **Thursday 5 September**

K-2 Assembly – Hall 2:00pm  
Year 6 Heritage Park Excursion - Backup date

#### **Friday 6 September**

Scripture & Ethics  
Grade sport  
Ball Games – Oakhill Drive Public School Hosting

choice; working together. Student voice has the potential to benefit students, schools and the broader community by:

- increasing students engagement in learning
- encouraging collaboration between students and their teachers
- creating and maintaining a positive environment and culture
- building respectful relationships, connections and belonging
- developing personal and social capabilities.

In 2018, Stage 3 students voiced their opinion about the relevance of our school song to them through conversations in their classroom. These conversations included arguments for and against, and the composition of persuasive writing, before they approached me with their ideas. Included later in this newsletter, Mrs Brito has outlined in detail, information explaining the rationale and the way forward with this change. At Oakhill Drive Public School we value our traditions and our heritage and respect ideas that came before, however we also acknowledge, that some of these traditions may require updating to reflect the present. Our senior students have voiced their opinion and have led this proposal across the SRC, (the student body), the P&C and to our staff. I congratulate them for their leadership and respectful interactions with all stakeholders.

### ENROLMENT FOR KINDER 2020





Local students who turn **5 by 31 July 2020** are invited to enrol for Kindergarten next year. If you have a sibling or know a neighbour or friend who is in the Oakhill Drive Public School catchment area (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/going-to-a-public-school/finding-a-public-school/using-the-school-finder>), please enrol as we are currently planning our Kindergarten orientation visits.

More information regarding out of area applications can be sought from our office. Please contact Annie Randell for advice.

We encourage parents who have children turning 5 by May, June and July next year to have a talk with your local childcare or preschool regarding whether your child is ready for school next year.

For more information regarding school readiness visit.....

<http://www.schooltoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/is-my-child-ready-to-start-school>.

<p><b>At a glance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Children may enrol in Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five years of age on or before 31 July in that year.</li> <li>→ All children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.</li> <li>→ Are they physically ready?</li> <li>→ Are they socially and emotionally ready?</li> <li>→ Kids don't need to read or write before they start school.</li> <li>→ Visit your local school and attend orientation days before you decide.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>教師談一下如果自己的孩子是準備好開始幼兒園家長如何決定。</b></p> <p><b>乍看上去</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 兒童可能在幼兒園在學年開始時，如果他們四五歲七月三十一日或之前在這一年入學。</li> <li>→ 所有兒童必須在學校過他們的第六個生日後登記。</li> <li>→ 他們是身體準備好了嗎？</li> <li>→ 他們是社會和情感準備好了嗎？</li> <li>→ 孩子們並不需要讀或他們開始上學前寫的。</li> <li>→ 參觀當地學校，並參加開學幾天再決定。</li> </ul> 
<p><b>बिनाक बाह्य मजदारीय बच्चा मूल रूप से कर सकते हैं अगर उनके बच्चे बावबाही शुरू करने के लिए तैयार हैं के बारे में।</b></p> <p><b>एक मजदर में</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ बच्चों स्कूल वर्ष की शुरुआत में बावबाही में शामिल कर सकते हैं अगर वे उस वर्ष जुलाई को या 31 से पहले पांच साल की उम्र बदल जाते हैं।</li> <li>→ सभी बच्चों को अपने छठे जन्मदिन से स्कूल में दाखिल किया जाना चाहिए।</li> <li>→ वे शारीरिक रूप से तैयार हैं?</li> <li>→ वे सामाजिक रूप से और भावनात्मक रूप से तैयार हैं?</li> <li>→ बच्चों पढ़ने या लिखने से पहले वे स्कूल शुरू करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।</li> <li>→ अपने स्थानीय स्कूल पर जाएँ और निर्णय करने के पहले अनुसूचीकरण दिनों में भाग लें।</li> </ul> 	<p><b>교사들은 이야기를 자신의 아이가 유치원을 시작할 준비가되어 있는지 부모가 결정할 수 있는 방법에 대해.</b></p> <p><b>한눈에</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 그들은 그 해 7 월 또는 31 일 이전 시대에 5 년을 커먼 아이들은 학년 초에 유치원에 등록 할 수 있습니다.</li> <li>→ 모든 아이들은 자신의 여섯 번째 생일에 의해 학교에 등록해야 합니다.</li> <li>→ 그들은 신체적으로 준비가 되었습니까?</li> <li>→ 그들은 사회적으로 그리고 감정적으로 준비가 되었습니까?</li> <li>→ 아이들은 읽거나 그들이 학교를 시작하기 전에 작성할 필요가 없습니다.</li> <li>→ 해당 지역의 학교를 방문하여 당신이 결정하기 전에 방문 일정에 참석한다.</li> </ul> 

### Out of Area Enrolment Applications

Families may have heard in the media recently about a new Department of Education (DoE) Enrolment policy specifically about out of area applications. Each school will have an enrolment cap and will require new enrolments to present with a 100 point proof of residence address check. Non-local applications may apply to the school, based on the selection criteria and a committee will determine if a position can be offered. The DoE recommends that the selection panel include an executive member of staff, a teacher nominated by the Principal and a community representative nominated by the P&C. It is recommended by the DoE that the Principal is not on this panel, in order that they can manage any appeals that may be submitted. I include for your reference information prepared by the DoE for your convenience.

### **Safety for All**

#### **Trees**

A certificate 5 arborist inspects our trees annually as per Department of Education (DoE) requirements. The recent report indicates that some of our trees need dead wood removed and some tree canopies require thinning out. This work has begun. Most of this work is conducted outside of school hours, however in some cases it may not. If that is the case, the area is closed to students and staff. If you come onto our site when this work (or other) is being carried out please follow instructions and do not cross the barriers.

#### **Stranger Danger**

Our students are regularly reminded about stranger danger. This is particularly relevant as some students travel home alone. We encourage our students to walk directly home at 3:00pm, when there is safety in numbers on the streets. We have noticed many students who go home to an empty house delay departing from school to play with their peers, go to the local shops and park. I urge all parents to give very clear and explicit instructions to their children about your after school expectations. I urge all families to speak to their children about how they should behave if approached by a stranger in the street.

#### **Road Safety**

Although stranger danger and road safety are covered by our teachers as a part of the PD/E Health syllabus, children get caught up in the moment and forget what to do. The school often receives messages from concerned (frightened) members of the community who witness near misses. Please help us by modelling to your children safe road crossing, so that when they are crossing without you they know exactly what to do.

#### **Child Minding**

Our staff volunteer to mind students, waiting for the bus after school on a daily basis. This is not an expectation of the DoE. All students waiting for the bus or their parent to pick them up must walk directly to the basketball steps and wait with the teacher. Please ensure that your child understands this instruction. For their safety, we cannot have children waiting all over the school to be picked up. I thank you in advance for understanding this important message.

Betty Ploeg  
Principal

### **Maths Masterclass – Parent Workshop**

When teaching mathematics, we promote understanding of how numbers work and how aspects of mathematics connect together. We also encourage students to find patterns and make connections in order to be able to generalise and communicate understanding.

Learning about multiplication and division is much more than learning the times tables. A flexible view of factors and multiples that can be applied in a variety of related and new situations – known as multiplicative thinking - is needed. Both automaticity (rote knowledge of times tables) and deep understanding of multiplicative thinking are required.

During the parent workshop, we will cover the content that is learnt from Kindergarten to Year 6 on multiplication and division. We will provide practical ideas on this topic that can be used at home to support learning at school. All parents/carers are invited to attend our parent workshop this Thursday 29 August in the Lib Lab from 5:30pm-6:30pm.

### **Opal Cards – Buses**

Thank you to the many students who are now regularly using their Opal card when catching the bus to and/or from school. Bus drivers are reminding students of the need to do this for every trip. For further information on Opal card requirements, please visit <https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/>

Julie Torney  
Deputy Principal

**Wellbeing – LEARN IT, LIVE IT, TEACH IT!**  
**Quality Relationships and Wellbeing**



**R U OK? at school**

**Thursday 12 September 2019 R U OK?**

The R U OK? Foundation seeks to create a world where we're all connected. We're never too young to look out for one another and meaningfully connect. They believe being able to support someone and strengthening peer-to-peer support skills should begin in the early years of a child's life through teaching them to look after themselves and their peers.

We will be recognising R U OK? day on Thursday 12 September.

**Children are asked to wear yellow, with a small amount of black, on the day.**

To recognise the importance of this day and to link it with our wellbeing lessons every child will be involved in so creating something to share with their class buddies. Some classes will be making headbands and some classes will be decorating biscuits. These will be shared between buddy classes.

Leaflets about R U OK? Day will be available at school on this day.

When you see your children after school please ask them what the headband represents and why we sometimes ask R U OK?

Notes Due	
Kindergarten Field of Mars	Tuesday 27 August
Years 3-6 SISA Home Sport (excludes students already in Summer PSSA teams or who will do tennis)	Thursday 29 August
Junior, Senior and Hip Hop Dance Troupes – Battle of the Primary Schools	Friday 30 August
Junior, Senior and Hip Hop Dance Troupes – The Hills Spectacular	Friday 6 September
School Photo Year Book Donation	Friday 6 September




**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**Our Silver Acorn Award Winner ~**

Anvita V Alex Y Michelle D Ruby S Nicolas B

**Oakhill Drive Community Honour Board**

Congratulations to the following students who are recognised for their outstanding achievements outside school.

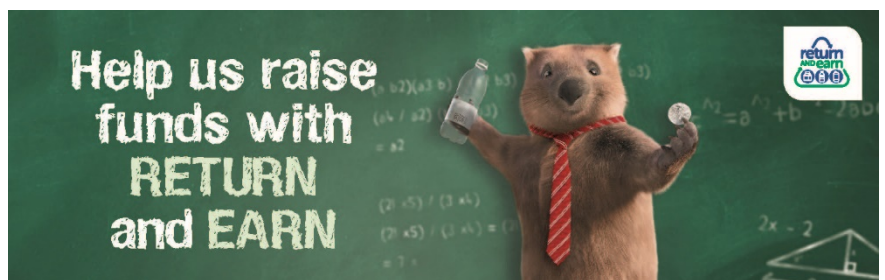
Student	Achievement
Lucas M (5B)	<p>Lucas (representing Oakhill Drive Public School) and his doubles partner (representing Beecroft Public School) competed in the North West Primary School's Challenge on Saturday 17 August. They competed in Division 4 and placed second in their division.</p> <p>Congratulations Lucas on this wonderful achievement.</p> 

**Sustainability News**

The K-2 week 5 Trash Free Tuesday winner was 1C with 68%. Great effort!

The 3-6 week 5 Trash Free Tuesday winner was 4D with 91%. Wow!

A reminder that parents are welcome to bring in recycling from home such as aluminium cans, plastic bottles (like soft drink or water bottles) and poppers (no straws please) to put in our black recycling tubs on the playground, to contribute to our Return & Earn funds. Please note, we cannot accept any glass or alcohol packaging.



Sustainability Co-ordinator  
Miss Siratkov

**PSSA SPORT**

<b>PSSA Grand Final – Friday 23 August</b>			
<b>SPORT</b>	<b>OPPOSITION</b>	<b>RESULT</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
Senior Netball A	Matthew Pearce	Win	23 – 8
Senior Newcombe Ball	Winston Hills	Loss	37 – 63

Congratulations on successful winter PSSA season. We look forward to the summer competition resuming in Week 9 (training Week 8 – during sport time).

Thank you to Miss Lord, Miss Perger, Mrs Dixon and Mr Wicks for their time and dedication to the winter PSSA program, without whom, our students would not have these sporting opportunities.

Anna Chamberlain  
Sport Coordinator

### Beecroft Zone Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the Beecroft Zone Athletics Carnival track and field days on Wednesday 14 August and Wednesday 21 August. All students represented Oakhill Drive Public School with great pride and gave maximum effort in their individual events. Thank you to the parents who transported students and supported our competitors over the two days of the carnival.

### Field Carnival

Well done to Nisini R (1<sup>st</sup> junior discus and 2<sup>nd</sup> junior shot put), Ruby S (1<sup>st</sup> junior high jump and 2<sup>nd</sup> junior long jump) and Fergus C (1<sup>st</sup> 11yrs long jump). These 3 students will represent our school at the Area Carnival on Wednesday 16 October.

### Track Carnival

Well done to the following students who qualified for their relevant finals event: Nisini R (9yrs 100m), Ruby S (10yrs 100m), Vismaya M (11yrs 100m), Vivaan M (9yrs 100m), Alistair M (9yrs 100m), Sethin G (10yrs 100m and jnr 200m) and Fergus Cheng (11yrs 100m and 200m).

Well done to Vismaya M (2<sup>nd</sup> 11yrs 100m finals) and Fergus C (3<sup>rd</sup> 11yrs 100m finals). These 2 students will represent our school at the Area Carnival on Wednesday 16 October.

Janelle Lord & Anna Chamberlain  
Carnival Coordinators

### Canteen News

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

Mon	2/9	Dana C, Laura G
Tues	3/9	Tradia, Jieun H, Meg
Wed	4/9	Caroline J, Anna M
Thurs	5/9	Jo P, Carolyn L, Clare D
Fri	6/9	Varsha L, Carol D

The 'Fruit and Veg' Promotion continues this week. For every 2 pieces of fruit or veg bought, students receive a fruit scented stamper pen. Fruit or veg – starting at 60c per piece.

We now have added a gingerbread to the menu. It is vegan, gluten free, no nuts, no palm oil, no artificial colours, flavours or preservatives, in a compostable wrapper - \$1.50.

Melanie and Helen  
Canteen Managers

### Uniform Shop

#### TERM 3 - 2019– SHOP HOURS

- Thursday 29 August – Flexischools Orders Only (Shop Closed)
- **Thursday 5 September – 8.30am to 9.30am**
- Thursday 12 September - Flexischools Orders (Shop Closed)–Summer Uniform Sales available
- **Thursday 19 September – 8.30am to 9.30am – Summer Uniform Sales**
- Thursday 26 September – Flexischools Orders (Shop Closed)

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 (\$16) and ties (\$14) each morning. **Cash only for these items from the canteen.**

We encourage you all to take advantage of ordering uniforms through Flexischools. It is much more convenient than standing in line at the Uniform Shop. Your order is packed and delivered to your child's classroom (usually on the Wednesday or Thursday of each week) provided your order is placed before 5:00pm on the Tuesday.

Georgina Brown  
Uniform Shop Coordinator

### School Song Proposal

#### 'Do we keep our old school song or do we write a new version?'

You may be aware that a group of students have proposed a change in the ODPS school song. This was put forward in 2018 and since then has been presented to our P&C, staff and students. Our staff and students have been discussing arguments for and against this change before taking the matter to a vote. The following information outlines our journey and the consultation that has occurred thus far:

- **Term 2 2018:** 5B engaged in a persuasive writing/ speaking unit. As part of the unit, classroom teacher posed the question – How do you feel about our school song? Do you think it is time for a change? The students discussed their ideas and came up with various **for** and **against** arguments. The students then wrote persuasive letters to Mrs Ploeg to express their views around this question.
- **Term 3 2018:** Mrs Ploeg responded to 5B and invited students to present a proposal to the P&C.
- **Term 4 2018:** 5B volunteers presented the proposal to the P&C and shared **an example** of lyrics and a tune. Following a discussion the P&C voted to allow the students to move forward with the proposal.
- **2018 Suggestions made by P&C**
  - Happy for students to present a proposal to the wider school community
  - Investigate the history of the existing song
  - Keep some of the words/phrases of the original song
  - The song could represent our three R's – respect, resilience and responsibility
  - The song must be able to be sung by all
- **Term 3 Week 2: Investigation of the current school song**
  - Mrs Brito rang David Thummler (inaugural principal of ODPS) and shared new school song proposal ideas. Summary of David Thummler's comments re the proposal;
  - **History of the song:** Written by two former teachers to a church hymn. The teachers presented it to the P&C in 1993. The P&C liked it, so it became the song. Since then the community have always felt the song was too high for the students to sing.
  - The words represented the school in the early nineties.
  - Tradition is great but only if it serves the purpose of today.
  - Schools represent change all the time. Change is important.
  - The school uniform has changed over time and it's a good thing.
  - Teaching and learning styles have changed so much over 25 years. He understands and supported that the new school song proposal.
  - Mr Thummler was excited to hear that the students put a proposal forward and would love to come along and be a part of the unveiling of the new song.
- **Term 3 Week 2 2019:** Students presented their proposal to the staff and to the SRC.
  - Staff voted 'YES' to change.
  - The SRC came up with ideas of what they would like to hear in the new school song and shared these with their classes.
- **Term 3 Week 3 2019:** Students presented their proposal at the K-2 Assembly (many parents attended this assembly and heard the proposal).
- ALL K-2 students voted, after discussing arguments for and against changing the school song.
- **Term 3 Week 4 2019:** The P&C were updated with the consultation that had occurred at their August meeting. The P&C ratified that the process should continue to the next stage and reiterated the criteria they would like to see included. They are:
  - To consider including words/phrases of the current song
  - The song needs to be uplifting and sung with enthusiasm
  - The song should represent our school expectations and the importance we place on relationships

- The tune needs to be something that the students can sing with confidence.
- **Term 3 Week 4 2019:** Students presented their proposal at the 3-6 Assembly (many parents attended this assembly and heard the proposal).
- ALL 3-6 students voted, after hearing arguments for and against a change in the school song.
- **RESULTS OF THE VOTE: Will we go ahead with changing the school song?**
- Staff voted YES unanimously.
- Student Vote 60% YES to the change and 40 % NO to the change.

**WHERE TO NEXT?**

- Shortly, a competition will be announced to the school community, inviting ALL students, ALL parents and ALL staff to write a new version of the ODPS school song to the chosen tune, in line with the criteria specified by our P&C.

Members of the community who wish to provide input, feedback or their opinion on this matter may direct their email to Mrs Brito via the school email address: oakhilldr-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

We look forward to the school community working in collaboration to write a school song that will set a new tradition for our school.

**ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020**

If you have a child or children 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.



**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.



**Member for a Day:**  
*What would you say?*

Free fun educational activities at Australia's oldest Parliament for children from 4 to 12 years.

Follow the children's trail: enter the guessing competition, participate in the arts and crafts; visit the historic legislative chambers and places rarely open to the public; give your first speech as a Member of Parliament in the chambers; be entertained by roving musicians.

**FREE ENTRY**  
**Activities**

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Location**

6 Macquarie Street – opposite Martin Place

**The public café will be open.**





**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)**



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W: [www.oakhilldr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.oakhilldr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)