

The Oaktree

OAKHILL DRIVE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers

Class Formations 2021

This procedure begins with the placement of students with the teachers who we believe will bring the very best out of each student. Every class must have a mixture of boys and girls and a mixture of ability groups. We take into account their relationships with their peers. Teachers know if 'best friends' can work productively in the same class or not. Some friendships are best suited to the playground only. There are no guarantees that they will have their closest friend in their class. We ensure that our students understand this from now. We seek your support to reassure your children that they will cope with their new class setting in 2021. The placement of our students in the appropriate class with the appropriate teacher and mix of students is our top priority.



Whilst we consider academic results, more importantly we take into consideration student's social and emotional wellbeing. All classes offer a differentiated curriculum. This means that all classes will have ability groups within them. Our learning programs are designed to meet the needs of each ability group.

Extending Students

At ODPS we offer the opportunity to extend our talented students by placing likeminded students in the same class as a cluster. These clusters occur over several classes. This is offered to students from Year 1 to Year 6. These students are taught the same curriculum content, however the pace of the lesson is faster, and the repetition of content is less. The nature of the student is such that the teacher can offer more challenging activities for students to apply their knowledge to.

Staffing at ODPS

Teachers work under an award and within industrial relations laws. Like other work environments, teaching staff have the right to work on a part-time basis. Some of our classes are taught by two teachers who job share. In this situation the class is introduced to two teachers from the onset, class rules and expectations, student goals are known by both teachers and all students in the class. Each teacher has designated curriculum area to plan, teach, assess and report. A regular timetable is followed. All teachers receive professional development and set individual learning goals through professional development plans. Our data indicates that students taught by teachers who job share are not disadvantaged academically, socially or emotionally.

Dates for your Diary

Term 4

Week 9

Monday 7 December
Presentation & Sports
Assembly
(at CTHS)

Tuesday 8 December
Trash Free Tuesday
Concert Band Auditions

Wednesday 9 December
Wellbeing Wednesday –
students to wear Crazy Socks

Thursday 10 December
2021 Summer PSSA Trials
Legends Lunch

Friday 11 December
2021 Summer PSSA Trials

Week 10

Monday 14 December
Yr6 Farewell (Castle Hill
RSL)

Tuesday 15 December
Trash Free Tuesday
Stg3 Planetarium Incursion

Wednesday 16 December
Last day for students



Presentation Day Assembly

Today, we recognised a great number of students for their achievements in the academics, the arts and for citizenship. Congratulations to these students. Not all students marched across the stage today, yet every single one of them has made significant progress this year. All students have been recognised through assemblies and the Legends BBQ. All of our students are to be congratulated for improving on their personal best. Students are guided and mentored by dedicated teachers and are given opportunities to participate in performances, showcases, and sporting occasions beyond the school level. The well-rounded education at Oakhill Drive PS creates a school culture where students embrace responsibility and thrive in an atmosphere that embraces their leadership skills.



I would like to thank the leadership team, Julie Torney, Helen Paris, Hollie Brito, Laura Feeney, Natalie Mesiti, Kat Marsaus, Blane Steel and Anna Chamberlain. All of these people have led their teams to ensure quality outcomes were delivered to every student in every classroom. I thank our administration staff, Jenny Maddalena, Susen Sparkes, Jan Jackson, Annie Randell and Kim Spajic who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of our school. Trevor Bleakly our general assistant who ensures our facilities are beautifully presented every day of the year. I thank you our parents; our significant partners. You play a major part in reinforcing, consolidating and enhancing the education offered to your children. You work with our teachers and we welcome it. Oakhill Drive PS is not like other schools. I thank our P&C and the parent community for the continued support of school initiatives and the continued drive to make our dreams a reality.

Uniforms

Parents of students in Years 5 and Years 6 in 2021, should evaluate the longevity of their current uniform. Remembering, that your child/ren will be wearing this uniform every day for twenty weeks at a time (summer/winter). Will it still fit? Please see our uniform shop if you require an update.

Betty Ploeg
Principal



Summer Reading

It will be highly beneficial for every student to continue to read every day over the Summer holiday break. Our Wushka licence will continue throughout January so students are encouraged to continue to use the app. Please contact your child's class teacher if you need a reminder on how to access Wushka. Families can also access traditional and virtual books through The Hills library service:

<https://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/Library/eResources-for-Kids>

Helping your child

Many parents ask teachers at this time of year how they can help their child over the summer break. In addition to daily reading, we recommend that you talk to your child/ren about where you are going and what you are doing. Talking builds vocabulary which is vital for improving reading comprehension so that they understand what they are reading; and then the more specific, interesting and detailed words can be used when writing.

We recommend that you view the 'will need to' comments in your child's Semester report for further information on the learning goals that have not been achieved – yet!

Julie Torney
Deputy Principal

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



This week we will be celebrating our learning about wellbeing and relationships on **Wellbeing Wednesday**.

On Wellbeing Wednesday students may like to:

- Wear some crazy socks with their sport uniform
- Bring a spare t shirt, in case they get damp doing Yr 6 activities
- Bring a popper and popcorn for the movie
- Bring a donation for our 'Giving Tree'.



The focus of the day is **Gratitude** and students will participate in a number of activities, encouraging them to reflect on the many things that they can be grateful for, especially during this difficult year.

"Gratitude means recognising the things that others have done for you, as well as what you have, rather than focusing on what you don't."

Showing and practising **gratitude** can help **your wellbeing** in a number of ways, such as:

- help build new relationships or boost current ones
- help you forgive yourself and others
- reduce anger and increase empathy
- help you sleep better,
- give you energy and boost self-esteem
- make you appreciate what you have.



It can also give you feelings of happiness and appreciation, which in turn has an effect on your wellbeing. (Headspace)

Wellbeing practice:

Take a moment each day with your family to reflect on just one thing that each of you are grateful for.

Revisit the SchoolTV edition of Gratitude for more information:

<https://oakhilldr-p.schools.nsw.schooltv.me/newsletter/happiness-gratitude>

Silver and Gold Acorns

All students across Stage 3 have the opportunity to earn a Silver (Year 5) or Gold (Year 6) Acorn. With the end of year approaching, any student wishing to achieve an Acorn needs to have all their forms completed this week.

Students can check with their class teacher for the requirements. The cut-off date for handing in forms and awards to Miss Lord is this week - **Wednesday 9 December (Week 9)**. This will allow for confirmation of all requirements prior to the last presentation of Acorns on Monday 14 December (Week 10).



Janelle Lord
 Award Coordinator

Debating Grand Final

The ODPS Debating Grand Final was recently held on the topic of - "That climate change is the greatest threat in human existence?" The standard of debating was very high and it was an extremely difficult debate to adjudicate and decide the winner.

We are pleased to announce the winning team for the Oakhill 2020 Debating Competition is the team consisting of **Bianca I, Leah S & Emily Z.**



We also want to congratulate the running up team consisting of Calli B, Siena H & Sayali M for making the grand final debate very interesting and thought provoking.

We wish all debaters well going forward, especially our Year 6 students as they enter high school and we look forward to seeing all of Year 5 debaters return next year for ODPS Debating.



Mr Wicks & Miss Perger
Debating Team Coordinators

2021 Representative Sporting Trials

Each year there are trials for students to be part of a zone or area team in a variety of sports. As a school we are able to select a few students to send to each trial. To attend trials, students are expected to participate in the sport outside of school in either Division 1 or Representative level in U11/12 age group or above. Most sports are only open to Year 5 and Year 6 students.



When trials are announced, the Sport Coordinator and PSSA coach of the sport will consider any suitable students, looking at the level they play out of school and skills shown in weekly PSSA. Most of the zone trials are held after school within the local area. It is the parents' responsibility to transport your child to the various venues. Nominated students can then progress along the PSSA pathway for selection in representative sport: from school to zone to area to state and in some sports to national competitions.

The following is a list of the sports:

- **Girls and Boys:** Basketball, cricket, diving, golf, hockey, netball, orienteering, soccer, softball, tennis, touch football, water polo
- **Boys only:** AFL, rugby league, rugby union

If your child meets the criteria to be nominated as a possible school representative at a trial, please send in the following details to Miss Lord:

- Child's name, class / 2021 grade, age, date of birth
- Chosen representative sport
- Local club and representative teams – name of club/s, current competing age group, division, number of years played
- Positions played

For 2021, NSW PSSA and Sydney North PSSA are currently planning a return to representative sport, trials and carnivals. However, with Covid, this could change with short notice and possible variation to arrangements would occur.

Janelle Lord
Sport Coordinator

Band News

Congratulations to Jamie Watkins, our band co-ordinator on his success on gaining a position as Head of Music Performance at Roseville College initially as 3 days a week, moving to full time in 2023.

Jamie has been an integral part of the band at ODPS since 2005 and we truly appreciate the number of hours he spends each week and his enthusiastic, caring manner towards our students. Jamie has a real 'can do' approach to life and this is reflected in the successes that our school band and ensembles have had over the years under his guidance. He will remain as Band Coordinator and keep conducting Junior Band and String Ensemble.



Jess Ling will be conducting Senior Band and Brass Ensemble. A new trumpet and French horn tutor will also be employed.

We wish Jamie all the best with his new position.

Liz Body
Class Teacher

Canteen News

The School Canteen will be running down their stock over the next week. Please refer to Flexischools for availability of items. The last day for Flexischools LUNCH ORDERS will be Friday 11 December.

Canteen will be open for counter services only on Monday 14 December and Tuesday 15 December.
NO LUNCHESES will be available next week.

The Canteen will be closed on Wednesday 16 December for cleaning and stocktake.

Thank you to all for your support this year – we look forward to seeing you all next year in the Canteen.

Helen, Liz and Jenny
Canteen Managers

Giving is Receiving

'Tis the season for giving, receiving and getting together. Eat, play, shop and help raise funds for the school.

The Entertainment Digital Membership is a great Christmas gift for someone (great for those that are difficult to buy for), or even a great idea if you are heading out of town for your holidays - just purchase the multi-city membership.


FUNDRAISING WITH **entertainment**

The Entertainment Membership App

We've built the best things about the iconic Entertainment Book into our New Digital Memberships available on the App.


Your Membership App allows you to conveniently search, save and redeem thousands of offers near you in an instant. New offers are regularly added for more value year round.

Memberships can start anytime - always get 12 months of savings, no matter when you purchase.




Using the App is easy!


You can easily search for offers by suburb, name or type; or tap the 'Near Me' icon at the bottom of the screen to instantly locate offers near by.




1 Easily search to view and find an offer or use a category to refine your search.



2 Tap on each offer to view full details. New offers are updated weekly.



3 The 'Near Me' function helps locate offers in the map close to your exact location.



4 Ready to redeem? Just show the offer screen and press 'Redeem Now' when it's time to pay.

Support us today in 3 easy steps

1 Order your Membership from our online order page

2 Activate your Membership and download the Entertainment App

3 Log into the App and start saving right away!

FUNDRAISING WITH **entertainment**

Support us today!

20% of every Entertainment Membership sold goes to our fundraiser.



Thousands of incredible savings from your favourite dining, activities, travel & shopping experiences. Up to 50% off and 2 for 1 offers in your city.

220+ Local Contemporary Dining*	CRILL \$60 Value	THE ROOK \$50 Value	jaaks \$50 Value	LIAGO \$40 Value
400+ Sydney Hot Spots*	McDonald's 2 for 1	Roll'd 2 for 1	SOUL ORIGIN 2 for 1	Wing House 2 for 1
210+ Fast Favourites & Fun Activities*	SEA LIFE 25% off	ZONE BOWLING 2 for 1	HOYT'S Special offer	PIZZA HUT 2 for 1
2,000+ Shop & Travel*	5% off	Emirates 10% off	rebel 10% off	Europcar 15% off 5+ days

*All member offers are subject to terms and conditions. Check individual offers in the Entertainment handbook. Some offers may vary by city. For all offers, it is essential to participate in our fundraiser. *Memberships are available in all official Australian and New Zealand public holidays. Member Day: Friday the 1st and 15th of each month. © 2023 Entertainment Publications. Fundraising only.

Buy a Membership and download the Entertainment App today

Oakhill Drive Public School

Order your Memberships online today!
www.entbook.com.au/2152d11



7452

To order online Scan this QR Code by placing the camera on your phone over the code above

Please ensure you add **Oakhill Drive Public School as your preferred sponsorship**, the school then receives \$10 for every single city subscription sale and \$20 for a multi city sale.

Happy Christmas
Georgina Brown



OAKHILL DRIVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

'GIVING TREE' 2020

It has become an annual event on Wellbeing Wednesday for students to demonstrate their compassion by donating to others less fortunate. In previous years, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community and many people have benefited from your kindness.



This year, we have decided to support:

1. Families who continue to experience hardship as a result of the bushfires and COVID, by donating 'treat yourself' items, for them to enjoy during the holiday period. The Salvation Army will distribute these items to families in need, to help them enjoy the holiday period.
2. Essential/emergency workers in our local area. Our student leaders have suggested making gift baskets for these people, who have given so much this year, to keep **us** safe and well. These may include local shops, doctor surgeries, SES centres, Rural Fire Service, aged care workers, police stations, fire stations, hospital workers etc. These baskets of 'goodies' will be shared by essential workers in their workplaces. Baskets will be prepared by classes and delivered by staff or parent volunteers.

Students are asked to donate an item to be included in 'Treat Yourself' drive.

Items may include:

- ✓ **Snack treats e.g. chocolates, nuts, biscuits, lollies, chips etc.**
- ✓ **Soft drinks, juices, cordial, milk additives etc.**
- ✓ **Christmas foods, Christmas decorations**
- ✓ **Any non-perishable foods**
- ✓ **Personal products e.g. soaps, bath bombs, bath salts, hand creams, body lotions etc.**

When to donate:

Wednesday 2 December until Wellbeing Wednesday on 9 December

Where to bring donations:

Due to COVID restrictions, *only students* are able to bring donations into school. Students can place their donation under the Giving Tree in the COLA, when they arrive at school.

Donations will be collected each day and stored inside. They will all be brought out and displayed under the tree on Wellbeing Wednesday to show the students how together we can make a big difference.

This time has been difficult for many families, so we urge families to only donate whatever they feel able to afford.

If every family donates just one item.....together, we will support many!

We thank you in anticipation of your support, once again, of this initiative.



LOST PROPERTY

These previously posted items have been with us for some time
Please contact the office to collect your lost items before the end of Term





OAKHILL DRIVE PUBLIC SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Carers

At Oakhill Drive Public School, parents can access their child's reports and awards records via the Parent Portal. Student reports include: Semesters 1 & 2 Class Reports, Band Reports, EAL Reports and Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) Best Start Reports.

All parents at Oakhill Drive Public School, need to register for the Parent Portal to have access to any information relevant to your child. After registering for access, no further action is needed and you can access at any time, especially when reports are available.

To access the portal, parents must have an email address registered with the school. This should have been provided to the school via your child's enrolment form. There may be some family circumstances in which both parents may require their own access to the portal. This can be done if both email addresses are registered with the school.

If you are a new parent, please allow approximately one week from the day your child starts at Oakhill Drive Public School before you try to register for the portal. This will allow your child's details to come across to all the data systems in the school. It is recommended that parents who have registered previously, check their access at this time.

The Parent Portal can be accessed by following these instructions:

1. Go to the Parent Portal
<https://www.impromotion.com.au/portal4parents/?schid=4604>
2. Click on the '**Don't have a password? Get Registered**' link at the bottom of the portal sign-in page, then enter your email address
3. Parents with no current portal account or incomplete portal accounts will receive a 'Getting Started' email which will guide them through the registration process.

During the registration process, parents will receive an email with instructions and a default password to use initially. This will give access to the portal to allow them to set up their own password which will be linked to that email address.

After the registration process is complete, parents can access the portal using their own email address as the Username and their newly set-up password.

Please note your password in a safe place for future reference when accessing the portal.

Helen Paris
Deputy Principal

School Travel for 2021



2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

New Concession Entitlement Cards

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over), Distance Education Students and Home School Students
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older)
- Boarder Rail Pass.

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at <https://transportnsw.infor/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>

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.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TENNIS CAMP



ALL DAY SUPERVISION 8AM-6PM

GREAT FUN TENNIS ACTIVITIES

FULL DAY FROM \$79

BOOK ONLINE VOYAGERTENNIS.COM/PENNANT-HILLS

Pennant Hills Park
25 Britannia Street
Pennant Hills 2120

0402 477 762

pennanthills@voyagertennis.com

TAEKWONDO WORLD



Martial Arts for Kids

ACTIVE KIDS

www.tkdworld.com.au
5 Gladstone Rd, Castle Hill
8850 7771

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ARCHAEOLOGY



PRICE

Early Bird: \$340*
*Ends 15 December
Normal Price: \$350

Robotics



Engineering



Science



LOCATION & DATES

Sydney Olympic Park
13 - 15 January
Dural Public School
18 - 20 January

Coding



REGISTER NOW www.piexeducation.com/enrolment

 www.facebook.com/piexeducation

 liling@piexeducation.com

 www.piexeducation.com

 0422883015

HOLIDAY SWIM PROGRAM

Join our swimvac program – children participate in a swimming lesson every day for a week of the school holidays.

This program is great for beginners and those children wishing to build on their skills.

For more information or to book into the program call Carlile Swimming Cherrybrook on 9980 7822




CarlileSwimming
to swim well is an asset for life



O'GRADY DRAMA

"Act, Create, Communicate"

The difference is dramatic....
Boost your child's creativity, confidence, communication skills & self-development through drama

We don't just teach drama, we teach life

Students 5 - 17
Enrolling for 2021

Classes held at Oakhill Drive Public School
Children can be collected from After School Care.

0438 788 080 | sydneynwest@ogradydrama.com.au
www.ogradydrama.com.au

Ignite Music Dural

Music lessons for all ages!!



Start learning a new skill today!!



admin@ignitemusic.com.au



9651 5804

Book in your FREE trial lesson today!

Now taking enrolments for Term 4

We offer:

Guitar, piano, vocals, drums, bass, violin, viola, cello, ukulele, percussion, keyboard, flute, songwriting, theory, AMEB exam prep, online lessons and much more.



Attention Parents

Please remember we do not encourage parents onto the school grounds. If you need to visit for any reason – please call ahead first. Once on grounds please ensure to sign in each time you enter for COVID-19 Tracking.

Supervision of Students

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

8:30am-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: (02) 9634 1033

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

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