

The VINE

The Newsletter of
Oxley Christian College

Issue No 1
9 February 2017

From the Principal

Dear Friends,

As the newly appointed Principal of Oxley Christian College, it is a great privilege to warmly welcome families and staff to the 2017 school year. I especially welcome students who are starting at Oxley for the first time, including our international cohort. We hope you will find it a wonderful place to be and to learn, and that you will settle in to good relationships with your peers and teachers. We trust that all students will embrace the year with enthusiasm, and that you will find your learning both challenging and rewarding.

It is also a pleasure to introduce our staff who have joined the College this year: Mrs Kate Broadley, Ms Rebecca Dyson, Miss Holly Pedley, Mrs Nicole Thorpe and Mr Max Cuddon in the Senior School; Miss Michaela Wynne, Mrs Anita Bradshaw and Mr Daniel Rodgers in the Junior School; Ms Faye Anderson and Miss Catherine Hallyburton in Administration and Support; Miss Stephanie Burt, Mr Timothy Ong and Mr Tristan Webb in Music.

Most of you will know Mrs Sally Broadley has indeed left us an awesome legacy and I know that any future changes to the College that we may consider will correspondingly honour and build on her achievements. Certainly the high expectations and standards we have for students and staff will not change. Our overarching motives for education remain embedded in the Christian gospel, such that when students leave Oxley they will have gained Christian wisdom, a growing spiritual awareness, humility and openness in charity. They will understand that the educational disciplines that we teach have the purpose of gifting them towards vocations more broadly described

under Christian discipleship. It is indeed an exciting and transformational journey that we are undertaking together and one in which all are invited to participate.

This is a new season for Oxley Christian College, as it is for me. Together we will rely on the grace of God for this time, and I will rely on your patience and goodwill as we get to know each other. Please keep reminding me, on the occasions we do meet, of who I am speaking with! My first impressions are that Oxley is a great place to be. We have an excellent leadership team with one important internal change; that being the appointment of Mr Greg Barker as Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School. I am sure you will give him your unqualified support as he settles into this demanding position. Consequently, other staff have taken up new responsibilities in the Senior School.

Even though the people in leadership change, there is a wonderful continuity of leadership when it is based within biblical principles. The common element is that we understand this is God's world, it is His creation in which He delights, and we desire to participate in His Kingdom in ways that will bring glory to His Name.

Sally quoted Psalm 115 in *The Vine*, at the close of 2016. By way of continuity, I can think of no better way than to introduce 2017 than with the same blessing: *'May the Lord cause you to flourish, both you and your children. May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and Earth'*

Douglas Peck



Principal Dr Douglas Peck with School Captains - Brenton and Gabrielle, and Vice Captains - Grace and Jacob

"I am the vine; you are the branches". John 15:5a

Devotion

Welcome to 2017

If you are new to the Oxley community, we are so glad to have you join us and pray that you (students and parents), are feeling welcome and not overwhelmed! For those who return, I am sure you know only too well, the influx of information, letters, invitations, book lists, time tables, and names to learn that confront new families in the first few weeks.

It is my pleasure as Chaplain to work across the whole school and it has been a joy to visit each of the Junior School classes this week, welcome them all and pray with each class. A highlight was visiting the new Preps, so tiny, their shirts certainly requiring some growing into! So inquisitive in nature and ready and willing to learn and make new friends.



Emily and Zoe enjoying their first day of Prep



Campbell, Brayden, Pierson and Elijah on their first day of Year 7

Whilst as parents we send our students to learn how to read and write and be prepared for adult life, every parent recognises the need for positive friendships. There is such joy in a home when a prep comes home and says Mum, I made a new friend today. When asked, *How did that happen?* the response, *he asked me if I wanted to be his friend and I said yes!*, brings a smile to our faces and I am sure we all ponder, if only it was that easy for adults to make new friends!

In Senior Chapel this week, I shared a story from my own experience in Year 7, negotiating the social implications of feeling left out and alone, while on a Youth Group trip. I was unfortunately left out of the main group at a Youth Alive concert, due to no one saving me a seat. I sat two rows behind my youth group, surrounded by 4000 teenagers, in a full hall, yet feeling so very alone. It is interesting how most of us - child, teen or adult - would each have such a story. We have all experienced at some point in our lives the feeling of being on the outer, alone, lonely, even when in a crowded room. Yet in every moment we can take heart. God sees us, He notices us, He knows our pain, our insecurities and our desire for community and it is often not long before our circumstances change.

My encouragement to the students, was the following:

1. We are never alone. Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.* God is with us, 24/7, we can trust that!
2. While with God, we are never alone, we do still need that personal interaction. God encourages us and strengthens us through relationships with others - we are designed for community. If God is prompting you to speak to someone new and allow them into your life, don't hesitate, dare to go out on a limb, invite them in.
3. It is amazing how a life changing moment can come in the seemingly small and insignificant moments, or during times of heartbreak or disappointment. Hard moments can be the very thing that help shape us and mold us into who God wants us to be. That moment of loneliness back then is one of the key catalysts for the path God has used to bring me to be a Chaplain today!

A big thank you to our Year 12s, lead by the college Captains, who stepped out of their comfort zones at the end of Chapel to pray for every Year 7. I know I was blessed by their genuine prayers for this significant year in the lives of our Year 7s!

My prayer for every family as we begin 2017 is this, *I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.* Ephesians 3:16-19

**Pastor Matt
Chaplain**

Senior School

Welcome to 2017! The year has started in magnificent fashion, with a real sense of excitement amongst students and staff as we head into a new year together. We continue to extend a special welcome to new students and their families; in particular, all of our Year 7 students, our International students, and to students who have joined Oxley in other year levels. We trust that you enjoy your time at Oxley, that you make great friendships which may last a lifetime, that you may be encouraged to learn all that you can and try new things, that you may be surrounded by God's love and protection in all that you do.

A school is a busy place and it is up to each of us to work out how we choose to respond to the opportunities thrown our way. It would be easy to be anxious with the onset of activities in the first weeks back. Year 7,8 and 9 as they go swimming, heading off to camp at Kinglake as the Year 11s are, or of attending the Year 12 Retreat to acquire or refine the skills required to thrive in Year 12 - not just survive. It would be easy to be nervous about having new teachers, new classes with new class mates, new subjects, and the myriad other new things which are unique to each year level.

We are told in Philippians 4, *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God* and this indeed is my prayer for every student and their family. I pray that in the busyness of life and when obstacles or uncertainties arise, you can give thanks for the opportunity to work with your friends in a beautiful school in a great country. I pray that you have the strength to face each new challenge that comes along, and you are surrounded by people who can lend you support you and carry you along. I pray that you can be a blessing to others in their times of need with a smile and an encouraging word.

I love working here and I hope that this is infectious. I am excited by the opportunities of this year and hope that you are also. I am greatly enjoying the chance to chat with young people and older people about learning, about life and about God. I am thankful for the opportunity to share life with so many wonderful and unique people, and I do not take this blessing lightly.

May 2017 be an amazing year for you, for your family and friends, for our school, for our nation and for His world as we take our place in it.

Greg Barker
Deputy Principal - Head of Senior School

Junior School

Welcome back to our Junior School students and their families!

What a delight it was to see students return to school, eager to connect with peers, meet their teacher and settle

in the classroom. 2017 is going to be a year of incredible growth and blessing and we already see evidence of God's hand on our students and staff.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all families new to the Oxley community. Whilst you will recognise many familiar faces amongst our staff, we would like to officially welcome our new staff members: Miss Michaela Wynne in Year 2, Mrs Anita Bradshaw in Year 3 and Mr Daniel Rodgers in Year 6. Miss Catherine Hallyburton provides learning support assistance to students across a number of year levels. We also welcome back Mrs Lynne Taylor, who supports Maths in Year 4.

What a pleasure it was to meet with our Prep parents at morning tea after drop off on the first day. Our Prep students have enjoyed their first two weeks at school and are quickly adjusting to the learning environment and routines. Already we have observed greater levels of independence and risk-taking, with students trying new things in the classroom and playground.

At the commencement of the school year, the focus of our staff is on building a supportive and collaborative learning environment for all students. It takes time to get to know the needs of every student and these first weeks are valued by our staff as they observe how your child learns. As you walk around, the Junior School students are engaged in learning about their new classmates, their teacher and the routines for their year level. It is a focused and positive time which paves the way to a successful year.

Today, our Junior School Captains for 2017 were invested at a special Chapel service. Students appreciated encouragement from Dr Peck, our Principal, who shared an inspiring message for our school leaders. We celebrate our 2017 student leaders and wish them all the best in their new role.

On Wednesday 22 February, our Year 4-6 students will participate in the House Swimming Sports at the Kilsyth Centenary Pool. Students welcome support from parents as they compete in a range of events. Why not bring a picnic lunch and cheer for our swimmers!

We will host a New Parents Coffee Evening at 7.00pm in the Staff Room on Thursday 23 February. Parents new to Oxley are invited to attend. Afterwards, all Junior School parents will participate in a Curriculum Information session in their child's classroom at 8.00pm. Please add this event to your diary.

We pray that our partnership in your child's learning will be one of mutual respect, blessing and joy. We look forward to bearing witness to God's unique plans and purposes for 2017.

Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:4 (NIV).

Sharee Gaiser
Head of Junior School

What Did You Do at School Today?

Prep

The Prep students have had a wonderful start to the school year. On the first day they entered the room with smiles on their faces ready to start their schooling adventure. They have enjoyed making new friends, exploring their indoor and outdoor environments and learning about their first *word of the week*.



Big smiles from Jadon and Coby on their first day of Prep

Preps are becoming familiar with new routines and are excited about eating munch and crunch, recess and lunch at school this week. They also met some specialist teachers, visiting Art, Music, P.E. and Library. They will continue to have lots of new experiences in the coming weeks. It is a blessing to be teaching these children this year in Prep and we look forward to seeing their growth and development.

Year 1

Wonderful Year 1s are off to a great start! In ICU we are investigating the changes that occur to various foods when they have been heated and cooled. We came up with amazing adjectives for cooked spaghetti: squishy, sticky, cold, wobbly and stretchy.



Weylen, Steffan and Vincent investigate the properties of cooked spaghetti

Through the Biblical account of Noah and the Ark, we learned that God always keeps His promises! In Maths we made our very own clocks and are experts at identifying o'clock! So far this year, we have made new friends and feel very grown up because we can now play on the BIG playground.

We look forward to a year of learning, achieving, friendships and fun!

Year 2

What a terrific two weeks we have had in Year 2! We have had great fun getting to know each other and hearing about the amazing adventures people had on their holidays. We were all so excited to go to our first Strings lessons last Wednesday. We heard the teachers play violin, viola and cello. We wrote down our choices. By the time you read this we will have had our very first lesson on our instruments. We are so happy about learning to play music.

Year 3

We have had a wonderful start to 2017! We have enjoyed doing lots of get to know you activities, meeting new faces of students and Mrs Bradshaw! We are looking forward to investigating *My place, Your place* in our Integrated Curriculum Unit. We were so excited to go to The Barn with Mrs Gaschk and explore God's creation.

Year 4

Both classes are filled with wonderful, awesome, enthusiastic and fun-loving students. Both teachers feel very privileged to be teaching such students and are excited at what the year ahead holds. We have begun the year getting to know one another and laying the foundations for the culture and routines of the classroom. Needless to say, all students have made excellent contributions already and are keenly engaged with the daily activities in class. This week holds even greater excitement with the *dishing out* of homework – something that students have been eagerly anticipating! As the year progresses, we look forward to all students learning, maturing and growing to become more and more who God wants them to be.

Year 5

We are thrilled to be back and *fully loaded*, as we welcome eight new students to our Year 5 cohort, and are delighted to see many familiar and bright faces back to kick off our year in 2017. We have spent time setting up new routines and learning goals and getting to know one another. In ICU this semester, Year 5 students will be learning about the Australian Gold Rush. To introduce the topic this week, the students had to dress up as 1850s characters and follow the clues in their allocated groups to specific destinations around the College. It was one epic Gold Treasure Hunt, with students already getting a taste of gold fever. Students had high hopes that they would strike it lucky and find the largest gold nuggets. They encountered stern soldiers checking their gold licenses and a gold commissioner who maybe halted their attempts at making a fortune along their journey. It was a thoroughly enjoyed experience by both students and staff.

Year 6

We have begun learning about governments in anticipation for our visit to Canberra later this term. This was complete with a message from the Queen herself!

We've already been divided into our interschool sport teams and are ready to have a great term!



Max, Caleb, Kayla and Jessica enjoy a visit from Queen Elizabeth II

Administration

Absence Line - 9727 9992

As we begin a new year we would like to remind existing parents, and provide our new parents, with the details of our Absence Line.

If a student is to be away from school, we ask that parents/Homestay parents call the Absence Line on 9727 9992, ideally before 9.00am on the day of the absence. A recorded message will ask you for the following information:

- The name and Home Group of the absent student(s)
- Your name (the name of the parent or guardian)
- The (brief) reason for the absence
- The dates of the absence period (e.g., 1 day or 3 days; if you are uncertain, then please leave a message to say e.g., *2 days for now*, and call again on the 3rd day to update the information).

This system should also be used if the student will be late to arrive at school. Please note that students will still be required to sign in/out at the Student Reception.

The messages you leave will be recorded and archived, and they will form part of our official records.

If a student is absent, but we have not received a phone call from you, we may attempt to contact you. Obviously, this is a time-consuming task for our staff, so we would greatly appreciate your phone call. (Messages can be left in advance and at any time of day or night.)

We will also take this opportunity to remind you that medical certificates are required for all VCE students if they miss any form of assessment and for VCE students and international students where they have had more than three days of absence in a term.

Mel Brydon
Office Manager

Congratulations

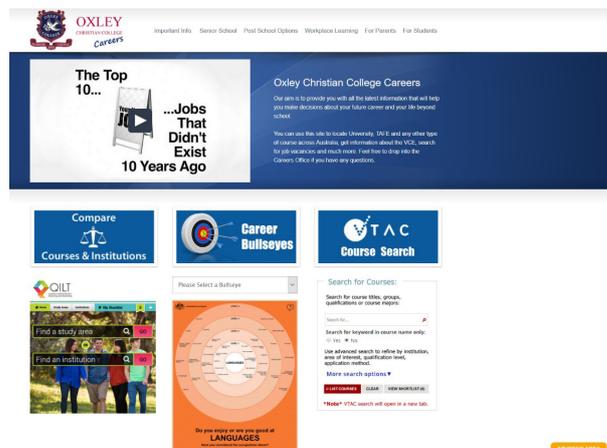
Congratulations to Jaymie Ashman (2M).



Following their win at the AASCF State Championships, Jaymie's dance troop recently competed in jazz and contemporary at the National Dance Championships in Queensland. Congratulations to Jaymie and her team for placing 2nd in Jazz.

Careers

Introducing www.oxleycareers.com which provides the latest information to help students make decisions about future careers and life beyond school.



This site can be used to locate University, TAFE and any other type of course across Australia, obtain information about the VCE, search for job vacancies and much more.

A fortnightly careers newsletter can be found under the *Important Information* tab which provides students and parents with current careers opportunities including information sessions and workshop times to explore career interests.

Carol Oswald
Careers Coordinator

Welcome to New Staff 2017

Sad as it is to bid farewell to retiring staff in 2016, we are very pleased to introduce you to new staff members to continue the quality teaching and learning for which Oxley is known.



Faye Anderson



Anita Bradshaw



Kate Broadley



Stephanie Burt



Maxwell Cuddon



Rebecca Dyson



Catherine Hallyburton



Timothy Ong



Holly Pedley



Dan Rodgers



Nicole Thorpe



Tristan Webb



Michaela Wynne

Hello everyone! My name is **Stephanie Burt**. After being blessed so abundantly by the Oxley community during my time as a student, I am thrilled to return as a singing teacher. I hope to instill and encourage a love of music in my students, similar to the one I found studying under Anna Broadley-Pana. Since leaving Oxley, I have completed my Bachelor of Music in Classical Voice as well as full time Music Theatre studies and have loved working both as a singing teacher (privately and at Waverley Christian College) and as a performer. I am engaged to the most wonderful man on the planet and excited for the year that is to come!

I'm **Catherine Hallyburton** and I have just finished a Bachelor of Science at Monash University where I majored in Ecology and Conservation Biology. I have also studied a Certificate in Education Support at Monash which I use for my role as Learning Support Assistant in the Junior School.

Hi everyone, my name is **Rebecca Dyson** and I am very excited to be joining the team at Oxley this year as a graduate teacher in Food Studies and Health. Prior to being called to the teaching profession I completed a degree in Hospitality Studies. Following this I was blessed with a global career working in front office and training, whilst still continuing to cook for family and friends. I am looking forward to meeting all our families at Oxley and seeing what God has planned for us in 2017.

My name is **Kate Broadley**. I am excited about joining Oxley Christian College as a secondary teacher, after many years as an Oxley parent. Over the past seventeen years I have taught Psychology and English in three different schools. In between these roles, I worked as an Education Researcher and completed my Master of Education. I have a particular interest in how education and neuroscience research can inform teaching practise in the classroom. I am thankful that God has led me to join the wonderful Oxley community and I look forward to making new connections this year.

Hi, my name is **Holly Pedley** and I am pleased to be joining the English and Humanities faculties at Oxley Christian College this year. Recently I have completed a Bachelor of Arts and studied teaching and education at the University of Melbourne, while also taking time to travel. As a past student of Oxley, I am excited to re-join their community in a new role, work with teachers who are now my peers and get to know the next generation of Oxley students as they learn and grow in this amazing environment.

Hey everyone, I'm **Timothy Ong** and I am thrilled to be back at Oxley again. This year I'll be doing what I love best, teaching Music. I'll be joining the great team of Year 2 String Teachers, and I'll be teaching private instrumental as well. I am super excited to train up young musicians and am ready to share my passions with people of all ages.

My name is **Dan Rodgers** and I am a graduate teacher from the University of Melbourne, where I completed my Master of Primary Teaching. I am really excited to be teaching the best class, which, of course, is Year 6. I was a student at Oxley graduating in the class of 2007. Since then I completed my undergraduate Degree at Bible College, played and watched as much sport as humanly possible, worked an array of interesting jobs and have served God through youth ministry.

Believing 2017 will be the best year here at Oxley and that Blue House will win every sporting carnival in a canter. Amen.

My name is **Anita Bradshaw** and I am excited to be joining the Oxley Junior School team as a Year 3 teacher. I am fortunate to have taught all year levels over the past 25 years, in a variety of schools across the Yarra Valley. On the weekends I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I love to read, watch movies and take my dog on long walks. I also take every opportunity to travel with my husband and two teenage daughters. I have felt such a warm welcome to my new school and look forward to being part of the Oxley community.

Hello everyone! My name is **Michaela Wynne** and I am extremely excited and blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of the Oxley Junior School team. I am a graduate teacher from Australian Catholic University and am looking forward to embarking on this new journey God has placed before me. This year, I will be teaching Year 2 and my first week has already been overflowing with joy spending quality time with my students. I look forward to witnessing God's amazing work throughout the year in both my classroom and Oxley.

My name is **Maxwell Cuddon**. I count it a real privilege to be a member of the Oxley staff this year. My background in teaching spans a number of years and has centred mainly in the areas of Science and Biology. My greatest joy comes when I see young enquiring minds finding the answers to their questions and the greater understanding they develop as they study God's creation. I look forward to enhancing my own learning journey alongside my students this year at Oxley.

Hello everyone, my name is **Nicole Thorpe**. As many of you will know, I have been working at Oxley for many years as a Casual Relief Teacher. Now that my three children are at school (here at Oxley) I have taken a position teaching Secondary Maths. Maths is my passion and I'm really excited to be working with such a great team and having my own classes again. I enjoy camping, keeping fit, playing squash and spending time with my family and friends.

Hello all. I am **Faye Anderson** and so blessed to be led to be part of, and warmly welcomed into, the Oxley family. I am working at Visitor Reception and assisting with Junior School administration. I have lived in Carrum Downs the past six years after returning from twelve years living and working in central Sweden. I enjoy travel and celebrating the individual uniqueness in us all.

Hi, my name is **Tristan Webb** and I am excited to be taking on the role of Brass Teacher in 2017. I have grown up learning multiple brass instruments and love playing music. I play sports such as cricket and AFL football, and simply enjoy being outside. I am excited to work with the brass students, helping them to develop their musical ability on their instruments and I hope they learn to love music in the same way I do!

Past Students Association

It is our pleasure to celebrate the achievements of our past students as we hear from them from time to time. If you know of past students who have recently graduated or have a recent significant achievement, please let us know, as we would love to share it with the Oxley community.



Congratulations to **Gabrielle Hamilton (Class of 2011)** graduating with 1st Class Honours in Interior Design.



Congratulations to **Stephanie Berry (Class of 2011)** who graduated with a Masters of Nursing Science from Melbourne University.



Congratulations to **Thomas Mullaney (Class of 2011)** on his graduation from Monash University. He gained his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (Honors). He is looking forward to an Internship at Monash Health .

We wish these past students well, and God's richest blessings upon them as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

If you are a past student of the College, we welcome you to join the Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/oxleycollege/

Pastor Matt Chaplain

Music

Welcome back to the Music Department for 2017. As usual, we have had a busy start to the year. This year we have started with close to 200 students undertaking private music lessons (25% increase on last year), and even more involved in our ensemble program.

We have a number of new staff members in the Music Department this year. Miss Stephanie Burt is our new teacher of Vocal and will lead the Senior Choir and Vocal Ensemble. Mr Tim Ong will be part of our Year 2 Strings Program and will teach Violin and Viola. Mr Tristan Webb is our new teacher of Brass. He will also be part of our Year 7 Instrumental Program and will assist Mr Chan with the Senior Concert Band. We hope to have a new Contemporary Guitar teacher soon.

Our private music lessons have started. All students should have received a timetable for their Term 1 lessons. (Please note that some guitar students may not yet have their timetable, as we are finalising the position of a new guitar teacher.) Please remember that it is the student's responsibility to know their music lesson time and arrive at their lesson in a timely manner. The staff in the Music Department will do their best to find late students and get them to their lessons, but it is not always possible to locate every student in time for their lesson. Lessons missed without prior notice will be charged as a paid lesson.

Our music ensembles have also started this week. The rehearsal times for our Senior School ensembles are as follows;

Allegro	Monday	3.45pm – 5.00pm
Concert Band	Tuesday	3.45pm – 5.00pm
Sinfonia	Tuesday	3.45pm – 5.00pm
Vocal Ensemble	Wednesday	3.45pm – 5.00pm*
Senior Choir	Thursday	3.45pm – 5.00pm
Training Strings	Friday	1.15pm – 1.55pm
Camerata	Friday	3.45pm – 5.00pm

*Vocal Ensemble auditions for Years 10 -12 will be held on Wednesday 15 February. Any students in Years 10 -12 who would like to audition can see Mrs Peacock in the BPAC to book an audition time.

Our Junior School ensembles start in the week of February 13. The rehearsal times for our Junior ensembles are as follows;

Vivace	Monday	3.30pm – 4.30pm
Cherub Choir	Tuesday	8.15am – 8.45am
Seraphim Choir	Wednesday	8.15am – 8.55am
Allegretto	Wednesday	3.45pm – 4.30pm
Andante	Thursday	3.45pm – 4.30pm

Vivace – percussion ensemble for students in Years 5-6
 Cherub Choir – choir for students in Years 3-4
 Seraphim Choir – choir for students in Years 5-6
 Allegretto – string ensemble for students in Years 4-6
 Andante – strings ensemble for students in Year 3

Angela Peacock
 Performing Arts & Events Administrator

Sport

Senior Sport Report

We are looking forward to a very busy first term for Oxley Sport and I hope that all our students will get involved to make it a great year for Oxley Christian College. A big welcome to all students new to Oxley, especially our Year 7 students.



Blue House Captains with the 2016 House Swimming Trophy

We are starting the year off with EISM competition sport for Years 10 to 12 (Senior students) with our first round commencing yesterday. Our Senior students will be the only group participating in team competition during Term 1.

Swimming

Years 7 to 9 students will be trialling for swimming and athletics during Term 1. Our In-House Swimming Carnival will take place on Thursday 16 February at Croydon Outdoor Memorial Pool. Parents are welcome to attend to support their children.

In preparation for swimming, Year 7s attended trials on Monday 6 February and selected students will also attend on Monday 13 February at Lilydale Outdoor Swimming Pool during Periods 5 and 6. Sport for Year 7 students always takes place on Mondays during Periods 5 and 6.

Today, Thursday 9 February, Years 8/9 will also have the opportunity for trials at Lilydale Outdoor Pool.

Students who perform well during the In-House Swimming Carnival will represent Oxley in the EISM Division 2 Carnival against other schools on Tuesday 14 March at Aquanation Swimming Pool in Ringwood.

Athletics

On Monday 20 February at 3.45pm we will commence extra training opportunities for students interested in preparing for Athletics. This will occur every Monday in the Stadium. Students are to report in their training gear and will be assisted in Athletic events.

Frederik Kotze
 Head of Sport

Junior Sport Report

Blue House Wins in 2016

In 2016, Junior School students competed in a range of sporting carnivals for their allocated House. Students had to swim, run, jump, throw and work in teams successfully to gain as many points as they could.

In the Swimming Sports, Blue House finished 1st, Red House 2nd and White House 3rd. The same results occurred in the Year 4-6 Athletics and Cross Country as Blue House continued their winning streak. At the Year 3-6 Basketball Day and the Prep to Year 3 Athletics, Blue House again finished 1st, White House came 2nd and Red House finished 3rd.



Sally Broadley congratulates Blue House Captains, Claire and Campbell, on their 2016 win

Overall, White House finished in third place for the year, Red House second and Blue House first.

Congratulations to **Campbell Palmer** and **Claire Noonan** for leading your House to victory! I look forward to seeing more fantastic results this year.

Joshua Gaschk
 Junior Sport Coordinator

Chinese New Year Lunch

Lunar New Year 2017

Saturday 28 January marks the first day of Lunar New Year 2017 and the celebrations last for 15 days. A festive lunch was organised for the International students on Friday 3 February, to welcome in the *Year of the Rooster*.



Angel putting the finishing touches on the Chinese New Year lunch

Students Adrian Tang (12.7), Angel Tan (12.6), Angeline Richardson (12.6), Chris Chan (12.6), Christy Ho (11.16), Frank Li (12.10), George Tan (12.9), Kevin Chan (12.10), Kevin Wu (12.7), Ruth Ong (12.9), Sarah Lewis (12.9) and Zoe Ding (12.8), together with teachers Mrs Adeline Lim, Miss Phoebe Shen and Mr Yimin Zhang, prepared dumplings and spring rolls. Mrs Robyn Holland decorated the Student Reception area and the Dining Room with plum blossoms, red lanterns and red packets, as well as fruit sculptures. Mr Ian Broadley, Mrs Rosalyn Skurrie, Mrs Debra Roberts and the students were also involved in the cleaning up after the lunch.



Vicky, Celia and Astrid enjoying the Chinese New Year lunch

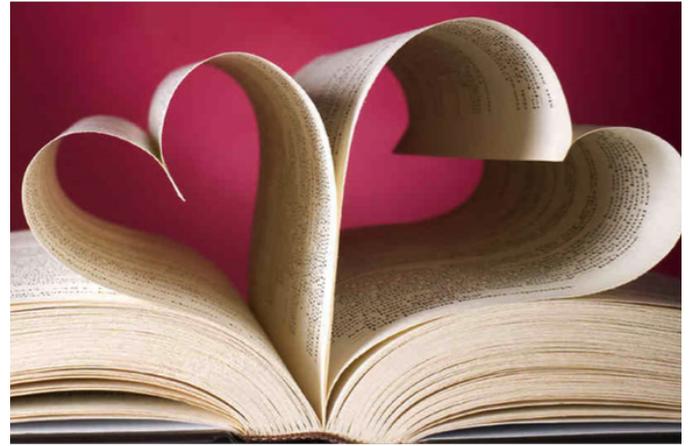
Lunar New Year is a time to put away the old and welcome in the new. It is also a time for family togetherness. Many of our international students spent their Lunar New Year away from their loved ones. Let us pray for God's love to surround them always.

Wishing all a very blessed *Year of the Rooster*!

Seh Yeh Ong
Head of Languages

Resource Centre

Don't Judge a Book by its Cover...



Library Lovers Day

February 14 has long been recognised as a celebration of love, and this year the English Faculty, in conjunction with the Resource Centre, is excited to invite Senior School students to go on a BLIND DATE with a book. Students from Year 12 Literature have been asked to write five word blurbs for books that they have enjoyed reading over the years. These books will be wrapped in brown paper with the description written on the front. We encourage students to browse the display and select a book to take out for a date. Will it be a perfect match? Only time will tell.

Eleesha Higbed
Head of English

Refurbishment of Middle School Classrooms

During 2015-16, we completed the refurbishment of Junior School and Year 7 classrooms. During 2017, our refurbishment works will continue, commencing with Year 9 classrooms in Term 1. Construction fencing will be placed around the classrooms and we would request that students and parents take care when using footpaths around these areas.

LMC Kidz Roar

After School Program for Kids in Years 1 and 2

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, at this stage, Kidz Roar for students in Years 1 and 2, will not be running this year. However, Roar Energy for kids in Years 3 - 6 and Uproar for kids in Year 6 are both still running. If circumstances regarding Kidz Roar change, we will inform parents as soon as possible. We apologise for this pause in our programming.

Please feel free to contact Peter Harris on 0409 002 543 or the LMC Church Office on 9726 8111 if you have any questions.

Year 12 Retreat

Year 12 Retreat

Last Monday the Year 12 cohort enjoyed a day off from our usual classes and travelled off-campus for a day-long retreat.

The morning was spent listening to motivational speaker, Nathan Hulls, who encouraged us to not limit our potential or capabilities for this year by the labels or comparisons we may place on ourselves. In sharing some of his personal journey, Nathan challenged us to reconsider how we define *success*, putting many aspects of the year ahead into perspective. He then provided many practical ways we can maximise our studying both within class and at home.

Following Nathan was a panel of previous Year 12 students who gave personal, honest advice on the many aspects of Year 12 and how to balance life both within and outside of school. This was particularly helpful to hear of the common traps we may fall into, and the importance of communicating well with those closest to us.

The afternoon consisted of a team-building Boot Camp in our House groups, with both mental and physical challenges that provided many hilarious memories. A particular highlight was the rigorous, student-run warm-up that provided many laughs and sore muscles in the days following! Overall a rewarding and helpful experience, preparing us well for the year ahead.

Gabrielle Wilson-Gardner (12.7)



Student Drop-offs and Pick-ups 2017

A reminder that all students should continue to enter and depart from the School via the Yellow Square, as per the map below.

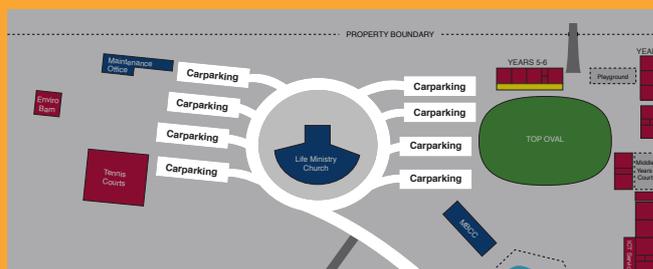
Parents and others dropping-off or picking-up students are requested to continue parking in the car parks around the LMC Church building. Please be mindful that parents of Junior School students are given priority to park in Car Parks A-C.

As our students are not always mindful of the many cars using our roads, wherever possible, but especially required for students in Prep to Year 4, parents and other responsible adults are encouraged to walk their children to the Yellow Square before school, and to walk their children from the Yellow Square after school.

All road users are requested to maintain speeds at no faster than walking pace at drop-off and pick-up times, and to only park in lined parking areas. Please do not park on the sides of the main road, which hinders the vision of drivers turning in to and out of parking bays.

We appreciate that at peak times cars may need to queue for up to 10 (or so) minutes, especially to exit the property. We are not unlike many other schools in relation to student drop-offs and pick-ups, where courtesy and patience is necessary, so as to maintain safety for our students. We recommend that, whenever possible, you drop your children off 5-10 minutes earlier in the morning, or pick your children up 5-10 minutes later in the afternoon, so as to reduce the number of vehicles exiting the property at peak times.

We thank you for your understanding and care for our students.



Notice Board

2017 Calendar

UNIFORM SHOP

Gate 7, 15-49 Old Melbourne Rd
Ph: 9036 7359

Tuesdays & Thursdays (term time)
8.15 - 9.00am & 1.00 - 4.30pm

Uniform regulations and price list are available at the Office or online at:
<http://www.bobstewart.com.au>

CLASSIFIEDS

The Oxley Classifieds are a convenient way to buy and sell items (directly related to the education of your child) such as textbooks, uniform and musical instruments.

To advertise or purchase second-hand items:
<http://online.oxley.vic.edu.au/index.php>

username: parent
password: oxley

OXLEY KIDS

Early Learning Centre
Open 6.30am - 6.30pm
9727 9200

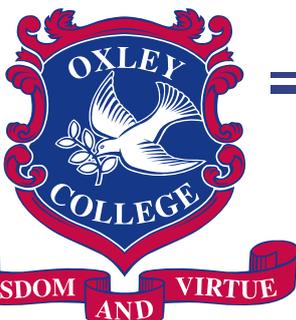
OXLEY ONLINE

The Vine is also available online via our website:
www.oxley.vic.edu.au

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

To see the latest in tertiary information including Open Days, visit:
<http://www.oxley.vic.edu.au/category/careers>

Feb	Thursday	9	Junior School Investiture (1.30pm LMC)
	Saturday	11	Scholarship Testing Day (8.45am Senior School Building)
	Tuesday	14	School at Work (9.30am BPAC) VCE Parent Evening (7.30pm BPAC)
	Wednesday	15	Year 7 Parent Information Evening (7.30pm BPAC)
	Wed-Fri	15-17	Year 5 Camp
	Monday	20	Senior School Investiture (8.50am LMC)
	Tuesday	21	City Cite Information Evening (7.00pm BPAC)
	Tue-Fri	21-24	Year 10 Camp
	Wednesday	22	Years 4-6 Swimming Carnival
	Thursday	23	P-6 New Parents Coffee Evening (7.00pm Staffroom) and Junior School Curriculum Evening (8.00pm Classrooms)
Mar	Thursday	2	Junior School Leaders Chapel (1.30pm LMC)
	Friday	3	Year 7 Parent BBQ (5.30pm The Barn)
	Tuesday	7	Junior School Parent Teacher Interviews (4.00-8.30pm Senior School Building)
	Thursday	9	Junior School Parent Teacher Interviews (4.00-6.00pm Senior School Building)
	Monday	13	Labour Day Holiday
	Tue-Fri	14-31	City Cite
	Wednesday	15	Year 7-9 Parent Seminar (7.30pm BPAC)
	Thursday	16	School at Work (9.30am BPAC)
	Mon-Thu	20-23	Year 6 Camp
	Tue-Fri	21-24	Year 8 Camp
	Wed-Fri	22-24	Year 7 Camp
	Thursday	30	City Cite Presentation Evening (6.30pm City Cite Campus)
	Friday	31	Last Day Term 1
Apr	Fri-Mon	14-17	Easter
	Tuesday	18	First Day Term 2 (Winter uniform)
	Thursday	20	Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews (4.00-8.30pm Senior School Building)
	Friday	21	Year 7 Immunisation
	Monday	24	ANZAC Dawn Service (6.30am Teardrop Carpark)
	Tuesday	25	ANZAC Day
	Wednesday	26	Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews (4.00-8.30pm Senior School Building)
May	Wednesday	3	School Photos
	Friday	5	Open Day Preparation (1.00pm dismissal)
	Saturday	6	Open Day (11.00am - 3.30pm)



OXLEY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

A Coeducational School | Pre-School to Year 12

15-49 Old Melbourne Rd, Chirside Park, Victoria, 3116, Australia

Principal: Dr Douglas Peck

Ph: 03 9727 9900

Business Manager: Mr Andrew Holland

Fax: 03 9727 9988

International Ph: +61 3 9727 9900

International Fax: +61 3 9727 9988

email: office@oxley.vic.edu.au

ABN: 25 005 670 682 / 008

A DIVISION OF LIFE MINISTRY CENTRE LTD. OLD MELBOURNE RD CHIRSIDE PARK, VIC, 3116. (INC IN VICTORIA)