



The Newsletter of  
Oxley Christian College

Issue No 11  
2 August 2018

## From the Principal

Dear Friends,

We warmly welcome students to the third term. I especially welcome families new to Oxley and trust you will have a wonderful time in this community. We are, of course, all looking forward to the Senior School Music Production beginning next Wednesday evening and concluding on Saturday evening. It is not too early to wholeheartedly congratulate our staff and students on the preparations and performance practices that have been undertaken to present this musical to the Oxley community. By all accounts it will be a spectacular set and very polished performance.

This is also the time of the year we seek your feedback about the College. To that end, the link for our annual survey of parents is provided here [www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018OxleyParent](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018OxleyParent). The 2018 survey will close on Friday 17 August. We really appreciate feedback and much of the survey from last year contributed to new staff appointments and planning conversations for this year.

Indeed, one of the school's strategies is to regularly clarify its mission in order to shape its curricular goals and

day to day practices. We review and restate our biblical rationale and purpose in order that it makes sense to each new generation of students and teachers. Too often this self-examination is not done in schools. We seldom think about where our practices come from, what purpose they serve and even what schools are for. Our society is fast-moving, always changing and ethically challenging. If we are uncritical and unreflective in our practices, we can get into trouble and act in ways contrary to our main intentions.

In view of the vast amount of information and human knowledge that is readily available, we must carefully think about the most effective framework for education and the essential task of a Christian life. Are we merely preparing people for a tertiary education? Are we training people for work? Are we so embedded in a consumer society so as to ignore a responsible cultural transformation along the lines of Kingdom principles and ethics? These questions are of enormous importance and take a dedicated wisdom to avoid the cultural fads, pitfalls and complexities. To the Christian educator this is an exciting undertaking.

Douglas Peck

**TICKETS ALMOST SOLD OUT!**

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN**

**WED 8 - SAT 11 AUGUST**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

**VISIT [OXLEY.VIC.EDU.AU/TICKETS](http://OXLEY.VIC.EDU.AU/TICKETS) FOR MORE DETAILS**

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

Oxley Christian College Junior School Musical

# *The Mender*



Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 September  
7.30pm

Adults \$15 Children \$10 | Venue: LMC Auditorium

Ticket information will be in the next edition of the vine

## Senior School

It is a delight for us all to be back at school again, after a long break. Our teachers spent the third week of the break undertaking professional development, updating First Aid accreditation, reviewing and refining teaching practices. This proved to be an invaluable time for ensuring that we, as a staff can continue to provide a first class educational experience for your children.

It was evident, however, that a school without students is really missing what is important and we were extremely happy to see them return to share with us what had transpired during the break. For some students their memories were mainly of holiday homework which helped to solidify foundations and prepare VCE students for the road ahead. Others experienced *Singin' in the Rain* rehearsals, local and overseas travel, time with friends and family or other worthwhile activities, and adventures were the highlights of the break.

Year 10 students may have felt that it was a really long time since they attended regular classes, having spent the last week of Term 2 participating in work experience. The change in them was evident in their attitudes and conversations and it was a treat to welcome them at Year 10 into 11 Afternoon, and again on the following evening with parents to discuss the VCE, Careers and Subject Selection. Thank you to the many parents and students who were able to attend the evening and consider the various subjects offered next year. Please continue to ask for assistance with any concerns or queries you have so we can help you prepare for a successful and enjoyable VCE.

I had the absolute privilege on the weekend of attending a Graduation Ceremony at Melbourne University, where one of our former students was awarded their Bachelor of Commerce. It was an honour to see 'our own' mixing it with the best at this prestigious institution, knowing that even beyond the formal educational aspect, we are working at equipping students for life not just for work.

This week commenced with Music Assembly where more than 50 students presented 11 different items. The performances were flawless and testified to the efforts and hours of practice which had been poured into making this event the high class success that it was. All performers, which included a few from Junior School, are congratulated on the culmination of their hard work which was an inspirational start to the school week. Well done!

I would like to leave you with the blessing that concluded the Music Assembly, written by Paul in 2 Thessalonians 3:16, *Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.*

**Greg Barker**  
Deputy Principal – Head of Senior School

## Junior School

Welcome to Term 3! Students and staff returned to school with much eagerness after a well-earned winter break. It is a delight to hear about the many and varied holiday experiences our students have enjoyed with their families at home, interstate and overseas!

We warmly welcome Mrs Rebecca Hill to Oxley. Mrs Hill is an experienced teacher and leader, who comes to us from Ivanhoe Grammar School, Plenty Campus. She is thrilled to be joining the Junior School teaching and learning team. Until Mrs Hill is released from her Ivanhoe role, the position of Junior School Performing Arts teacher will be shared with Mrs Jasmine Sien. We are grateful for her support during this time of transition, especially as we busily prepare for our 2018 musical.

On that note, students from Prep to Year 6 are currently learning their items for our upcoming Junior Musical, *The Mender*, under the guidance of our new Performing Arts teacher, Mrs Rebecca Hill and Drama Director, Mrs Sharon Sutton. Our main cast are learning their lines and rehearsing during Performing Arts and Drama lessons. It is wonderful to see students excited about performing to an audience and growing in confidence. Please add these dates to your diary – Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 September – and consider inviting family and friends to what promises to be a wonderful show. Ticketing information will soon be released.

Congratulations to our Prep students who celebrated 100 days of school on Thursday 1 August. So much is learned in this formative year, where foundations for future learning are established. We congratulate the students on their focus and enthusiasm for learning. Thank you to our Prep teachers and their assistants for organising such an unforgettable day for our students.

We appreciated the opportunity to meet with parents at our Parent Teacher Interviews this week. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to conversations about student progress and goal setting for Semester 2. Building a strong partnership between school and home is essential to a child experiencing success in their learning.

On Thursday 9 August, we will formally acknowledge the students elected to serve in the role of Home Group Captain or Enviro Captain in Semester 2. Parents are invited to attend this special Chapel service at LMC from 1.30pm, where students will receive their badges on stage.

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24*

**Sharee Gaiser**  
Head of Junior School

## What Did You Do at School Today?

### Prep

This semester, we are having Sustainability lessons with Mrs Gaschk. It was very exciting to put our gumboots on and explore the Enviro Barn. We enjoyed a tour and met some friendly animals along the way, including guinea pigs and a blue tongue lizard. We also looked at the vegetable patch, fruit trees and even picked a mandarin to take home and share with our family. We have enjoyed continuing our exploration of weather in Science. The Preps are learning how to record the weather and notice how changes in weather can affect what we wear in our daily lives.

### Year 1

We have *green thumbs* this week because we have been planting our own little garden full of seeds and seedlings. We also placed other items in our garden including sticks, leaves, plastic insects, icy pole sticks, a dead lady bug and much more. Over the next few weeks, we are going to be observing our garden. As a class, we want to watch and see what might change. Will anything new grow? In our Science journals, we have made predictions by drawing and writing what our garden might end up looking like. Some students think that we might find some new animal friends who have made our garden their home. Others believe that if it rains and storms, some of our garden might be destroyed. Other students think that we might find flowers blossoming, and tomatoes and peas growing.

### Year 2

We have had a fantastic start to Term 3! We are learning to write clear and concise instructions. Our teachers challenged us to describe how to make a *hundreds and thousands* sandwich. It was very funny as we told Miss Wynne to *pour* the hundreds and thousands onto the bread. We had to yell "Stop!" and learnt the importance of giving precise instructions. In Mathematics, we are learning about multiplication and are exploring different ways of solving multiplication problems. We must decide which strategy we each prefer. Applying our knowledge to worded problems is a fun challenge! We were excited to meet our new Performing Arts teacher, Mrs Hill, and loved learning our song for the musical.

### Year 3

We have had an action packed start to Term 3! We loved going to the swimming program at Kilsyth Centenary Pool, where we developed our water safety skills. We improved our swimming strokes and wore our pyjamas in the water when learning survival skills. Swimming was a great experience and is such an important skill for every child to develop.



Year 3 enjoying fun water play activities

### Year 4

Students have settled harmoniously into school life following the holidays. The first week has gone swimmingly with students extending their swimming skills at *The Dome*. In Writing, students are composing procedures that tell others how to do something. Funnily enough, most students seem quite at home telling others what to do! Students are also learning how to determine what is important when reading. It would be wonderful if you can listen to your children read this week and ask them to tell you what is important in the text. In Mathematics, students are exploring line and rotational symmetry. Whilst driving around, it would be useful to have students look out for symmetrical items along the roadside. You could even make a list and bring it to school!

### Year 5

We have commenced reading the C. S. Lewis classic, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. As we read, we created pictures in our mind of what the wonderful world of Narnia would look like. This is called *visualising*. Our Science topic for this term has us investigating states of matter. We have learnt to define solids, liquids and gases and are beginning to understand how these states of matter are different. What an exciting term ahead!

### Year 6

We have started looking at natural disasters and the effect they can have on the world around us. To build our understanding, we travelled to the IMAX theatre to watch a documentary, titled *Forces of Nature*. This documentary taught us more about disasters, such as earthquakes, volcanoes and severe storms. We then went to the *Screen World Exhibition* at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image. We had a fantastic time discovering new things about modern technology, such as video games, virtual reality and digital art. In our Poetry unit, we have been learning about word mapping and how this can help us to draft a poem.

Written by  
Mary Spratt (6W) and Ruby Serra (6W)



# Music

Welcome back to another busy and exciting term in the Music Department. We would like to welcome Mrs Rebecca Hill who joins us as our new Junior Music teacher. Mrs Hill has extensive experience in junior classrooms, in conducting choirs and in leading school musicals. We are sure Mrs Hill will be a great addition to our team and will be loved by all of our Junior students. Mrs Jasmine Sien has also joined our team for a short period until Mrs Hill is able to take on all of our Junior music classes.

We had a very busy finish to Term 2 with our Senior Ensemble Evening on Thursday 21 June and our Junior Ensemble Evening on Wednesday 27 June. Ensemble students were excited to show their families and friends the magic of making music together and why they enjoy playing in their ensembles so much. Each performance was a fine culmination of the dedicated practise that had gone into rehearsals during the semester.

This week our Senior ensembles performed for the Senior School community at our annual Music Assembly. Ensembles who performed included Melodia, Camerata, Sforzando, and Concert Band and Sinfonia who also combined to form an orchestra. Over 75 students participated in the morning as a member of one or more ensembles. Of special note was the talent on display amongst our students. **Miranda Lantry (8.33)** composed an item, *Theme*, which was performed by Camerata. It was a moving piece with complex harmonies and it was hard to believe it was composed by a Year 8 student. Our School Captain, **Liam Ting (12.9)**, who has played with Sinfonia for five years, had the privilege of conducting our Sinfonia item, *Eleanor Rigby*. He has had lessons for a number of months on conducting and did a fine job in the performance. Well done to all involved!

Congratulations to our string students who sat their SCSM examinations back in June. The following students all passed their examinations, but of special note are two students, **Levi Steer (3AB)** and **Isabel Alcorido (3CB)**, who both received perfect scores of 100%. The students listed below are also to be congratulated on their great effort.

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Levi Steer       | Violin Preliminary Grade |
| Chloe Daly       | Violin Preliminary Grade |
| Jasmine Liu      | Violin Preliminary Grade |
| Isabel Alcorido  | Violin Preliminary Grade |
| Emily Duckworth  | Violin Preliminary Grade |
| Tirion Roberts   | Violin Grade 1           |
| Jeremiah Lambert | Violin Grade 1           |
| Daniel Balla     | Violin Grade 2           |
| Kayla Foo        | Violin Grade 2           |
| Mikayla Scharp   | Violin Grade 2           |
| James Kim        | Violin Grade 3           |
| Hovan Truong     | Violin Grade 3           |
| Keishi Sasuga    | Violin Grade 4           |

|                      |                                    |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Emily Spratt         | Violin Concert Certificate Grade 5 |
| Hannah Jansen        | Violin Concert Certificate Grade 5 |
| Tahlia Stewart       | Violin Concert Certificate Grade 7 |
| James Pong           | Viola Grade 1                      |
| Karen Wang           | Viola Grade 2                      |
| Elijah Daly          | Cello Preliminary Grade            |
| Alannah Moulton      | Cello Grade 2                      |
| Thomas Ly            | Cello Grade 3                      |
| Max Broadley-Thomson | Cello Grade 3                      |
| Antony Scarborough   | Cello Grade 3                      |

Parents are reminded that private music lessons are scheduled weekly. If a lesson is missed for any reason, including absences from school, it is counted as a paid lesson.

Please remember that a minimum of six weeks' notice (prior to the end of term) is required if any student would like to discontinue lessons in Term 4. The last date by which to give notice for Term 4 is Friday 10 August.

Private instrumental students are reminded to ensure their lesson times are written into their School Diary and their Lesson Diary. Both diaries should also be brought to every lesson. Senior students are also able to check lessons on SEQTA. This is very important as the Music Department is no longer able to call classes to find Senior students for their lessons. Lessons missed are charged as paid lessons.

If you have any queries about performances or private instrumental lessons, please call the Music Department on 9727 9675.

**Angela Peacock**  
Performing Arts & Events Administrator

## School Banking

### Volunteers needed

School Banking is a fun way for students to learn vital money management skills and develop good saving habits. Did you know that since the school banking program started at Oxley Christian College in early 2014, over \$2500 in commission has been raised for the Amari Project? We are very keen to keep the program running smoothly. Our team of volunteers is doing a fantastic job. However, we need more helpers. The program will not be able to continue without the support of the team of volunteers. If you can please spare two hours on a Monday, on a roster basis, we would love to hear from you. Volunteers will be well trained. No special skills are required, just a genuine desire to help our students learn how to save. Please contact the office to find out more information.

# The Australian Brain Bee Challenge

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge is an annual neuroscience competition for Year 10 students, run by the Australasian Neuroscience Society. This year, **Casey Haycraft (10.4)** and **Sophie Wilkinson (10.3)** were selected for the State Final; based on their scores from the first round of the challenge. Casey was able to attend and compete in the Victorian Final, which was held on 18 July in the impressive Melbourne Brain Centre at the University of Melbourne.

Casey participated in the individual event, and listened to inspiring keynote speakers discuss their current research and career paths in neuroscience. We heard about the science of ocular immunology – where immune cells interact with nerve cells in the retina and reveal much about the working of the brain. Another researcher spoke about a new brain plasticity which occurs at the myelin sheath level of neurons.

A highlight of the day was touring the neuroscience laboratories where post-doctoral students are working on using ocular imagery to predict the presence of neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's Disease. In five years' time, it might be possible in a standard optometry appointment to diagnose these debilitating conditions.



Casey Haycraft (10.4)

We also visited The Cunningham Dax Art Collection which consists of artworks created by people who have experienced mental illness or psychological trauma. There was a particularly moving photography exhibition by Peter Blenkiron, who is a Ballarat child abuse survivor and advocate.

Students were encouraged to consider pursuing a career in neuroscience with the myriad of research opportunities that will assist people in the future. Throughout the day, a line from Psalm 139 felt particularly apt: *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.*

Kate Broadley  
Senior School Teacher

# 2018 Pierre De Coubertin Awards

Congratulations to **Hamish MacDonald (11.15)** who is Oxley's nominee and recipient of the 2018 Olympic Council's *Pierre De Coubertin Award*.

The *Pierre De Coubertin Award* program is a joint initiative of the Victorian Olympic Council and the Department of Education and Training. The award is named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Baron Pierre De Coubertin, and recognises students who demonstrate attributes consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic movement, with a particular emphasis on participation and commendable sporting behaviour. Nominees for this award had to represent their school in a number of sports.

This year, we were pleased to see Hamish receive the award. He was one of 162 Senior School students from across Victoria who attended the ceremony on Friday 22 June at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Students were fortunate to have their awards presented by Athens 2004 Artistic Gymnast, Stephanie Moorhouse and Rio 2016 Swimming Gold Medallist, Mach Horton OAM.

Mach Horton shared his Olympic Swimming experiences with the recipients and those attending. In a Q&A session, Mach shared that to be successful in your sport, you need to do what you love, do it to the best of your ability and to eliminate the excuses.

All Senior Schools in Victoria are invited each year to nominate a student for the award as well as two additional students to attend a whole day Olympic Academy where they have the opportunity to meet and interact with a number of Olympians. This year, Oxley's nominees were **Isabella Aing (11.16)** and **Miranda Gartner (11.16)**.



Hamish with his dad, Wallace, after he received his award.

Frederik Kotze  
Head of Sport

# Success at the AIS

**Dakoda Mathers (7.16)** was selected in the Metro East team to travel and compete at the AIS in mid June. Dakoda competed in 11 events, with 10 PBs and over 35 seconds off in total. Dakoda also received three medals but best of all made some amazing friends. Congratulations Dakoda, for the reward for all your training!



Dakoda proudly wearing her medals

# Enrolments

## 2019

Parents who are intending to enrol children (who are not already enrolled at Oxley Christian College) for 2019 are strongly recommended to do so now as we have limited vacancies in some year levels. Please obtain an Enrolment Application Form, Fee Schedule and Business Statement from the Administration Office.

## 2020

We are also accepting enrolments for 2020 and beyond (particularly Prep and Year 7) and again, we encourage you to submit your completed Enrolment Application Form as soon as possible.

## Notice to Withdraw

Parents are reminded of their obligation to give the school one full term's notice, in writing to the Principal, if their children are not continuing at Oxley Christian College. The lack of one term's notice will result in the payment of one Term's Tuition Fees.

It is also a legal requirement for you to inform us of the school to which your child's enrolment is transferring.

**Caroline Lewis**  
Registrar

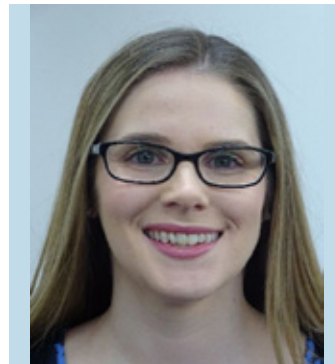
# Welcome to New Staff

## Kimberley Berry



Hello, my name is Kimberley Berry and I am excited to join the Oxley staff as a Learning Support Assistant in the Junior School. I graduated from Oxley as a student four years ago, and am currently in my fourth year of a Bachelor of Education at the Australian Catholic University. In my spare time I enjoy reading, baking, and drinking tea.

## Rebecca Hill



Hi! My name is Rebecca Hill and I am excited to take on the role of the Junior School Performing Arts Teacher. Before arriving at Oxley Christian College, I taught music to students from Prep to Year 8 in both public and private schools. I have a love for Jesus as well as a passion for all things music, especially singing and musical productions. I am very much looking forward to working with the Junior School students and teachers to put together a fantastic musical production for Term 3!



Oxley Kids is now finalising enrolments for 2019 and beyond. We have limited vacancies in 3 year old and 4 year old kindergarten (Short Day programs only) for 2019. Call us today if you would like to begin your child's Oxley education in their preschool years. Phone 9727 9200 for further information or to arrange a tour.

**Kim Sopar**  
Oxley Kids Director

# Notice Board

## 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/  
classifieds.php](http://online.oxley.vic.edu.au/classifieds.php)

username: parent  
password: oxley

## OXLEY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The College may, from time-to-time,  
review and update various policies  
and procedures. Online / digital  
copies of College policies and  
procedures can be found on the Oxley  
website (under 'Publications'), or on  
the Parent Portal (under the 'Docs'  
tab) which is accessible from the  
College website

## 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](http://www.oxley.vic.edu.au)

# 2018 Calendar

|      |            |         |   |
|------|------------|---------|---|
| Aug  | Thursday   | 2       | Junior School Parent Teacher Interviews<br>(4.00 - 6.00pm Senior School Building)                     |
|      | Wed - Fri  | 8 - 10  | Senior School Production (7.30pm BPAC)  |
|      | Thursday   | 9       | Senior School Australian Maths Competition  |
|      | Saturday   | 11      | Senior School Production (2.00pm & 7.30pm BPAC)   |
|      | Tuesday    | 14      | Junior School ICAS Maths  |
|      | Wednesday  | 15      | Combined Junior School Choir – Oxfam Music<br>Festival (7.00pm - 9.00pm Box Hill Town Hall)           |
|      | Thursday   | 16      | School at Work (9.30am BPAC)  |
|      | Fri - Fri  | 17 - 24 | Book Week   |
|      | Mon - Fri  | 27 - 31 | International Week  |
|      | Wednesday  | 29      | Junior School District Athletics<br>Father's Day Stall  |
| Sept | Mon - Fri  | 3 - 7   | Year 9 Camp   |
|      | Wednesday  | 5       | School at Work (9.30am BPAC)  |
|      | Thursday   | 6       | Year 7 Immunisation   |
|      | Tuesday    | 11      | Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews<br>(4.00 - 9.00pm Senior School Building)                     |
|      | Wed - Thur | 12 - 13 | Junior School Production (7.30pm LMC)   |
|      | Friday     | 14      | Year 11 Formal Dinner   |
|      | Wednesday  | 19      | Year 3 Excursion<br>Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews<br>(4.00 - 9.00pm Senior School Building) |
|      | Thursday   | 20      | <i>Step Into Prep</i> transition program  |
|      | Friday     | 21      | Year 3 - 6 Basketball Competition<br>Last Day of Term 3   |
| Oct  | Monday     | 8       | First Day of Term 4<br>VCE Performance & Language exams start   |
|      | Tuesday    | 9       | Year 9 into 10 Parent Information Evening<br>(7.30pm BPAC)  |
|      | Thursday   | 11      | VCE Music Concert (7.00pm BPAC)   |
|      | Friday     | 12      | Year 12 Dinner  |
|      | Monday     | 15      | Soiree Evening (6.00pm and 8.00pm BPAC)   |
|      | Wednesday  | 17      | School at Work (9.30am BPAC)  |
|      | Thursday   | 18      | <i>Step Into Prep</i> transition program<br>Soiree Evening (6.00pm and 8.00pm BPAC)                   |
|      | Tuesday    | 23      | Year 12 Final Day   |
|      | Friday     | 26      | Year 2 Sleepover  |



## OXLEY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

A Coeducational School | Prep to Year 12

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