i.xtend 2013

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to participate in the 2013 i.xtend program: Felix Benter (Year 7), James Cashen, Lucy Cooper, Tristan Degn, James Taylor, Luke Robinson, Gabrielle Lloyd, Paddy Shea and Thomas Zeylemaker (Year 8).

i.xtend is a Western Region online based program designed to cater for the needs of gifted and talented students and is modelled upon Renzulli’s Enrichment Triad with three levels of activity- enrichment, skills training and independent investigation. Over the coming fourteen weeks students will work towards completing four mini tasks and a major project based around a theme. In addition students will complete a learning journal that documents their progress through the program. Students will then present their major work to their peers across the Western region at an Expo day to be held in term 3. OHS students will attend a video conference today to learn more about i.xtend and the theme for 2013 will be unveiled! Well done to all students for gaining a place in this competitive and exciting program.

Applications for the 2014 program will open in October for students currently in years 4, 5, 6 and 7- watch this space for more details.

N Griffith

PDHPE NEWSLETTER

Term 1 has been a very productive and busy time for all PDHPE and sport coaches. We have seen many sporting events contested such as the Athletics and Swimming carnivals and also a variety of CHS sports. The level of skill and performance of our students continues to amaze me every time I watch them compete. Congratulations to all teams who have been successful in their sports and an extra special mention to all students who have qualified for Western Region teams.

Currently we have 19 students who will be representing Western Region in the following sports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashlee Bastiaansen</th>
<th>Basketball</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katelin Eslick</td>
<td>Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maddie Lisle</td>
<td>Softball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia Watson</td>
<td>Softball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise Kempson</td>
<td>Softball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Corben</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Synetta Manns</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courtney Chapman</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Divall</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maddison Smith</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
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I look forward to seeing many more students gain selection in representative teams as the trials occur in the following months.

Achievement in a supportive environment
SCHOOL SPORT
The new structure for school sport has proven to be a success with students embracing the new format. It’s great to see so many students developing their skills and participating in sporting activities. A couple of the issues that we have encountered throughout the term include students forgetting to bring money for buses and venues and/or not having the correct uniform. The costs for sport have been kept to a minimum, however if you have trouble paying for sport can please give me a ring at the school so I can make alternative arrangements. The expectation with uniform is that all students only wear PE clothes for sport and PE lessons. They are to be in school uniform for any other times.

ASSESSMENTS
All students in the junior school have been working hard at completing assessment tasks for each of their topic areas. It’s always a great time for the teachers to see the high quality of work that the students produce. Years 7, 8 and 10 have completed their first task and year 9 are in the process of completing theirs. It is the expectation that every task is handed in on time and completed to the best of the student’s ability. Please check with your child to see how they have performed in these tasks.

GOSFORD AND ASTLEY CUP
Gosford and Astley Cup inter-school sporting visits are fast approaching. Gosford will be held in week 5 of Term 2 with 28 sports being contested on Thursday 30th May. There are junior teams (Year 7-10) as well as senior teams (open ages) for a number of different sports. Astley Cup, our annual visit between OHS, Bathurst High and Dubbo Snr College is celebrating its 90th year this year and we are hoping that the cup will return to its rightful home here at OHS. Sports contested are athletics, tennis, open girls netball, open girls hockey, open girls soccer, open boys soccer, open boys basketball and open boys rugby league. Coaches of teams involved for both these visits have been advertising trial dates for students to participate in these events so keep an ear out in the notices, listen at assembly or come and see the PE staffroom.

Terry Baker, Head Teacher PDHPE

OHS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2013
As the fog cleared over Orange High’s number one oval, the birds begun to sing like an orchestra of 1000 piccolos, setting the scene for what was going to be another successful athletics carnival.
This year’s athletics carnival was a huge success in terms of not only excellent results, but also the highest participation rates seen in many years.
There were many heated battles out on the track and field, with students vying for precious points to contribute towards their own personal age champion tallies as well as the holy-grail that is known as the overall winning house.
With the 1500m races to be completed and the resulting points added to the overall house points and age champion points, the final victors have not yet been determined. Current standings have Bourke out in front, but with points up for grabs it is anyone’s day!

Congratulations to Joey Thorley who smashed the 17+ boys 400m record that has stood for 16 years, by almost 3 seconds. An excellent achievement!

Congratulations to all students on their excellent behaviour, sportsmanship and participation, and good luck to those students that will go on to represent OHS at the Western Trials in term 3.

L Butt
PRINCIPALS NEWS

I hope families enjoyed the extra-long Easter weekend. I know I and many of the staff at Orange High enjoyed the reprieve from the intensity of the term and have come back re-energised for the last two weeks of term.

One of the important tasks over the next week is the finalisation of a new timetable to be implemented at the start of next term to cater for an additional class that has been added to the Year 9 core classes of English, Maths, Science and HSIE. This will reduce average class sizes from 30 to approximately 25. A number of other improvements to the distribution of classes and fine tuning of class allocations across all Years 7 to 12 will ensure the maximisation of learning for the rest of the year. Students will receive new timetables on their first day back next term (Wednesday 1 May) as explained below.

Congratulations to Hannah Spencer and Natasha Stevens who have both been selected into the elite State Dance Ensemble. This is a wonderful achievement as I believe in the past we have only ever had one student per year accepted. Both Hannah and Natasha will travel regularly to Sydney and perform in an extra segment of the ‘School Spectacular’ at the Sydney Entertainment Centre in November.

Many thanks to the families who braved the drizzle and came along last Thursday night to the Movie night conducted in the Star Quad due to inclement weather. Despite the light rain the atmosphere was positive and enjoyed by families. Many thanks To Alison Duffield and Anne Roth who led the organisation and gaining sponsorship for the event. Approximately 150 people attended and a tidy profit was made to support our school.

Following the explanation in last week’s newsletter, a reminder that the first 2 days of next term (Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 April) will be School Development Days for all schools across NSW. This will mean students will not be expected to attend school until Wednesday the 1 May. The State government has made the decision to allocate an extra day to all schools to facilitate planning for the introduction of the new Australian curricula in English, Maths, Science and HSIE next year. Teachers from our school will utilise the time developing new teaching and learning sequences and begin the large process of writing new innovative and engaging teaching programs that ensure the outcomes of the new Australian curricula are met along with ensuring the differentiated learning needs of our students are achieved.

David Lloyd

ASSESSMENTS DUE – WEEK 11

Year 7: English (Poetry test) – Maths end of term test (in class)
Year 8: English (Poetry test) – PDHPE (ongoing) Maths end of term test (in class)
Year 9: Science (investigating, gathering, communicating) Maths end of term test (in class)
Year 10: Maths (test), PDHPE Mand (prac assessment) Maths end of term test (in class)
Year 11: Geography (Research- Macquarie Marshes) – Legal St (Topic test) – Physics – 1st hand investigation) – Vis Arts (folio of drawings) – Drama (performance)
Year 12

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

Last Thursday the P&C’s “Cinema Under the Stars” was held. The evening was a little damp, but we were able to set the screen up in the Star quad and sit under cover. The movie was enjoyed, as was the food, and we were able to raise $1 100. The P&C would like to thank everyone who attended as well as our major sponsors, Bendigo Bank and Inkability for their support.
Max entered his HSC year full of wonder. He had never been particularly good at school but was driven to make this year count. He knew he should choose his subjects carefully if he was to have any chance of success. He knew his skills included writing and understanding maths and science concepts. He was prone to making hasty choices in exams and his maths/science results suffered because of this hastiness.

Max sat in the front row of every class he did. He pretended that he was the only student. He was willing to ask questions if he did not understand a concept. Max would get headaches if he tried to keep up with taking notes as the teachers talked. He gave up taking comprehensive notes in class. Instead he focused on what the teacher said and wrote down the references that were quoted. His out of class time was consumed with gaining a better understanding of what the teacher was presenting. He made notes from his reading out of class.

Max spent the year writing essays and doing other exam-related activities. He said “No” to outings with his friends. He traveled most week nights to a local academic library to study and write practice essays. Max allowed time in his calendar to stayed involved with family and friends but did not waste his precious time on frivolous activities.

When the results were published Max had gained straights “A”s.