FACULTY NEWS – ENGLISH

What a fantastic start! It was wonderful to see such an enthusiastic and smooth transition into the new school year. Students and staff were keen to get started and all students settled quickly into their new classes, eager to meet their passionate and committed teachers.

On our return to school we discovered many upgraded classrooms. These improvements were well received by all members of the English Department. Over the holidays, some of our classrooms had gained a ‘makeover’. Painted walls and new carpets helped to create very positive and bright classroom environments. Also a number of Smartboards were moved to more prominent locations in classrooms. The black and gold theme will be continued to other English rooms later this year.

I would also like to welcome the newest members of the English faculty. Ms Lucinda Macdonald has joined the English team this year. Ms Macdonald is an experienced teacher who has been looking forward to moving to Orange High School for a number of years. Ms Jessica Bond is a familiar face for many students as she has previously held a casual teaching position, in the English Department, in 2014. Both of these teachers will be great assets to the English Department and Orange High School.

I would also like to make a special mention of the exemplary way that our senior students returned to 2015. Many settled into their work with a determined and focused attitude. Year 12 students have begun the next Module of their Higher School Certificate course and Year 11 also started their Preliminary English course with an introduction to the Area of Study - Journeys.
The start of a school year is always a nerve wracking time for many and in particular Year 7 students. I am pleased to say that Year 7, 2015 made it all appear to be very easy.

The High Achievers class commenced the year getting familiar with all things technology. Their devices (BYOD) were signed up to the school’s internet and they have also had time to explore their new website. This website will help them to extend their interests and skills in all subjects. In English, they will be using the site to manage their learning activities and it will also provide opportunities for extension activities and challenges. We hope extend this innovative approach to teaching and learning to other classes over the next few years. All Year 7 students will start the year reflecting on their strengths and interests through the study of their first English unit—Self Identity.

This year will also see the commencement of the New Australian Curriculum for Years 8 and 10. The English staff have worked tirelessly throughout 2014 and over the Christmas break to present a diverse range of engaging and challenging units for the students in these year groups. Year 8 will begin the year reading the novel Trash and examining the ideas that the text presents about social sustainability. Year 10 will also be challenged as they look at the experiences of others in the new unit, Walking In Someone Else’s Shoes. A supplementary novel will also be set to support students understanding of the concepts presented in this unit.

The term ahead will see students participating in a number of additional English orientated activities. Our debating teams will begin competitions against other schools in the district and many students will also be preparing to compete in the C.W.A. Public Speaking Competition. Students will also representing Orange High School in the Banjo Patterson Poetry in the Park.

All Year 7 and Year 9 students will be building their skills throughout Term One and working towards the NAPLAN Test, that they will be sitting in May, 2015.

Alison Hazzard, Relieving Head Teacher English

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Last Wednesday evening, a Welcome BBQ on the front lawn of the school provided an opportunity for Year 7 parents and students to mix socially with P&C members and teachers. Over the past week it has been exciting to meld together students and parents from 15 primary schools into one Year 7 cohort. I think the smiles on the faces below demonstrate the atmosphere during the evening.

Many thanks to our dedicated P&C members for supplying and cooking the BBQ.

Reflecting briefly, the last week seems like a blur. The highlight has been the positive, optimistic atmosphere across the school as students have settled into new timetables. Particularly of note has been the generous way established students have assisted new students adapt to their surroundings and find their way around the school.
Feedback from teachers regarding the start to the year has been very positive with in particular how settled students are in their routines. Particularly pleasing to see has been the early establishment of educational partnerships between students and their new teachers for 2015. Our student leadership team of Captains and Prefects have also helped in with the establishment of high expectations.

One of the key educational administration actions at this time of the year is the finalisation of strategic plans across the school. Paramount are our 5 keys areas of focus, Technology, Gifted and Talented education, Literacy, Assessment and Quality Teaching, Differentiation and Engagement. I am enamoured by the comprehensive range of initiatives that support the continual development of classroom teaching and learning excellence across all Key Learning Areas of the school. The strategies vary from ambitious professional learning activities, the further development of individual student education plans, rotating whole school and Key Learning Area literacy priorities through to the enhancement of communication with parents including a soon to be released parent portal. 2015 promises to be an exceptional year and we look forward to sharing the learning journey with you as we aim for educational excellence.

David Lloyd

ASSESSMENTS DUE – WEEK 3
Year 12: Society and Culture Stage 2 - PIP review # 2 – (progress report)

SOFTWARE
During the last week of school holidays Thomas Zeylemaker competed as part of the NSW U17 Mens softball team at the Australian Championships. After 5 days of intense competition NSW qualified for the final in 1st place where they defeated WA to claim the Arthur Allsop Shield and title of Australian U17 Champions.

ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL NETBALL CLUB – SELECTION INFORMATION AND OVERVIEW FOR 2015
Selections for Orange High School netball teams will occur on the following dates. The venue for all trials is the OHS gym. Registration notes can be collected from the PE staffroom.

- High A (CHS Open representative team and Astley Cup team), Junior A (15 and under selected team), Junior A (division 2): **Thursday, 5th February** 4.00-5.30pm
- Senior team nominations (anyone playing in divisions 3-7) must be received by Friday 20th February.
- Selections for U13’s will be held **Thursday, 12th February** 3.30-4.30pm *(please note the change of date)*
- Selections for U/14’s AND U/15’S will be held: **Thursday, 12th February** 4.30-5.30pm

If you are willing to coach or manage a team could you please contact Ms Dray in the PE Faculty. As always, the strength of a club relies on its volunteers.

The Orange High School Netball Club will be holding an AGM on Monday 9/2/15 5.00pm in the OHS gym. We are seeking people to fill a number of positions so if you are interested please come along. We would love to meet as many OHS netball club parents as possible.

Registration day will be held Saturday February 21st from 10-12pm in the OHS Gym. You will be able to pay submit registration forms and payment (cheque or correct cash please!) and try on the uniform. However, it is preferable that all payments are made to the OHS cashier and forms submitted to Ms Dray in the PE staffroom. Payment at the cashier will be allowed throughout February until March 6th.

In addition, Ms Dray will be running a coaching session open to all OHS Netball Club members for the 2 hours of registration. If your child is interested in participating in a session run by an intermediate level coach with many years of local and representative coaching experience then this is a great opportunity.

Thanks for your support of the OHS Netball Club in 2015.

Tegan Dray, OHS Netball Club Coordinator

THE BUZZ

Year 7 Welcome BBQ
Thank you to all Parents and Families that joined us on the front lawn for a sausage sizzle last night. It was a great informal way for parent and staff to meet each other.

PBL – Merit (Positive Rewards) changes for 2015
We will continue to implement the PBL Tickets this year. The PBL Team have introduced an additional level to our Positive Rewards System, please read below for more details. Students were introduced to this part of the system at assembly this week. Applications can be downloaded from the Orange High School Website (Our School – Positive Rewards and Recognition) or students can collect one from their Year Adviser.
Part 1 - PBL Ticket Draw

PBL Tickets are awarded to students for great work, sustained focus during class or consistent effort during the lesson etc. (Examples may include handing in lost property, demonstrating initiative during tasks, handing in tasks before the due date, independent group work, offering assistance to teacher or other students, completing a good quality homework task etc)

Teacher fills in the PBL Ticket and awards it to the student during class time

Students place PBL Ticket in allocated box (opposite middle office in main corridor)

Winners are drawn each fortnight at assembly

4 X $10 canteen vouchers (donated by P & C)

At the end of term all tickets go into a draw for 3 x $20 vouchers (donated by P & C)

MEGADRAW

Last 4 weeks of the school year

Part 2 - Pinnacle Award

- This is a new initiative to replace the ‘Teacher Merits’ from 2014.
- Students must apply for a “Pinnacle” Award (year 7-11) or “ACE” Award (year 12) (ACE stands for Academic, Commitment and Excellence)
- Students apply each year and need to meet the specific criteria for each year level. They collect and complete an application form (from their Year Advisor or from the OHS website), then submit it to their Year Advisor by week 2, Term 4.
- Criteria include School Extra Curricula, School Service and Community Service. It also includes students not having any negative entries on Sentral, achieved Silver or Gold Award on their mid-course report, attendance above 87% and a teacher needs to endorse the application. (Please refer to attached copy of the application form). The examples listed in the application form are suggestions only, Year Advisors will accept other examples.

Vaccinations

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with Orange High School to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2015 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7 students*
- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

Year 11-12 students*
- measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine as a single dose as part of a catch-up vaccination program for students who are not fully protected.

* The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:
- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child’s school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.
Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation).

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible. Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

**Proposed dates are:**

**March 2015**
- HPV Dose 1 - All Year 7 students
- Boostrix - All Year 7 students
- HPV catch-up doses from 2014 program (if any)

**May 2015**
- HPV Dose 2 - All Year 7 students
- MMR - Year 11 & 12 students only

**September 2015**
- HPV Dose 3 - All Year 7 students
- Varicella - All Year 7 students

Vaccination packages will be distributed over the next couple of weeks.

**MOTIVATIONAL MEDIA**

Motivational Media is presenting to Year 10, 11 and 12 on **Friday 27th February, 2015.**

This 3 screen multimedia presentation is called “JIGSAW” and challenges students to dream big, set goals, work hard and be committed to achieve their dreams. Specific target areas are ‘knowing yourself, having a vision, accepting others, making good decisions and overcoming difficulties’. The presentation uses real life stories and music to capture student’s attention and inspire them.

The presentation is 40 minutes in duration and **costs $2 (payable at the door on the day).** The cost is subsidised by Orange High School to make the presentation accessible to all students.

Below is the viewing schedule

- Year 10 – Period 2
- Year 11 – Period 4
- Year 12 – Period 3

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any wellbeing concerns about your child. I can be contacted on 6362 3444 during school hours.

Mrs Kerrie Chopping, Head Teacher Wellbeing

**BANJO PATerson AUSTRALIAN POETRY FESTIVAL**

The Banjo Paterson Australian Poetry Festival is alive and well at Orange High School. We have two entries in the shop front display competition. This involved our students creating displays that showcase Australian Poetry and then displaying those in a local business. Keep your eye out at the Cheeky Barista Café and Bissy’s Café for our displays. Additionally, two of our students, William Boyd and Eliza Owens are already preparing to read poetry before school at the annual Breakfast in the Park event. Our students will be presenting their poetry readings on Friday the 13th of February. If your child would like to be involved, encourage them to see myself or their English teacher. Finally, Music students from Orange High School are providing some of the entertainment for the Banjo Paterson Birthday Dinner which is on Tuesday 17th at Borrodell Vineyard.


Kathleen Maksymczuk
ORANGE EMUS WALLAS & JUNIORS RUGBY 2015
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
"Oldest Rugby Club in Orange"
Wallas U7’s - U11’s and Juniors U13’s to U17’s

“Come Try Rugby” at Emus, Woodward Road, Orange
Come to the registration events on
Friday 20th February, 5pm – 7pm
or
Sunday 22nd Feb, 10am – 12pm
Please call Derek Scott on 0427 913 203 or Keryn Phillips on 0421 210 492 for more information

ORANGE CITY JUNIOR RUGBY UNION CLUB
Registration Days
At Waratah’s Pride Park
Friday 13 February 5.30pm to 7pm
Sunday 15 February 4pm to 6pm
Walla’s - u7’s, u9’s, u11’s
Training Friday nights
Juniors – u13’s, u15’s, u17’s
Training Tuesday & Thursdays
Please bring proof of birth
For further details
http://orangecityjuniors.rugbynet.com.au
Tony 0435025181
Deryck 0427621965

COULD YOU BECOME A FOSTER CARER?
Life Without Barriers is currently seeking compassionate people who are willing to share their homes with children and young people who require their support and care.

We are looking for people who can provide a nurturing and stable home to a child or young person with high needs. Foster carers need to be resilient, have creative problem solving skills, be able to engage with services and have a good knowledge of their local community.
Life Without Barriers provide carers with: 24/7 support, extensive training and a tax free carer reimbursement.

Our carers range in age and cultural background and can be single, same sex couples, defacto or married couples, with or without their own children. If you would like to make a positive difference to a young person’s life, we’d love to hear from you.
P: 6394 9713
M: 0429 998 506

Are you practical, motivated, living in social housing and looking for a career as a trade? Do you know someone who is?
NSW Family and Community Services is offering scholarships of up to $5,000 to support women living in social housing to take up a trade.
Scholarships include:
• Up to $1000 to attend pre-apprenticeship training in a non-traditional trade* through TAFE, a registered training organisation, or group training organisation
• Up to $5000 to start or continue an apprenticeship in a non-traditional trade.

You may never have imagined yourself as a plumber, painter, mechanic, horticulturist or tiler – but this may be a chance to set yourself up for life.
Second round applications open on 5 January 2015 and close on 27 February 2015.
To apply, go to www.communityhousing.org.au/ToolsForSuccess/RegistrationForm.php
For further information, go to www.communityhousing.org.au/toolsforsuccess
contact the NSW Federation of Housing Associations on (02) 9281 7164 ext 207 or toolsforsuccess@communityhousing.org.au
* Non-traditional trades for women include sign writers, plasterers, electricians, carpenters and joiners, painters, panel beaters, plumbers, and a range of other trades. For a full list visit https://www.women.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/269150/List_of_Non_Traditional_Trades_2012.pdf