Principal’s Report

Class Grouping 2016

Next year the following P-6 Home Groupings will be in place:
Prep – Miss Lacey & Mrs Woodall; Year 1 & 2 – Mrs Mole & Mrs Grace; Year 3 – Mr O’Brien; Year 4 – Miss Brittany Burns; Year 5 – Miss Natasha Burns; Year 6 – Mr Roberts. Classes will have specialist teachers for music, science, art, PE and in some cases, Technology.

Vandalism

We have had some damage to the school over the last week with windows in the change rooms broken. We have CC TV cameras in most areas of the school however will now need to extend the coverage to this area. I appeal to people to stay out of the school grounds after hours unless you have requested permission. I would also ask that members of the public report any trespassers to the school or the local police. We cannot afford to spend money repairing needless damage.

P-4 Concert

Congratulations to everyone involved in the P-4 Concert and to all those who received awards for their efforts over the year. Thank you to the P-4 staff who worked with the children to prepare for their concert items, to the parents who assisted with costumes and to those who assisted at the door or with sound and lighting.

I would particularly like to thank our music tutors Mr Luke McCarthy and Mr Joel Anderson for their work with students this year and for making a special trip to Ouyen for the concert.

Presentation Night

The Year 5-12 Presentation Night ceremony will be held next Tuesday, December 15th.

End of Year

The 2015 school year officially comes to a close next Friday, December 18th at 2.30pm and resumes on January 29th, 2016. On this first day of school students will work with their Home Group Teachers setting goals for the coming year as well as looking at the attributes of a successful learner. Interviews with parents will be held over the next three weeks in an effort to establish a parent/student/school partnership in order to achieve each student’s goals.

Parent Information meetings will be held during Term 1 for P-6 families.

As we come to the end of another busy year I would like to thank everyone involved in our school community for their efforts on behalf of our students over the year. Congratulations to our students who have worked so hard and to their parents who have supported them.

This year we are farewelling Mr Chizmesya – David is moving back to South Australia to be closer to his family; Mr Stewart who is undertaking further study in 2016 and Miss Ginn who is transferring back to Mildura. This semester we have also farewelled Mr Emms and Mrs Stone. Next year we will have four new staff joining us in the Technology, Science, PE areas and welcome Miss Brittany Burns back in her role as Year 4 Home Group Teacher.

Merry Christmas everyone

Leanne Dawes
Principal
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later.
~ Og Mandino ~

Do you intend for your child to travel over the school holidays? Do they need identification?

For $5 each your child/ren will receive an official Ouyen P-12 College I.D. card that can be used on public transport, to get into movies etc.

See the ladies in the Office if you require one.

Don’t forget to download the tiqbiz app to your smart phone.

If you’d like help come and see the ladies in the office.

We will be using tiqbiz to notify families of Code Red Days.

LIBRARY NEWS:

The Library is now closed for the year.

All books should be returned as soon as possible for stocktake.

BUS TRAVELLERS:

Primary Students

Parents are asked to send a note or make a phone call to the office when your child/ren are not going to travel on the bus.

If we do not have a note or have not received a phone call, your child will be required to travel on their designated bus.

THE FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAM:

There is an opportunity for students to participate in an international program, designed to extend thinking skills and provide additional support to extend their thinking and challenge their ideas.

The program challenges students to apply their minds to some of the significant issues facing the world of today and the future, equipping them with the vision, skills and tools to design and promote positive futures for the society in which they live.

The two programs under consideration are:

Global issues problem solving (working in teams with a coach) over a year on a series of futuristic situations on significant social, economic, or scientific issues.

During the year teams work on 3 topics.

Scenario writing (individual) submitting pieces of writing up to 1500 words in short story format, and based on a topic chosen for the year, set at least 20 years into the future. A FPS scenario is a short-short story in which one possible outcome of the future is developed through character(s) and plot. It is a prediction of the future and is written as though the future was the present.

If any students in Years 7-10 would like to participate in this program, they need to see Miss Grant ASAP to register their interest, before any program can be established.

You should submit your name and which program you are interested in to Miss Grant by Tuesday 15th December. It is important to note that this is an expression of interest only, and does not guarantee entry. Further information will be provided at a later date.

SHEEP SALE:

Thank you to everyone who has cooked and worked for the 2015 sheep sales — especially those that have offered more than once. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The money raised is donated back to the school to assist with the purchase of equipment for the staff and students.

The first two weeks of 2016 are attached. Thank you in advance to these people for working and cooking. The 2016 roster will be on the newsletter in the first few weeks back in 2016.
ABC WORKSHOPS:
On Thursday December 3rd, Jennifer Douglas, an ABC Open producer, came to Ouyen to conduct workshops for our students. The purpose of these workshops was to develop interviewing skills and teach photography tips for environmental portraiture. The Year 10 students visited Pattinson House with enthusiasm, to interview the residents about their life experiences. It was lovely to see Ouyen’s youth and elderly learning so much from each other, and it is certain that the experience was enjoyed by all.

The Year 7 students also participated in a school-based workshop, practising interview tips on each other, exploring stories from around Australia and learning how to use their cameras to take optimal photos for journalism and publishing online.

Jen was very impressed by our school and facilities, but also commented how well behaved and enthusiastic our students were. It’s always nice to receive positive feedback and the students learnt a lot from these activities.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the ABC Open workshops, they can visit [https://open.abc.net.au/](https://open.abc.net.au/) to read stories from rural areas around Australia.

HARRY POTTER:
On Friday, Years 5-8 participated in a Harry Potter Challenge. Sorted into houses and placed in teams of mixed year levels, students had 10 stations to complete, using their knowledge from the film *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*. With activities such as Quidditch, wand making, divination, spells, visiting the Gringott’s bank and potions, it was a very fun day with lots of friendships made.

It was a fantastic day to see all of our students working together and using problem solving skills to apply their knowledge in a creative way. Well done Years 5 - 8! Our winning team and runners up have received a Harry Potter prize pack to reward their success.

A big thank you must go to everyone who assisted to make this day possible – it would not have been a success without our wise professors!
T-20 BLAST CRICKET:
Congratulations to the grade 5 and 6 students who represented Ouyen P-12 College junior campus at the T-20 Blast cricket carnival held in Swan Hill on Thursday, 26th November.

Special congratulations to the girls team of: Laruen, Molly, Ella, Nat, Ebony, Lilly, Chloe, Brodee and Lucy who won two of the three games and narrowly missed playing in the final. The girls played excellent cricket in their games, working very well as a team, with everyone contributing with the bat, ball and in the field.

The boys team of Sam, Darcy, Adrian, Ethan, Tim, Ned and Aden came up against some very tough competition and were unable to secure a win on the day, but they were able to improve with each game. They listened to advice and displayed good sportsmanship during the day. Thanks to the parents who supported the cricketers and Mr Roberts for his supervision.

SWIMMING INTENSIVE:
The primary campus students have been enthusiastically taking part in the swimming intensive program over the past week. With lots of hot weather, the students (and staff) have enjoyed the chance to hop in for a swim and cool off.

The program will operate next Monday – there will be no swimming on Tuesday and times for the groups will be altered on Wednesday.

Swimming times on Wednesday will be:
11.15am Grades 5 & 6
12.15am Grades 3 & 4
2.00pm Prep, Grades 1 & 2

Thank you to Mrs Lonergan, Mr Stewart, Miss Lacey, Mrs Mole, Miss Burns, Mrs Richardson and Lauren Morrish who have assisted the students during the program.

A big thank you to Jacob Coe, Peter Darley, Ellen Morrish and Adriana Smith who have volunteered as Life Guards to enable the program to run.

SPORTS DATES 2015:
UDSSA Tennis – Friday, 5th February
Sunraysia South Tennis Carnival – Thursday, 25th February
Ouyen Primary Campus Swimming Sports – Friday, 12th February
UDSSA Swimming Sports – Friday, 19th February
Sunraysia South Swimming Sports – Wednesday, 24th February (new event in 2016)

Finally, a big thank you to staff and parents who have assisted with the primary sports program during the 2015 year. Special thank you to:
* Mrs Simmonds for assistance with organisational duties for the carnivals
* Mrs Stone, Mr Roberts and Miss Burns for assistance with team selections
* Mrs F Scott and Mrs B Scott for sharing their photographs during the year
* Geoff Vine for preparing the cross country and athletics facilities
* Mrs Lonergan for assistance with training
* Mrs Patching for organising the sports page on the newsletter each week
From November 19th to the 21st, the Year 5 students participated in a Pushcarts program that was held in Maryborough.

Firstly, we did design and construction. This was where we had to construct the cart in front of judges and then answer questions relating to our cart and preparation. Then we completed a scrutineering check, where the officials had to make sure everything was safe and ready to ride.

On Friday, we participated in the Endurance event. The team did a great job and we passed at least three teams before us. We had to do the obstacle track. In this we had to weave between cones that were about a metre apart and push our partner up a hill. To finish the day, we displayed our presentation for another judge.

Finally on Saturday morning, we competed in our last event: the sprint. We pushed our partner 50m, then swapped partners and came back. Our cart was chosen to do the Celebrity Race. Our celebrity was someone from the local council.

We had a great time and we all tried our best. Thank you to all who have contributed to getting us there.

Year 5 Pushcarters
**YEAR 12 IMPORTANT DATES**

**VICTORIA**

Change of preference
- Re opens Monday 23rd November
- Closes Monday 21st December (12 noon)

VCE and ATAR results
- Monday 14th December (7am)

Round 1 offers Thursday 18th January 2016
Round 2 Offers Thursday 4th February 2016

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Equal Consideration
- closing date Monday 30th November

Change of preference
- close Monday 4th January 2016

Main Round Offers Tuesday 19th January 2016

CHANGE OF PREFERENCE SUPPORT

**FedUni** - Wednesday 16th December, 11am-2pm

**LaTrobe University** - Monday 14 December
- Call Bendigo’s Future Students Centre on (03) 5444 7582.

Request a one-on-one appointment for a student online by visiting [www.latrobe.edu.au/consultations](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/consultations)
- From Tuesday 15 December onwards
- Call Mildura Campus on (03) 5051 4000.

Request a one-on-one appointment for a student online by visiting [www.latrobe.edu.au/consultations](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/consultations)
- visit our Change of Preference website at [www.latrobe.edu.au/prefer](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/prefer)

This has lots of helpful tools and tips, including an ATAR wizard, details on pathways and how to get in touch.

**Vic Uni** – One- On-One Course Coaching
- VU Hotline & Online Chat
- Monday 14th-Friday 18th, & Monday 21st Dec
- Change of Preference Expo – Wednesday 26th Dec

**Monash University** – Wednesday 16th Dec, 3pm-7pm, Caulfield campus,

**ACU** – Melbourne Campus Tuesday 15th December 12pm-4pm
- Ballarat Campus, Wednesday 16th December, 5pm – 7pm

PROPOSED WORK EXPERIENCES DATES FOR 2016

Year 11 – Monday 11th – Friday 15th July 2016
Year 10 – Monday 15th – Friday 19th August 2016

Work Experience can take place during the gazetted school year. Students may undertake work experience during the holidays in Term 1, 2 and 3, but not during the holidays at the end of the year.

**CONSTRUCTION INDUCTION CARD YEAR 10**

This one day course is suitable for **all year 10 students**

It will be held at the school during Semester 1; the cost of the course is yet to be determined and will be subsidized by MIPS funding.

The Construction Industry Card (previously known as the “Green Card”) is an entry level requirement for all people who may need to enter building and construction sites.

This card is required for work experience in industries such as plumbing, building, carpentry, electrical, landscaping engineering and architecture. However it also can also be required by students considering options such as civil engineering and food.

**If students have not successfully completed this course they will need to elect a different type of work experience or work placement.**

SMGT – **JOB VACANCIES**

**excellence in apprenticeships, traineeships and employment management**

**15-052 Warehouse Operations Traineeship at One Steel**

The successful applicant will complete a Certificate III in Warehouse Operations, must display good verbal and written communication skills and hold a forklift licence. A drivers licence would be an advantage. For more information please contact Brad Brooks on 0418 365 740.

**15-057 Greenskeeper Traineeship**

SMGT together with a local business is seeking an enthusiastic, motivated person to join the team of vehicle tinting business. This is a versatile business where you will learn all aspects of vehicle tinting, wrapping and body technology. If you are reliable, have a passion for cars and possess attention to detail, this traineeship is for you. For more information please contact Helene Hederics on 0429 817 844.

**15-058 Certificate II Automotive Body Repair Technology Traineeship**

SMGT with a local car dealership within their spare parts division. The successful applicant will complete a Certificate III in Spare Parts Interpreting/Sales and must have a general interest in motor vehicle parts and their functions, good communication and sales skills, and an organised approach to their work. For more information please contact Leanda Hynes on 0407 886 110.

**15-059 Spare Parts Interpreter Traineeship with Mercedes Benz**

A new and exciting position has become available with a local car dealership within their spare parts division. The successful applicant will complete a Certificate III in Spare Parts Interpreting/Sales and must have a general interest in motor vehicle parts and their functions, good communication and sales skills, and an organised approach to their work. For more information please contact Leanda Hynes on 0407 886 110.

SMGT – **Phone (03) 5022 1833 Fax: (03) 5021 3715**


**Sue Sly**

Careers Coordinator
First Aid Training - Year 9
This training has traditionally been done in Term One as Year 10 students. In an effort to ensure fewer disruptions to classes at the commencement of 2016 it has taken place during the Early Start program this Year.
Students have successfully completed their “Apply First Aid” certificates this week, they have developed the skills and knowledge necessary to provide first aid response; life support; management of casualty(s); the incident and other first aiders until the arrival of medical or other assistance.
Thanks to Natasha Anderson
Meeting: Our final meeting for 2015 is scheduled for Monday, December 14th. [Apologies to Preschool families] It will be a dinner meeting at the Victoria Hotel with some small items of business. Mrs. Dawes will fill us in on snippets of school news and plans. Please let Justine [0438 618 544] or Raelene [0407 849 174] know if you plan to attend, for booking purposes. Hope to see a few there. 6:30p.m. start

Transition: The school has a strong Transition program that helps new students and families to familiarise themselves with routines and spaces. The Early Start program is evaluated and updated each year. The planned learning opportunities have been varied and engaging – great preparation for 2016. Thanks to the staff for this.

Thank You: To our College’s parents, guardians, friends, staff, and students who have assisted Parents’ Association throughout the year – with catering, administration, sheep sale duties, attending meetings, providing ideas, and for general support. Our income was around $19,500 this year, with major contributions being made to the school in equipment and programs. A detailed report is in the College magazine. Your support is much appreciated by those tasked with organising the events we are asked to supply things for, and by the students and staff that benefit from the funds raised. We hope you gain, too – whether intrinsically or through connections made as tasks are shared.

PA 2016: It was agreed this year to ask each year level to talk together and find 1 parent rep each. Any school parent/guardian can attend meetings but each year level is to be represented by, at least, one parent. Should they not be able to attend, it is expected they will organise for someone to attend in their stead. Parents Association meetings are great for finding out extra things about the school, clarifying the reasoning behind some of what goes on, and generally supporting your children in their education.
Next meeting - Monday, February 8th, 2016. Time being worked out. Dates are on the Ouyen Community Calendar – take the plunge – come along.

Congratulations:
- to the Primary school students [and staff] who entertained the audience so wonderfully last night. Congratulations to those who received awards for their year’s work. Parents Association was pleased to sponsor the 7 You Can Do It awards.
- Mrs. Johnson [Miss Ginn] on her marriage to Mr. Johnson
- Mrs. and Mr. Stone on the birth of Patrick

Best wishes: To our VCE/ VCAL students awaiting your results. Know that there was value in all your hard work throughout your VCE years – academically, socially, emotionally, physically, skill-wise, and intrinsically. You are all different people from it, and will continue to change as you experience what life has to offer you and those around you. Thank you for your contribution to our College’s story. Best wishes for the coming weeks and year.

Well done: To those in Years 7 – 12 who will receive the awards for 100% Attendance (3) and 99.5% (4) funded by Parents’ Association. Although it is not easy to be at school most of the time, it seems that a great many students attended over 95% of the time – a simply wonderful achievement which gives you the best chance to learn consistently.

Farewell: We farewell a number of families and students from year 12 down. Thank you for your contributions to the school – whether in small, occasional ways, regular assistance or large leadership roles – it is all appreciated. We also farewell some staff who will be sadly missed by students and parents, alike. Your dedication and drive in the interests of our children’s education have been highly valued. All the best with your 2016 ventures!

Welcome: We are pleased to welcome new students [and families] throughout the school, and hope your time at Ouyen P-12 is engaging. It has been exciting meeting new teachers in readiness for 2016.

Parents Victoria – Is there for all Parents/guardians to access. Check out the PV website for all sorts of information and updates. It has information from the DET about Parent payments, financial support, school uniforms, curriculum, and more. www.parents.victoria.asn.au

Time rolls on: Both Justine Cresp [President] and Raelene Vine [secretary] have done extra time in their PA offices. Please consider taking on one of these roles for/ from 2016 as their terms expire. Other roles include: Catering team, contact people, year level reps, Sheep Sale Roster co-ordinator. Interested? Talk to them about the tasks that go with the job.

Best wishes to all for a holiday season to treasure. Enjoy some special times with your precious children. See you in 2016.

Justine Cresp
President

Raelene Vine
Secretary
Guitar Lessons 2016:
Expressions of Interest are requested for the 2016 Guitar Program. To register your interest, please call or text Iwan Soebardi directly on 04189 19220 with your email address or email iwansoebardi@gmail.com

Drum Lessons 2016:
Expressions of Interest are requested for the 2016 Drumming Program. To register your interest, please call or text Luke McCarthy directly on 0417897906 with your email address or email lukemccarthy@lukemccarthy.id.au

GUITAR TUITION 2016 - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Dear Parents,

I would like to invite Ouyen P-12 students and parents to register their interest in the 2016 Guitar Program, commencing in Term 1.

The course is open to beginners and experienced players from grades 1 to 6 and covers technique, sight-reading, various musical (e.g. pop/rock/classical/jazz) and guitar styles (acoustic, nylon, electric), as well as musical theory.

Individual classes (one on one) and Group classes will be offered. Each class is 30 minutes long, and held once a week during class hours. Students are required to bring their own acoustic or electric guitar and the recommended textbook (to be confirmed).

Fees: Individual - $25 per lesson, payable by the term or in 4-weekly payments (i.e. $100).

To register your interest, please complete the attached form and have your child return it to his/her teacher or to the office or text me directly on 04189 19220 with your email address. Please call me also if you have any queries. Thank you.

Regards.

Iwan Soebardi

Guitar Program Coordinator

OUYEN P-12 Guitar Program 2016 – Commencing Term 1

Yes, I would like my child to learn guitar in 2016.

Name: .................................................................

Grade: ............

Playing experience: Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced

Guitar owned: Classical / Steel String / Electric / Yet to Purchase

Parents’ email and telephone: ............................................... You can also register your interest by SMS to 04189 19220
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide early warning of the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined by the Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days’ notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, Web Site or Telstra App. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus coordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

If you are living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 867.

School holiday program
January 2016

A.S. Kenyon Library, Red Cliffs
Phone: 03 50188366

Tuesday 12th January 2016
11:00am Stuck
Inspired by Oliver Jeffers book of the same name.
Wednesday 13th January 2016
2:30pm Wooden bird
Thursday 14th January 2016
11:00am Paper cup critters
Friday 15th January 2016
2:30pm Painting
Tuesday 19th January 2016
11:00am Terrarium
Wednesday 20th January 2016
2:30pm Lego fun (Free session)
Thursday 21st January 2016
11:00am Patty pan flowers
Friday 22nd January 2016
2:30pm Plate mates

Irymple Library
Phone: 03 50188360

Wednesday 13th January 2016
11:00am Under the sea
Wednesday 20th January 2016
11:00am Sharks

For more information please contact us:
Telephone: Mildura Library (03) 5018 8350
Website: www.mildura.vic.gov.au/library

Merbein Library
Phone: 03 50188361

Tuesday 12th January 2016
11:00am Wild animal masks
Wednesday 13th January 2016
2:30pm Lego fun (Free session)
Thursday 14th January 2016
11:00am Milk jug monsters
Tuesday 19th January 2016
11:00am Boats
Wednesday 20th January 2016
2:30pm Lego fun (Free session)
Thursday 21st January 2016
11:00am Lucky ducks