Principal’s Report

Code Red Days
Our school has been identified as a Bushfire At Risk school. This means that on designated Code Red Days students and staff will be asked to stay at home. In reality the danger is more likely to be to our school bus routes. When informed of a Code Red status we will contact families via TiqBiz, notes home or phone calls. Notification would usually be the day before when forecasts are released.
In the unlikely event of a fire during school time, students would be kept at school and parents notified accordingly.
Our school has a detailed emergency management plan in place to ensure staff and student safety.
Please contact the school if you have any queries.

Exams
Our Year 12 exams began with English on Wednesday this week. Exams will continue for the next few weeks and visitors to the school are asked to avoid the Community Centre area.
Year 11 exams begin on Monday November 23rd and the Year 9-10 exams on Wednesday November 25th. Students absent from exams will have a UG on their reports, no makeup exams will be held this year.

Term 4 Dismissal
The Department of Education has strict rules about the last day of the year for senior students. Students in Year 11 may leave after their last exam. Students in Year 10 may finish on Friday December 4th providing parents make a request in writing and provide evidence that the student has employment. Please assist us by abiding by these guidelines.

Leanne Dawes
Principal

BOOKLISTS – 2016

Due to the fact that many courses are changing over the next two years at VCE level, the text books are still being written and developed. In order to ensure students do not waste money on a useless text, staff will select the most appropriate ones and a list will be published early next year.

Novels for Year 12 are now available for purchase from the office. These books will be required for the VCE preparation days on November 26th and 27th.
When the booklist is published students and families will have the option to purchase from their preferred seller – often these books are much cheaper online and can be delivered quickly.
The stationery requirements will be listed for each year level and attached to end of year reports.

Next Parents Association Meeting - Monday, December 14th
WATER BOTTLES: Students are permitted to bring a pop-top water bottle to school to use during class time. They are particularly important in hot weather. Please ensure the bottles are named.

Do you intend for your child to travel over the school holidays? Do they need identification? We can help you with an official Ouyen P-12 College I.D. Card. For $5 each your child/ren will receive an 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.

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday, 13th November

more details to follow in next week’s newsletter

NO HAT, NO PLAY

Hats are to be worn in Term 4 as per our Sunsmart Policy.

FARMERS FESTIVAL:

This year, due to council regulations, the decorated bikes will be taking an altered route. The new marshalling area for the decorated bikes is at Shaddock Court at 10:45am for an 11am start. The children will then ride along the bike path to meet up with the parade at the entrance to Blackburn Park on Hughes Street. Each participant will receive $5 with the three best decorated bikes receiving $10. This year’s festival will also feature a wheelbarrow race competition. There is no age limit to entering this race, you just need a willing partner who can push a wheelbarrow. To participate in this event, simply find the wheelbarrow race table at the festival to register on the day.

The Ouyen Farmers Festival Craft and Hobby schedule is now available at the General Office.
COMMUNITY STUDENTS HELP CHILDREN IN NEPAL:

Last week the Year 9 Community class welcomed Sue Gilchrist, who came and spoke about her upcoming trip to Nepal where she and John will volunteer throughout November. Sue and John, amongst many other things, have made up 130 pencil cases for some young Nepalese school students to receive. The Community students assisted Sue and John by filling the pencil cases (hand sewn by Sue) with pens, pencils etc ready for their departure next week. We wish Sue and John all the best on their travels to Nepal. Their generosity and willingness to help others has inspired us all.

Narelle Latta

ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH RAFFLE:

Just a reminder to everyone to return tickets for the lucky ticket draw by Thursday, November 12th. The draw will take place on Friday, November 13th.

1st prize will be a choice of a Giant garden clock or Electric soup maker.
3rd prize is a $30 Voucher from Euphoria hair.

Extra tickets are available from the office. Winners will be notified by phone.

A huge thank you to our sponsors.

JUNIOR CRICKET:

Draw for this Saturday
Tigers v Kia
Blackburn Park
Galah v Rams
Secondary College

LIDS:

Thank you to those who have been collecting plastic lids for us. Please keep them coming; we need as many as possible for our garden art to begin in Term 1 next year. Please ask family, friends, neighbours etc.

There are many boxes around the school and classrooms for them to be deposited in. If you have any questions please see Narelle Latta. Thank you!

STATE ATHLETIC RESULTS:

Congratulations to Lauren Grace and Samuel O’Shannessy for competing in the State athletic championships on Monday. The students were greeted with cool and wet conditions, making for difficult throwing conditions. Both students finished with top ten places – a fantastic effort. Unfortunately, Brooklyn was ill & was unable to compete. Thank you to the parents who transported and supervised the children.

OUYEN PRE SCHOOL 4 YR OLD ENROLMENTS:

Enrolments are now being taken for 4 year old kinder students in 2016. Any child who is 4 by 30th April 2016 is eligible to attend. For details and forms please contact the kinder on 5092 1347 or Narelle Latta on 0428 288 864. Enrolments close on Thursday 12th November 2015.
Meeting: Three Year 10 boys attended Monday’s Parents’ Association meeting with Mrs. Geary and gave a presentation on their journey, so far, with the Energy Breakthrough project. This was also part of their English Speaking and Listening work. They capably answered questions. Justine thanked them and wished them well for their final preparations, training, and the big event. Miss Cross gave a comprehensive report on recent school events and successes, the School Review, grounds development plans, the busy schedule of events for the remainder of the term, and some planning for 2016. She emphasised the transition program, the planned swimming program, and the importance of the Early Start program, noting the legal requirements for students to attend school and that it is actually the start of Term 1, 2016 with assessment of work done counting towards Semester 1’s grades. Parents should recognise that there is no such thing as Harvest Leave.

Decisions were made regarding end of year award donations and planning was begun for various end of year ‘to-dos’.

Camps, Excursions and Cultural Experiences: Our children benefit in many ways from the school’s camps and excursions program, and the various arts and cultural performances that come our way. We thank the staff for their dedication and willingness to plan and lead such a great range of experiences for the students.

Ouyen Farmers’ Festival: Similarly, staff and students involve themselves in wider community activities. The Farmers’ Festival gives students the chance to showcase their artistic, culinary, crafty, photographic and community skills. Thanks to staff for their help in developing these areas, too.

Sheep sale: Sheep sales are done for 2015. The next sale will be January 28th, 2016. Thanks to all parents (and friends) who worked, cooked or made sandwiches for this time-honoured activity. We particularly acknowledge those who’ve been able to have more than one turn to fill the gaps. It provides valuable income for us to put back into the school. Thanks to Michelle Morrish for co-ordinating the roster of cooks and workers, and seeing the fridges were stocked each sale.

Catering:
Wedding: Five of the Energy Breakthrough students assisted Ian John and Raelene Vine with table service and kitchen duties for the Hall/ Marshman wedding last Saturday. Thanks to Allie, Charlee, Laura, Macey and Nate for their time and solid work. The money earned has been put to the Energy Breakthrough budget.

Friday, November 27th – we have a finger food tea [plus fruit salad] to provide for the Garden Club Christmas do at Lois and Gary Manley’s. Years 7 and 8 will have the pleasure of this last task for 2015. Details soon.

Exams - Best wishes to the VCE/ VCAL students for your final exams.

Next meeting: Monday, December 14.

Justine Cresp – President, Raelene Vine – Secretary

MUSIC:
The Year 3 Music class were exploring the dynamics of some musical pieces.
Students interpreted the music through movement.

SHEEP SALE ROSTER:
THANK YOU to all workers and cooks for their efforts during the 2015 year. The sheep sales have finished for this year, but recommence on 28th January, 2016.
Workers and cooks for the first month of sales will be on upcoming newsletters.

SWIMMING TRAINING/LESSONS:
Ouyen Swimming Pool

Lessons and training will be available to students in a four week block.

November 11th—December 2nd
(Dates to be confirmed, depending on numbers)

Please ring Trish Torpey for more details.
0407 379857 / 50824221
KINDER TRANSITION:

On Thursday we welcomed our Kinder students to Ouyen P-12 College for their whole group visit. We had a tour of our fabulous school and completed an activity with the current Preps. The kinder students start their small group transition days next week! We again, welcome the 2016 Prep's to Ouyen P-12 College!!
Staff and students are invited to dress in a Day at the Races theme for a gold coin donation. All funds raised will be donated to the local hospital.

The SRC are offering to paint fingernails at recess for a gold coin donation. The nail polish stand will be located near the Year 10 locker area. Call in for a full nail paint, one nail, different colours – whatever you fancy!

At 1.30pm the first ever Ouyen P-12 Cup will be run. The sections contested will be:
- P-4
- 5-8
- 9-11

Each year level is able to nominate one representative for the race and one staff member from the area. The race will be contested between the Year 9 and Year 12 common room area. Spectators are most welcome – and encouraged to attend and cheer on the competitors.

Fashions on the Field will be held at 1.45pm – once again in the area between the Year 9 and Year 12 common room. Names for Fashions on the Field should be submitted to the classroom teachers before recess. The judges will be waiting to award the crown of best Fashion and other prizes to entrants.

So come along on the day and get into the spirit – and have a sausage from the Energy Breakthrough group to support their fundraising also.