Welcome to a huge week! We are holding our first ever Athletics Carnival this week and there are lots of events planned. This week we began our Out of School Hours School Care program with Camp Australia. They take permanent or casual bookings online. If you require care at any time keep their website handy.

Safety Concerns on South Circuit
I require your assistance with keeping our students safe on South Circuit. It is important that I draw this to your attention now, before bad habits set and the school student population increases. I have discussed my concerns with the highway patrol, council and police youth liaison officer. All students were involved in a lesson this week teaching the students about road safety. They are aware of the road regulations I am about to remind you of. Please do not let your children down by ignoring this important lesson. We need to work together to keep our precious children safe. I require your full support with the following matters.

In the afternoon there are many traffic issues apparent after 3.10pm. Please abide by the road signs. Do not make illegal U-turns on South Circuit as there are double lines. It is a driving offence and you are putting our students at risk! The fine for making a U-turn over double lines is $311 and the loss of 3 demerit points. Drivers are not to park in the Bus Zone, which is clearly marked. To park here is dangerous and causes traffic obstructions. The bus drivers have had to speak to drivers to request that they park elsewhere. This is a legal requirement and is effective across all of our state roads. To park here is an offence and you may be fined $311 and lose 2 demerit points.

On South Circuit there is a designated crossing area, with orange crossing flags. Please use this crossing and ensure that your children use it too. We have noted parents parked across the road, calling to their children to cross wherever. Sometimes children are crossing in between and behind the buses. This is incredibly dangerous. I have real concerns that one of our children will be involved in an accident if this situation does not improve. For the sake of a few metres please use the crossing and model this safe behaviour for your children.

Our staff car park is a designated staff car park only. When parents park in there they are putting their own and others’ children at risk. This has
been particularly noticeable in the afternoon. Some parents park in the car park and they are often still parked at 4pm. Their children have been playing in the car park near their parent’s cars, just as many of our teachers are reversing out to leave the school. As I have stated before, our school is growing, as is the number of teachers. There will soon be no available spaces for others. Please do not park in our staff car park.

In the first car park we have Assisted School Transport vehicles regularly accessing the car park to drop off our students in the support class. This car park is not to be used, it is putting our student’s safety at risk. Parents of children in our support unit can park their cars in the disabled parking areas for five minutes. This allows you time to escort your child to our playground. Please do not park at the playground entrance gates as our Assisted Transport drivers’ park there.

I require your 100% support with these matters. Please consider that Oran Park Town promotes a car free environment. If you do live close enough, please walk with your children. Or you could consider parking further down the road and walking up. You could consider not parking and drop your child at the Kiss and Drop Zone. It is not always necessary for you to stay at the school in the morning. There is a teacher on duty from 8.40 am, your children are safe, just as they are at other break times during the day. Your assistance and understanding will help us to keep all children safe.

**School Gates**

Due to ongoing safety concerns our school gates and car park gates will be closed as of 9.30am. This is to keep all of our students safe during the school day. As you can appreciate our priority is to keep all of our students safe. Following Work Health and Safety guidelines we have made the decision to close all gates from 9.30am until 3pm. This decision has been made to ensure that all of our students are safe. There are a couple of students who need assistance and require our support to stay safe.

If you require access to the school please use the South Circuit pedestrian gate. We appreciate your support with this matter as we all work together to maintain the safety of all of our students here at Oran Park Public School.

**School Attendance**

Did you know that if your child misses as few as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they would have missed a whole year of education? By law, you are required to send your child to school every day. If your child has to be away from school for any reason, please send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence, as soon as possible. If your child arrives at school late, or needs to leave early, you will need to go to the office to sign your child in or out.

If you’re having problems getting your child to attend school regularly and on time, please talk to your child’s teacher or principal. For your obligations under the school attendance guidelines, please go to: [www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_admin/attendance/sch_polproc/PD20050259.shtml](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_admin/attendance/sch_polproc/PD20050259.shtml)

**Voluntary Contributions and Excursion Fees**

Please could you settle these accounts as soon as possible? Voluntary contributions are used to buy home readers, maths equipment and art supplies. These contributions are set significantly below the recommended rate at $30 per single child and $55 per family. Unfortunately not all fees have been paid. This limits our ability to provide other whole school resources as we have to pay for the shortfall. Your assistance in ensuring these fees are paid would be much appreciated. Thank you to the 45% of families who have paid the voluntary contribution, your support is appreciated.

Excursion fees ensure that your child is able to participate in our planned curriculum activities. The excursions that are currently being collected are K-2 Calmsley Hill Farm, 3-6 Science and the Year 4, 5, 6 Camp.
**Athletics Carnival**

Our first school Athletics Carnival is this Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August, weather permitting. If it is raining on that day we will reschedule for the following Wednesday. I look forward to a fun day of athletics events and novelty events. Remember to come dressed in your House colours!

**Book Parade**

Next Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August we will be celebrating Book Week. Students are asked to come to school on the day dressed as their favourite book character. A gold coin donation is required, all proceeds will go to our library. At 9.30am we will have a Book Character Parade in the hall/COLA. All parents are welcome to attend this parade.

**School Oracy Competition**

In our last week of Term 3, we will hold our annual Oracy Competition. This will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September, from 11.45am in our school hall. Parents of student finalists will be notified and invited to attend. Public Speaking is a wonderful skill to develop; therefore all students K-6 are involved in this opportunity.

I appreciate that this has been a long message from me, however I am sure that you will all agree that it is a necessary message to ensure the safety of all students at Oran Park Public School.

*Donna Shevlin*

**Library News**

**Premier’s Reading Challenge!**

Countdown to the end of the challenge is on! The Premier’s Reading Challenge closes on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2014 for students.

Keep up that great reading right until Friday night, but remember all your books must be entered online by midnight on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2014.

**P & C News**

**Fundraising Update**

Thank you for supporting our McDonalds Fundraiser in week 9 of last term, we raised $170.00.

We would like to thank the following companies for their kind donations to our school.

- Coles Narellan - $100 gift card and fruit for our Athletics Carnival
- Coles Harrington Park - $50 gift card
- Bunnings Narellan – aluminium fencing for our playground as well as seedlings and fruit trees

**Father’s Day Stall**

The P&C will be holding a Father’s Day Stall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014 for students to buy gifts. We are asking for donations of new items that can be sold at this stall. Donations can be left at the school office.

**Shopping Bus Trip Fundraiser**

A Shopping Bus Trip has been organised for Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014. The day will begin at 7am and return at 6.30pm approximately visiting more than 10 outlet stores ranging from manchester to shoe, handbags to clothing. It is a great opportunity to purchase Christmas presents, make great savings on purchases and enjoy the company of great people! The cost is $35 per person and you need to book your seat by paying and placing you name on the list at the school office. Bookings close on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014.
**Athletics Carnival**

Just a reminder that the school Athletics Carnival will be held **this Wednesday (13\textsuperscript{th} August)** on our school oval. All students from K-6 will be participating in a range of Athletic track and field events. Students are allowed to come dressed in their house colours, however they are expected to be wearing athletics attire, i.e. shorts, t-shirt and joggers. **Please no singlets, thongs/sandals or short shorts. Our house colours are Brock – Red, Johnson – Blue, Moffat – Yellow, Skaife - Green**

Parents and friends are welcome to come along and watch students participate in events. Students are expected to bring with them lunch, recess and a water bottle. **Children with asthma should bring their inhalers with them and keep them on them at all times during the day.** The canteen will be open for the lunch break from 11:40am – 12:00pm.

The P&C will be holding a free water and fresh fruit stand throughout the carnival. Fingers crossed the weather remains bright and sunny for our first Athletics Carnival, however in the case of wet weather, students will resume classroom activities and the Athletics Carnival will be postponed. Please note that due to privacy laws, photos and videos taken on the day that include other students cannot be uploaded to social media.

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**2014 School Athletics Carnival**

Events Program

**Wednesday August 13th, 2014**

- 8:45am: 800m
- 9:15am: 200m Heats
- 10:00am: 100m
- 10:35am: Long Jump
- 11:00am: Shot Put
- 11:30am: Javelin
- 12:00pm: Lunch
- 12:30pm: Discus
- 1:00pm: High Jump
- 1:30pm: 100m
- 2:00pm: 200m Finals
- 2:30pm: Relay Races

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**PSSA Gala Days**

Oran Park Public School were very successful at their first Razorback PSSA Gala Days. The mixed netball team played a total of 6 games and won 4 coming 2nd in their division. The senior rugby league team played 7 games winning 5 coming 2nd in their division. The junior rugby league team played 7 games winning 6 coming 1st overall. The best and fairest awards went to:

- Netball: Mia
- Rugby League: Brayden (Juniors) and Kobie - *Elderslie* (Seniors).

All students showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout each day and both Mrs Hayek and Mrs Bailey were very proud of them. Thank you to all the parents and friends who helped transport our students to and from the Gala Days. A big special thank you to Mr Shipley and the boys from Elderslie Public School who helped ensure we were able to field full rugby league teams and be a part of the gala days.

Summer Gala Days are to be held during W6, W9 and W10 of this term. Notes will go home this week to students who have been selected for teams.

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**Before & After School Care at Oran Park Public School**

Camp Australia has begun the operation of a Before & After School Care Program at our school. They offer care between 7am – 9am in the morning and 3.10pm – 6.00pm in the afternoon. Vacation care and School Development Day care is also available. For more information on availability and cost or to register for this service go to [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au) and enter Oran Park Public School into the school finder.
**Oracy Competition**

This week is the last week that students have to prepare a speech (from the topics listed below) as part of their homework to develop skills in Speaking and Listening.

Early Stage 1 students will be required to present a 30 second -1 minute speech. (Kindergarten)

Stage 1 students a 1-2 minute speech. (Year 1 and 2)

Stage 2 students will be required to prepare a 3 minute speech. (Year 3 and 4)

Stage 3 students a 4 minute speech. (Year 5 and 6)

Teachers will be assisting students to develop important skills in planning and preparing a prepared speech (During the first four-six weeks of term) as well as how to prepare an **impromptu speech (for primary students only)**.

Students will present their speech to their class. From the class competitions, 2 - 4 students from each class will be chosen to compete at the 3-6 or K-2 School Oracy Final. All OPPS students will be invited to the school final as audience members. This competition is an excellent opportunity for students to build confidence and skills in presenting a speech to a wider audience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPICS TO CHOOSE FROM FOR YOUR CHILD’S PREPARED SPEECH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ES1 and Stage 1 topic choices (Yrs K-2)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• My favourite pet</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The best toy in the world</td>
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<tr>
<td>• My family is special</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The best holiday ever</td>
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Students will be expected to have their prepared speech ready for presentation to their own class on **Monday 18th August, 2014 (Week 6)**. Class presentations will occur during Weeks 7 and 8. Two students from each class will then be selected to compete in our school final to be held in our hall on Monday 15th September at 11:40am.
This week, (Week 5), our PBL focus was “Being a good winner and a good loser”

The value focus is; **Be Proud, Be Productive**

- Good Losers………
- Understand that it is OK to feel disappointed that they didn’t win, but that they should talk about this with a network of trusted people like your mum, dad or older brother or sister. After the event, away from the other competitors.
- Have fun and remember that all competitions and games were designed and invented for enjoyment, entertainment and fun. No matter whether we win or lose, we will have great, fun memories.
- Focus on trying. They can only ever do their best. They are resilient and keep trying. This is how people improve. They never get better if they whinge and give up.
- Look for the benefit. Think about what they have learnt from every competition experience. People can win by achieving personal goals
- Congratulate themselves. They practise telling themselves about all of the good things they have done.
- Are great sportspeople and congratulate the winners. They remember that if they had won, they would want others to celebrate for them

Good winners………

- Are generous and thankful
- They never gloat. They always respect their competitors
- Are humble. This means they are confident, but are not too sure of themselves
- Look at their performance and how they could improve
- Celebrate the efforts of everyone in the competition
- Let others celebrate with them
- Share the fun of the competition
- Never, ever make fun of others when they don’t win
- Always have people around them who like them

In week 6, our PBL focus is going to be “Positive attitude”

The value focus will be; **Safe, Productive and Proud**

**HEAL Study**

The ‘Healthy Environments and Active Living Study’ (HEALStudy) is all about the experiences of living in neighbourhoods in Western Sydney and to what extent they support healthy lifestyles.

A survey was delivered on Saturday 9th August to every household in Oran Park, plus a pen, calendar, tape measure and a pre-paid return envelope. You can also complete the survey online by visiting www.healstudy.org.au. By participating in this study, your responses will help enhance future planning of Western Sydney’s communities. We really look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please get in touch by phone 1800 306633 or email heal@uws.edu.au.

Dr. Xiaoqi Feng – Associate Research Fellow, Centre for Health Research, School of Medicine, University of Western Sydney