Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our last newsletter for 2015. What a brilliant year we have had! It has been a busy and productive year of learning. Your children are fantastic! Thank you to everyone for your ongoing positive support of our students and our school. Your hard work, trust and dedication are invaluable.

Staffing and Classes 2016

I am pleased to welcome our new Assistant Principal Mrs Odefey to Oran Park Public School in 2016. She was successful in gaining a permanent appointment, through merit, to our school. Mrs Odefey will teach in the library and will also support a Gifted and Talented program.

We are very pleased to welcome four new teachers to our school as permanent members of staff. These teachers are: Mrs Sullivan, Ms Smith, Mr Boyd and Mr Dodds.

We say farewell to Mrs Duffield, Mrs Brightwell and Mr Mitchell. Mrs Bland has replaced Mrs Duffield as Assistant Principal until staffing determine whether there is a transfer or interview for the new Assistant Principal. Mrs Duffield recently applied for and was successful in gaining a new position closer to home, we wish her all the best. Mrs Brightwell is taking maternity leave and will hopefully return in Term 4. We send our best wishes during this exciting family time. As you may be aware, Mr Mitchell was working in a temporary capacity until a permanent teacher was appointed. We wish him all the best.

All classes will hopefully be announced in the second week back, depending on the numbers enrolled. As you will understand we are continually enrolling new students and it will be difficult to form set classes until we are sure of the student numbers. Students will be placed in a mix of classes until this time.

I wish everyone a very happy festive season. Enjoy the summer break with your beautiful children. I look forward to catching up again in the New Year. May 2016 be happy, healthy and successful for us all.

Kind regards,

Donna Shevlin
Outline of 2016 Expenses
Please find a list of anticipated expenses below. These are an indication only and the final cost may be subject to change. This is just to assist with budgeting for the coming year.

2016 Voluntary Contribution - $30 per child or $55 per family
Mathletics - $15 per student in Kinder to Year 6 (students will receive a login and password when paid)
Phonics Hero - $20 per student in Kinder to Year 2 (students will receive a login and password when paid)
Technology Levy Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 - $50 per student
Technology Levy Kinder, Year 1 and 2 - $30 per student

Term 1
Dance Program 8 weeks Kinder to Year 6 - $24 per student
3-6 Swimming Carnival - $14 per student
Stage 3 Camp Payment - $330 (Camp is week 2 term 2)

Term 2
Stage 1 excursion - $25
Stage 2 excursion - $25
3-6 PSSA Gala Days - $25

School Photos

Term 3
Gymnastics 10 week program Kinder to Year 6 - $30 per student
3-6 PSSA Gala Days - $25

Term 4
Kinder Farm Excursion - $35
Year 6 Farewell - $20

Year 6 Raffle
We would like to thank Harrington Park Pharmacy and Mrs Alavanos for donating the prize for the raffle. The winner was Sebastian in 2/3N. Congratulations!

Canteen Donation
The canteen has donated $120.00 from the last Red Food Day to the school which will go towards Maths resources.

Swimming Carnival
The Swimming Carnival for years 3-6 will be held on Thursday 4 February 2016 at Picton Pool. A note will come home on the first day of school. The cost will be $14.

Dance Program
Students will be participating in a whole school dance program run by ‘Dance Fever Multisport’ in Term 1 2016. The dance programme will teach children numerous styles of dance and at the end of the 8 week program children will be able to perform 4 to 5 routines to music. Dancefever Multi Sport is the only school provider to have both male and female dance teachers in schools, which has a strong and positive effect on boys within the classroom. The program will run on Mondays starting on 8th February 2016 and the cost will be $24. A note will come home on the first day.
Equipment List 2016 Years 1 – 6
Please find below a list of equipment that your child will require for school in 2016. They are to bring these items to school at the beginning of the year. Please label all personal items with your child’s name in case they are misplaced. Some items will also need to be replaced from time to time as they get used so please check each term. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

- 1 pencil case
- 3 glue sticks
- 1 pencil sharpener with container
- 1 white eraser
- 1 pair of scissors – (rounded ends for Years 1 and 2)
- 3 HB lead pencils
- 1 mini whiteboard eraser (available in Officeworks)
- 3 whiteboard markers – new ones will need to be supplied each term
- 1 packet of coloured pencils and/or wind up crayons
- 1 30cm ruler with millimetre markings – not metal or bendable (Years 3 to 6)
- 2 blue pens and 2 red pens (Years 5 and 6)
- an art smock or shirt (Years 1 and 2)
- 1 A4 plastic pocket for home readers (Years 1 and 2)
- personal headphones for use with computers
- 1 library bag

For the classroom

- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 pump hand wash soap or refill for soap dispenser
- 2 rolls of paper towel
- 1 packet Wet Ones or similar (Kinder to Year 4)

Labelling your child’s belongings
During the holidays please ensure that all your child’s belongings are labelled with their name. All clothing, hats, drink bottles and containers should have their name clearly written so they can be returned should they turn up in lost property. Please check them through the year as names can fade with laundering and will need to be rewritten.

School Story
I am pleased to advise you that the School Story – Use of RAM Equity Funding for Oran Park Public School has been published on the Local Schools, Local Decisions intranet at: https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/local-schools-local-decisions/using-ram-equity-funding-school-stories
A message from Mrs Duffield
Greetings to all students and Community Members of Oran Park Public School.

At the end of Term 3, I applied for an Assistant Principal position, closer to my home. I was informed at the beginning of this term that I had been successful in the interview process. I have accepted and commenced my position at Campbelltown North Public School.

I would like to thank all students, staff and community members for their support and for allowing me to be involved in the development of a new school and community. It has been a brilliant opportunity and an absolute privilege. I've loved getting to know you and working with you.

Oran Park Public School is an outstanding learning environment where there truly is a love of learning amongst all key stakeholders.

To all parents, carers and community members
I'd like to congratulate you on your constant support of a brilliant growing school. Without this support, schools just don’t function. I've had the opportunity to work with many of you and I really can't thank you enough for assisting me in my role, and for always communicating beautifully with me, ensuring we can work to improve and do the best we can for our students. Oran Park really is a proud and productive community!

To the students
I am so very proud of you and your achievements. You continue to work together as a team, to follow the school values and excel in successfully achieving your personal goals. You are happy and respectful. I will miss your smiling faces and beautiful manners. I'll miss you all saying, “Hi Mrs Duffield!” and sharing your achievements and successes, as I visit your class and walk through the playground. I’d like to wish you well in 2016. To the year six students, remember what you have learnt at OPPS, and continue to be the amazing individuals I know you are.

These are the most important pieces of advice I can leave you with.
1. You can change the world. You are capable of doing anything you put your mind to, so go for it. Be excited about change. Be different.
2. Nobody can teach you who you are, so be yourself. Make your own choices, ones that you can live with.
3. Make every day count. Stand still and enjoy special moments, but keep moving ahead and never give up.
4. Generosity overpowers greed. Always try to give, help and support in your community.
5. You will never ever stop learning in every single thing that you do. Nobody knows everything.
6. Be confident and you will be successful.
7. You have to see it to be it. Be positive. Say ‘I can.’ Believe it and you will.
8. A good head and a good heart are a brilliant combination. Be a problem solver, think about your decisions, have compassion, be tolerant and care about others.
9. Things will not always be perfect. Things will go wrong, you will make mistakes. It is how you deal with a problem and work through it. That is the measure of who you are.
10. Take risks, there is always another chance.
11. Love, joke, listen to music, dance, be crazy, enjoy yourself.
12. Promote peace – solve problems with your words.
13. Make your own decision – you know what is right and wrong.
14. Always say hello to me if you see me – I will remember you and would love to have a chat about things. I will always be your teacher.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work at Oran Park Public School. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of it. I hope to catch up with you some time soon. Enjoy this busy time and have a lovely holiday break. Be safe!

Love and best wishes,

Mrs Tina Duffield