Dear Parents and Carers,

Athletics Carnival
What a fantastic day of athletics we had last week. It was a brilliant day weatherwise, apart from the mini storm! Thanks for working with us and ensuring that your children were available to complete their events after the mini hurricane!

All of our students were happy and involved in their activities. The staff worked hard, as did our parent volunteers. We were very thankful for the mixed fruit that some of our parents sourced from Oran Park and Mount Annan Woolworths. It was very supportive of our local Woolworths to donate these healthy snacks. Thanks to Mrs Nott, the Coffee Van was a welcome option for the caffeine lovers amongst us.

I would especially like to thank Mr Andrews for the construction of a long jump pit. Through his provision of equipment and his valuable time, we had a professional long jump for our students. Also thank you to Mr Browne. He has mowed, line marked and ensured that we have a back oval that looks like a cross country track and an Athletics Stadium!

The Athletics Carnival was another great example of how well staff and parents work together at Oran Park Public School to provide such fantastic opportunities for our children. Thank you very much to Mr Betts, Mrs Bailey and Ms Westcott for your organisation and thanks also to those wonderful teachers who assisted. The work that goes on behind the scenes, leading up to and including the day is phenomenal. Your efforts and hard work paid off. I look forward to news from the district carnival.

Staffing
As you are aware interviews were held for the unfilled teacher vacancy. Mrs Cooper (3/4C) was the successful applicant. We are very lucky to now have Mrs Cooper as a permanent teacher at our school. Congratulations Mrs Cooper!

Punctuality
I’m sure you’ll agree that the key to a productive and rewarding day is to start it on a positive note. The start of the school day is no different and the best way to kick things off positively is to ensure that your children arrive at school on time. All children should be at school and ready to commence classes by 9.10am. Being here for the start of classes allows
the children to commence the day’s learning together and avoids the distractions that occur when a child enters the room late. We have a Morning Routine Program in all classes across the school. It is essential that all students attend this lesson.

Parents dealing with student behaviour
There are rules and consequences in place designed to deal with student behaviour. These are in line with Department of Education policy. These range from time out in class, time out in another class, time out with Principal or executive and in some cases suspension. These decisions are made in consultation with the Principal, student and parent. They are private matters and cannot be discussed with other parents.

All parents and community members who enter school grounds, are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. You are role models for our students. From time to time parents may observe a breach of school rules by a student. This should be reported quietly and confidentially to a staff member. **There should be no physical or verbal contact with any child regarding their behaviour. Please do not approach other parents regarding their child’s behaviour. If you have any concerns report them to an Assistant Principal or to me.**

Parents, visitors and volunteers are expected to work under the professional direction of staff, following school policies. Report any issues of concern to teachers and allow the teacher to deal with discipline issues that arise (parents should not directly intervene). Thank you for your support with this. Together we can support our children at Oran Park Public School in a happy and safe manner.

NAPLAN 2015
Our National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results were distributed to parents of students in Years Three and Five this week. Many of our students have performed very well in this exam. Our individual and school results were in some cases above the national average. Our students overall performed particularly well in Literacy. If your child sat for the NAPLAN at another school, that school will send your child’s results to you. Our NAPLAN results will be published in our 2016 Annual School Report.

Made Fresh Canteen
I have met with representatives from Made Fresh, the company who operate our canteen again to ensure that we have a quality catering service for our students. The local area managers are coming to our next P&C meeting, on 1st September. They will be at the meeting to address any concerns or suggestions you may have.

P&C Fathers’ Day Stall
Our P&C have asked for me to put a call out to any parents who would like to offer their services at the Fathers’ Day stall on Tuesday 1st September. Please ring the office and advise if you are available to help on the day. Also, if you have spare plastic bags at home, could you please send them in so that children are able to transport their gifts home.

Kindergarten Enrolment for 2016
Calling all pre-schoolers who are eligible to begin school in 2016! Please ask mummy and daddy to contact the office. Parents need to contact the school for an enrolment package. I look forward to meeting with you and your parents to show you our school and assist with your start to BIG school.

Satisfaction Survey Responses
I would like to continue sharing with you the recent parent responses to our Parent Survey. As advised in a previous newsletter, the majority of responses were not happy with the car parking. I have noticed many of you are taking advantage of our Kiss and Drop zone. Thanks to Mrs Duffield and Mrs Banfield there is a lot more structure here and it appears to be operating well. Thank you for your support with this.
One issue that was of concern was that we had too many fundraisers and too many events occurring that were costly for some parents. We have taken this on board and have scaled back our events. Next year we will plan differently and ensure that events are more evenly staggered. Thank you for working with us as we endeavour to provide every opportunity for your children, whilst taking into account our fast growing school.

We had some great responses to what we did well at Oran Park Public School. The majority of responses complimented us on our communication. Please be aware that we communicate in this newsletter, via the SkoolBag App, through emails, through letters, or sometimes via the telephone. If you are ever unsure of something, all notes, calendar events and newsletters are uploaded on our website www.oranpark-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

There were a number of comments complimenting our staff and their commitment to our school. One comment I was particularly proud of:
“I believe you teach and care for our children well. It is easy to tell that all of your staff enjoy their jobs and actually care about the future of our children”.

I totally agree! Our staff love working here and love teaching your children. They are passionate about your child’s learning and I am glad that parents have noticed this!

Thank you for your input to our survey. We genuinely want to provide the best quality education for your children and your constructive feedback is valued and helps drive us to improve.

Have a great week and I hope to see you all at our Book Parade next Tuesday!

*Donna Shevlin*

**Premier's Reading Challenge**
Congratulations to those students that registered and have been busy reading books for the Premier's Reading Challenge.

Just a reminder, that the PRC closes for students on 21st August, 2015 at 11:59pm and you need to have finished reading your books and completed your online log before 11:59pm, to be eligible for a certificate.

If you need any help, please see either myself or Mrs Sheehan in the Library.

Happy reading!

*Mrs Cleary*

**Woolworths Earn and Learn**
This weekend is a double sticker weekend! We have had 9,800 stickers already donated to the school. Keep collecting the stickers and help us reach our new target of 20,000!

**Voluntary Contribution and Technology Levy Draw**
Thank you to the families that have paid the contribution and levy. The winners of the draw were the Dittman, Mitovski, Stallard and Allen families. Reminder invoices for the technology levy will be sent next week. We are hoping to have them all paid by the end of term.
Come dressed as your favourite book character on Tuesday 25th August.

Parade starts at 9.30am in the school hall.

Enjoy a picnic lunch afterwards with your child at 11.00am.
CAMP AUSTRALIA
Science Week!

Recently at Camp Australia we had science week!!! The children made their very own volcano and even made it erupt, it went everywhere. Lucky we made sure we were outside when it happened! The children also made a boat powered by dishwashing liquid. We were all very impressed with how this worked, as some of the children didn’t think the boat would move let alone float. Then at the end of the week the children also made pipe cleaner sticks to blow bubbles!!! Some of the bubbles the children made were MASSIVE! They were so big they even popped in people faces!! The children had the biggest smile on their faces and had a great time!

Group games were also very popular this week as well. The most played game had to be 4 corners. The children always ask to play this game and if they had it their way they would play it all afternoon!

We have had a very busy week at Camp Australia and we have enjoyed learning about all the different experiments science has to offer.

We welcome all the parents at Oran Park Public School to come and have a look at Camp Australia or even just to say “Hello”.

The Camp Australia Team.