From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Positive Behaviour for Learning
At our school every class participates in a weekly lesson to assist with the development of social skills and to learn about positive behaviour choices. Mr Dodds and I teach these lessons. The program consists of stage-based lessons involving a power point presentation, use of videos, role-play, and art and class discussions. At Oran Park Public School we believe that learning how to socialise, play and interact with each other, as well as following a set of values, is just as important as following an academic curriculum. With your support, we want to prepare our students for a successful future.

OPPS Core Values
Oran Park Public School has four core values that underpin all school programs and interactions. They help support and encourage discipline and promote and inspire a love of learning. The four core values are:

Organised: Come to school, prepared and ready to learn • strive to be your best at all times
Proud: Of appearance, achievements and your school • of the achievements of others, students and staff • respect and support the efforts of students, teachers and other community members
Productive: Be responsible, follow all school rules and stay on task • develop and model fairness and respect • build positive relationships with the school community
Safe: Take care of everyone and everything • act thoughtfully and carefully towards ourselves and others • foster a safe and secure environment for all • be aware of and reinforce safe behaviours.

Addressing Parent Enquiries
From time to time parents or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to:
• Discuss the progress or welfare of their own child
• Express concern about actions of other students
• Enquire about school policy or practice
• Express concern about actions of staff

It is therefore necessary to have procedures that will help solve problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results usually flow from working together.

Every effort will be made to address the issues as soon as possible. However, as you can appreciate teachers, executive or the Principal may not be available immediately. Please do not approach teachers regarding an issue after morning line up or during class time. At this time the teachers are responsible for their class and do not have the time to assist you effectively. Often teachers or executive are teaching their class, dealing with students or have a pre-arranged parent or staff meeting.

I can appreciate the urgency of some issues and we will make every effort to meet with you as soon as possible. However to fully accommodate and assist
with your requests it is preferable that an appointment is made at the office. This allows for time to address the issue carefully and to give the matter full attention to ensure a satisfactory outcome. Please rest assured that if I am available I am happy to offer assistance at the time.

When you request a meeting with myself or a staff member it would greatly assist us if you state the nature of your concern so that any background information or resources can be used to ensure a speedy and satisfactory resolution. Thank you for your understanding and support. Our intention is to provide you with the appropriate amount of attention and time to assist you. Your children are important to us, as are your concerns.

**Contacting School Staff**

School staff can be contacted in a number of ways.

- By making an appointment to speak with them via the Administration Office.
- By telephoning the school on 4632 4651
- By emailing the school email address: oranpark-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Please do not contact any staff member directly via their Department of Education email address. All emails will be distributed to staff members from the school email address and will be responded to in due course.

**The Oran Park Award System**

Each Friday we hold a K-2 assembly and a 3-6 assembly to acknowledge our student’s efforts and talents. Sometimes a class will entertain us. At other times our students will show their proud work. At this assembly class teachers give out merit awards for effort in class work and sport. There are ongoing positive merit awards for student achievements in curriculum and sport, including wearing correct school uniform and following the four core school values. Some students earn these awards on the day of assembly, so we do not advertise who will be receiving these awards.

In weeks 5 and 10 of each term we hold assemblies for the Assistant Principal and Principal Awards. You will know if your child is to receive an award at these assemblies because you will have sent in their merit awards ahead of this assembly to be cashed in for an Assistant Principal or Principal Award.

10 Merit Awards = Assistant Principal Award  
2 Assistant Principal Awards = 1 Principal's Award  
2 Principal's Awards = Principal's Medallion

**School Assemblies**

All parents are invited to attend our weekly Friday Awards Assemblies in our school hall. Students in Stages Two and Three (3-6) will have assemblies from 10.10am. The Early Stage One and Stage One (K-2) Assembly will be held from 12.40pm in our hall. Our assemblies are held at these times to ensure that students play sport before the weather becomes too hot. Assemblies are also held at these times because we are committed to our Morning Routine Program. These times will remain the same throughout this year.

Out of respect for the students presenting at the assembly, we ask that you actively supervise any pre-school children who attend these assemblies with you. Please turn off mobile phones. I look forward to your company as we celebrate our wonderful student’s achievements.

**P&C Need Your Help!**

**Call for Re-gifted Items**

The P&C are calling for the donation of unwanted/recycled gifts please. These will greatly assist in the sourcing of potential prizes for the Family Bingo Night coming in May. So please could you bring to the office items that are unused and still in their packaging to assist this worthwhile cause?

**Easter Egg Donations**

The P&C will hold their Term One Raffle at the annual school Hat Parade. Your donation of Easter eggs would be much appreciated. These eggs will be used as raffle prizes. All profits from the raffle are contributed by the P&C to the school. Please consider donating and buying raffle tickets to support our parent group.

**Business Donations**

If any of you know of a business that would be happy to donate, either services as prizes or money, please let the P&C know! Their services and business would be advertised and acknowledged on our webpage.

In the two years since our school has opened, the P&C (with your help from donations and purchasing raffle tickets) has raised enough money to air condition every classroom in the school, contributed to the Life Education Healthy Harold Program, supported our State sports representatives and purchased resources for our library. This is a huge accomplishment in such a short time.

**Special Religious Education (SRE)**

Our SRE classes began this week. Each week on a Tuesday, students will have approximately 30 minutes of...
Lost Property
There are a number of sloppies and jackets in the lost property that do not have names on them. Please ensure that your child's name is written on all items that they bring to school. This helps in being able to return these lost items to their owner.

School Voluntary Contributions
Most Public schools request a contribution from parents each year to supplement existing funding. This year we would benefit from $30 per single child and $55 per family. We would greatly appreciate these contributions, which can be paid in installments. These contributions will contribute towards curriculum resources and programs for the benefit of all students. Thank you to those families who have contributed already.

No Scooters at School
Students are NOT permitted to ride scooters or skateboards to school. This rule is in place for safety reasons. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Staff Car Park is for staff parking only
Parents are still parking in the Staff Car Park. The two car parks are for school staff only. You put our students in danger when you use these car parks. It is not safe for parents to park in these car parks at any time, due to student arrival and departure. We have also had staff cars damaged from parent use of the car park.

The small staff car park must be kept free for Assisted School Travel vehicles to access. These vehicles drop off and pick up students with special needs. For the safety of all students, please do not park in this car park at any time.

The second car park needs to be kept free for the garbage pick-up service, our Canteen employees and for the daily use of our staff. As the school staff population increases we have less available parking for our staff. By parking there you are taking staff parking spaces. From Term Two onwards, Department of Education employees, who will be based at our school for a special project for a number of months and will require parking, will use the car parks. I require your support with this request.

New Staff Member
I am pleased to announce that our new teacher permanently appointed from Term Two onwards is Mrs. Treble. She taught at our school in 2014 in a temporary capacity. She then returned to her permanent position at Sackville Street Public School. She has been successful in the transfer process and we are glad to welcome her back.

Kind regards,

Donna Shevlin

DID YOU KNOW???

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 No 87 (14.1.e), dogs are prohibited in school grounds, (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled).

For the safety of all students, toddlers, babies and adults, please do not bring dogs into the school grounds, even on leashes. Some children have a genuine fear and it can be quite distressing for them as well as for parents, particularly those with very young children. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Lost Property
There are a number of sloppies and jackets in the lost property that do not have names on them. Please ensure that your child’s name is written on all items that they bring to school. This helps in being able to return these lost items to their owner.

Glass bottles and containers
Glass bottles and containers are not allowed at school as these pose a risk to students should they break. All containers and drink bottles that are brought to school need to be made from non-breakable material.

Easter Creations Parade
All students from K-6 will participate in the "Easter Creations Parade" on Thursday 24th March at 10am. Staff and students would like to extend an invite to family and friends to join us on this special day. Our parade will commence at 10am. The P&C will be drawing their raffles and everyone will enjoy a picnic lunch following the parade at 11am. A note will be sent home next week regarding the "creations". We look forward to an eggcellent parade!

Mrs Sullivan & Miss Gibney - Organising teachers
Library Bags
Students need to bring a library bag to school each week on their library day to enable them to borrow a book. Students without a bag unfortunately are unable to borrow. Library Bags can be purchased for $5 from the library or front office.

Mathletics / Phonics Hero Logins
Passwords and logins will begin to be distributed to students next week who have paid these subscription levies. Please make these payments as soon as possible. You are able to pay by installments if you wish.

Do you love reading........

The 2016 Premier's Reading Challenge will open on the 7th March and close on the 19th August.
The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading in students. All students from Kindergarten to Year 9 are eligible to participate.

A link to the Premier’s Reading Challenge website can be found in the Student Portal under the Learning section.

Students can also log in to the PRC website at home using their Department of Education (DoE) username and password. These are the same details the students use to access the Student Portal and the computer network at school.

When they finish a book, students need to update their Student Reading Record with the book details. Students use their usernames and passwords to access their Reading Record online at home.

Once a student's Reading Record is complete, please let Mrs Sheehan in the library know so it can be validated.

The table below shows the number of books students need to read to complete the challenge and qualify for a certificate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Year</th>
<th>Number of books you must read</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books</th>
<th>Maximum number of Personal Choice books</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents and students need to complete the challenge online at home, but if you have any trouble or questions, please see Mrs Sheehan in the library.

Happy Reading!
MUSIC!!

Last week’s theme was music! We participated in some great activities and even had a talent show. The children practiced throughout the after school care sessions and each day we watched the children show us their acts. There was dancing, skipping and one of the girls sang a song to everyone. We all celebrated when each child was finished and we supported one another with words of encouragement before each child went on the stage.

The children create a music wall that represented what music meant to them. They coloured in musical notes and wrote about music which we used to decorate the wall beautifully! We had a fantastic week and really enjoyed learning about music.

On another note, after a lot of thought and discussion I have decided to leave my position as coordinator at Camp Australia OPPS. I have been offered a full time position, which I couldn’t turn down. I would like to say the BIGGEST THANK YOU to parents for letting me look after your wonderful children! I have had a great time sharing all their experiences and changes while being in my care and I have memories that will last me a lifetime!

Juliana will be stepping up from the assistant to the coordinator position when I leave. I’ll be supporting her with the transition and I’m sure she will do a fantastic job!

My last day at Camp Australia will be the 8th of March 2016! I am going to miss everyone but am very excited to start my new journey!!!!

THANK YOU Kaylee

Bookings are now open for “Jungle Quest” holiday fun! There are lots of activities available for your children. If you would like to see a program or have any question please don’t hesitate to call our friendly customer service team on 1300 105 343 or visit our website www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclub.

Please Note: Holiday Club will be held at Bowral Public School, Thomas Hassall Anglican School at Middleton Grange or Sydney Services ONLY.

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Oakdale Girl Guides invite you to Come and Try Guides!

**Wednesdays 6:00pm-7:30pm**

For girls aged 7-10 years

At the come and try we will be cooking.....making.........doing.........

Camden Guide Hall

2 Elizabeth Street, Camden

Please call Leslie on 0417 407 799 for more information or just come on down!

Or to find out more visit our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
Cobbitty Village Markets
1st Saturday of each Month
8am - 1pm
Free Parking for over 1,000 Cars
See us on Facebook
We support Local Charities & Organisations
Cobbitty Public School Grounds
Cobbitty Road, Cobbitty
Phone 0438 512 728
www.cobbittymarkets.com.au

Stop! Look! Listen! Think!
Before crossing the road.

Slow Down! Children Around.

Choose Safety Over Convenience
Park legally.

Keep your children safe,
Don’t double park.