**ISSUE 9** 

Term 2, Week 8 2023

# OAGS News

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Securing Success...

#### From the Deputy Headmaster

During our most recent Secondary School Assembly, Rev Stringer interviewed a number of students and even a staff member to talk about a moment when they had to 'just send it'. We heard about epic runs, dance auditions, and lactic threshold Crossfit workouts. 'To Send It' has become an urban dictionary favourite, which, depending on who you ask, is a positive phrase that identifies that moment when you've done all you can, and now it is simply time to commit and give it everything. It's not reckless, but it's 'all in'.



'I commit, I won't quit' is a mantra that Ken Choubler, founder of the Leadville 100 mile running race in the USA, challenges his athletes to take on before they 'send it' in the race. Coincidentally I was speaking with a teaching colleague who has run a 100 mile running race in his younger years. I asked him to recount his experience and while he shared a few details from the race itself, he finished by pointing to his legs and saying '10% of it is all about these' and then he lifted his forefinger and touched it to his temple and finished by saying 'but 90% of it is all about this'.

#### 'The mind always fails first in running, not the body'

Rev Stringer went on to extrapolate the 'send it' mentality from physical feats and challenges to apply it to the mindset we bring to school. Too often mediocrity, short cuts, laziness and excuses can creep into not only the child's mindset, but the adult one as well. He called us to pursue one of our core values - excellence. When did we last look at our school campus, our school books, our friendship circles, our sporting team, our examination results, our uniform and our community and ask the question 'how do I pursue excellence moment by moment in these contexts?'.



As teachers, are we walking into classes ready to 'send it' knowing that we've done the hard work, we're ready to deliver and, come what may, we will engage our students where they're at, insist on the highest level of output and inspire our students to join us in 'sending it' in the pursuit of excellence.

Of course, 'sending it' means that sometimes we fail. However, to fail because we've met our limits and maxed out our potential is a gloriously better 'fail' than that which comes from mediocrity, half baked efforts and the toxic security of deciding that we'd rather fail by choosing to never really try.

We teeter on the edge of school-report season, and I can think of no better question to ask when working through the report with your child at the end of term than to simply say 'well - the most important question is this -

#### Did you send it?'

If the answer is 'not really', then let's use the break to get ready to embrace 'Send-mester 2'.

Blessings, Scott Hazelton Deputy Headmaster



## PRIMARY NEWS

#### **Amazing Adventures of Superstan News**

Primary School is busily preparing for our upcoming performances of The Amazing Adventures of Superstan.

In keeping with the goal of the show as being a celebration of student achievement, students from Prep to Year 6 have all been carefully making set pieces, props and costumes for the show. Thank you to all the Primary teachers for supporting their work! Here are just some of the pieces that have been made by students for the show.



Tickets are selling fast, so don't miss out! Click here to purchase tickets.



















#### Stage 1 and 2 excursion to The Civic Theatre

Last Tuesday, Stage 1 and Stage 2 travelled to The Civic Theatre to watch a production of David Walliams' Mr Stink. Students loved seeing this humorous book come to life and spent the majority of the play in stitches as they watched the interesting story unfold. Students in both stages enjoyed comparing how the actors portrayed their characters compared to the student's perception of each character while they read the book. Luckily for the students Mr Stink, didn't actually stink, and students left with a newfound appreciation for live theatre, and even more excitement for our school production!



#### Stage 1 and Stage 2 teachers





#### **CWA Public Speaking Competition**

Earlier this term, Stage 2 and 3 were invited to prepare speeches for the Country Women's Association Public Speaking Competition. All students were eager participants in the process and are commended for the many excellent speeches that were prepared and delivered. In Week 6, six finalists attended the final for their age group at the CWA Meeting Hall in Robertson Park against students from other schools in our local area. All students spoke incredibly well and were outstanding representatives of our school and the tremendous learning that occurs in our classrooms. A particular mention goes to Ellah and Lysander from Stage 2 who were awarded highly commended awards for their speeches on the topic 'Happiness is...' and 'My Favourite Animals'. Pictured here are our finalists: Braxton, Chloe, Timothy, Annemieke, Ellah and Lysander.

#### Mr Timothy Herbert Primary Public Speaking Coordinator





### SECONDARY NEWS

#### Year 7 2024 Experience Day

On Thursday 8th June 75 Year 6 students from OAGS and local primary schools experienced a day in the life of the Secondary School. They attended a full day of lessons where they made elephant's toothpaste and sherbet in Science, milkshakes in Food Technology, created an artwork in Visual Arts, learned about the workings of the Agricultural Centre of Excellence, and had fun engaging in Sport. We look forward to welcoming our current Year 6 students and new students into the Secondary School next year.

#### Mrs Nicole Johnston Leader of Culture (Character) Year 6 & 7 Pastoral Care Coordinator

















#### **UNSW -Civil and Environmental Engineering Work Experience**

In week 5 while the rest of Year 10 was on camp I was on a work experience opportunity with the University of New South Wales. I was one of the 90 students that were chosen from all across NSW to participate in this experience. The selection process started with applying and going up against students from year 10 at our own school, then 2 students were chosen to apply for the actual position with UNSW. From there the organisers from UNSW picked out 90 students to participate. Once down in Sydney we would meet at central station every morning to get into our assigned groups, get our names marked off the roll, meet our leader for the day and learn where exactly we were going for the day. At the end of every day we would go back to campus and write up a report for the day before heading back to where we were staying.



On Monday after our meeting at central we were taken to the Central Park building where we were taught about waste water recycling systems and how they can be used as a sustainable water supply for things such as toilets and washing machines. Next we went to the UNSW campus to complete a water filtration challenge which my team came tied first in.

Tuesday we were taken to Centennial Park where we were taught about different types of water filtration systems in the landscape. These ranged from man-made structures such as storm drains and artificial waterways to naturally forming ponds in the middle of the park. Afterwards we went back to campus to complete a challenge, this time the challenge was to create a structure out of marshmallows and spaghetti. The objective was to make it as tall as possible while still supporting the assigned weight which was a small beaker of water. My group ended up failing this challenge although we had a lot of fun doing it.

Wednesday we went to Belmore Park where we learnt about different types of surveying tools and how positioning of satellites affected GPS's. The types of surveying tools included laser scanners, handheld GPS and RTK (real time kinematic) GPS. After learning about these instruments we went to the opera house to look at how they managed to build it without modern surveying tools and to do an activity with the GPS's. Next we went back to campus to have a lecture and do another activity with some PHD students.

Thursday we went to a project management studio where we heard from many employees who were working on the City Tattersalls Club rebuild. They each shared a different management role that they played in the rebuild, these ranged from those that managed financial aspects of the build to those that managed the design and construction of the building. Afterwards we went to Jacobs engineering consultants where some of the employees there talked to us more about project management. Then we went back to campus where we had a lecture from senior lecturer Johnson Shen, he talked about drones and AI technology and how we can use it in construction; during this we got to put on VR goggles and experience a construction site without actually being there.

Friday was our last day and we spent the whole day on campus with the rest of the groups. We spent the first half of the day listening to lectures from PHD students and lecturers, then we spent the second half competing in a bridge building competition with a \$50 cash prize for the winning team and prizes for 2-4th place. Unfortunately though our team didn't win and just missed the prize for 4th place with us coming in 5th.

All together this was an awesome experience and I made many friends over the week. I'd like to thank my teacher Mrs. Nealon for bringing this experience to my attention and helping me through the selection process and the University of New South Wales for running this week.

#### **Emma Little**



# CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

#### OAGS Senior Band and the Sydney Schools Wind Orchestra

On Thursday last week, members of OAGS Senior Concert Band visited the Orange Regional Conservatorium for a combined schools workshop with the Sydney Schools Wind Orchestra under the baton of Mr Steve Williams. Our musicians made up part of a group of over 100 on stage. They learned about performance techniques for bands while playing a couple of selected works. Breathing, posture and intonation were the focus for the session. Considering many were seeing the music for the first time the results were fabulous.

#### Mr Noel Annett Band Director









## STUDENT ADVOCACY

### Access The Thrive

Exciting opportunities will be available for students from next week in The Thrive Centre.

The Centre will be open on Monday and Tuesday afternoons for **secondary students** from Years 7-12 to drop in and ACCESS help with their studies between 3.30 and 5pm.

Every **Monday**, Mrs Kimmins will be available to help individual students with English, History and Geography and every **Tuesday**, Mr Johnston will be available to help with Maths and Science.

Students are invited to come for part or all of the session and work on homework or assessment tasks, knowing help will be available in English, Maths, Science and H.S.I.E if required.

Students who do not wish to access help, but would like to complete their homework are most welcome to attend.

There is no need, at this stage, to sign up for these sessions, just turn up.

The Learning Support staff will be available for **primary students** from Years 1-6 to Access every morning before school from 8.00am - 8.50am. Help will be either given individually or in small groups in Literacy and Numeracy. Sessions must be booked by parents and may be done so by emailing the writer.

Please contact me for further information or to discuss either opportunity.

Pauline Dwyer
Coordinator of Learning Support
pauline.dwyer@oaas.nsw.edu.au

#### **Volunteering Opportunities**

Please can we ask if there are any OAGS community members that would like to volunteer in the classroom. Whether it be reading groups, art afternoons, or phonics fun. We're looking for mums, dads, aunts, uncles, nans and pops.

It's free to apply for a "Working with Children" Check and you'd be invaluable to our Learning Support Team. Click here to apply.

Please contact the office if you have a current WWC and would like to offer your time.

We are looking for a full-time volunteer to work with one student one on one each day if that's something you could offer and would find rewarding please contact <a href="mailto:admin@oags.nsw.edu.au">admin@oags.nsw.edu.au</a>

Thank you so much!



# EQUESTRIAN @OAGS

Contact eauestrian@oaas.nsw.edu.au



#### North West Equestrian Expo - Coonabarabran

Well the OAGS Equestrian team are cranking up in preparation for our amazing inaugural event, competing in Australia's largest Interschools event, the North West Interschools Equestrian Expo (or Coona as everyone knows it). This high school student event held over six days, has everything from team barrels to one day eventing, pentathlon to polocrosse, dressage, show riding and showjumping and even has events that occur nowhere else. The OAGS banner flew high as our team of Noah, Eden, Isobel, Zoe and Jade competed in every discipline the Coona could offer, with ribbons for many riders in a range of events.

Some, but not all of our awards included a first and 5th in Gymkhana for Zoe, a second and a 5th for Isobel in gymkhana and 8th in dressage, (not a bad effort for her first ever interschools), Eden with a 4th in combined training and 3rd in gymkhana and Jade with a 3rd and 4th place in formal Showriding. Our senior team member Noah took on a tough field in both ODE and pentathlon being just out of the places on a tough and unforgiving track.

Unfortunately the hard ground took its toll with Noah opting to retire his horse midway through the event due to soreness.

The team will be joined by the junior school members to compete at our own interschools competition the weekend of July 22-23 at the Cudal Showgrounds. We would love to invite all our OAGS families to come along and take part in spectating over the weekend with the big highlight being the PJL Six Bar Show Jumping under lights with an option to take part in our hospitality event by the fire while watching riders battle it out for the glory of the Six bar. Next newsletter will have a lot more detail about the event and we would love to see you there.

#### Mrs Sarah Eyb Equestrian Coordinator















## **SPORT** @OAGS



#### Netball Team Spotlight

With our netballers well rested after the long weekend, it is time to shine the spotlight on another OAGS netball team. This week we will get to know our youngest netball stars with the U8 Chupa Chups. The Chupa Chups have been learning how fun netball can be as well as developing their skills. The Chupa Chups get to play every Wednesday afternoon in the Net Set Go Competition. Coaches Millie, Zara and Lizzy pass on their wealth of knowledge to the Chupa Chups and make sure the team are having fun! Well done Chupa Chups, we can't wait to see where netball takes you!



#### Winter Sports Sponsor Shout Out - Integral Skills

At OAGS we are passionate and committed in supporting students to live a healthy and active lifestyle through the sports they are most passionate about.

Our Basketball community are leaders within the OAGS sporting community at motivating and promoting teens in sport.

We would like to introduce the OAGS Bucks with our first winter sponsorship within our Basketball season. Integral skills is a OAGS family business and long time supporter of the club.

We would like to give a huge shout out and thank you to Integral Skills for supporting our sporting club. Integral skills has seen the passion, motivation and dedication our students have to the sport of basketball. The OAGS Bucks are trained by our newest recruit to OAGS Basketball Troy Hogarth. We are so excited for the development of this team under Troy's guidance.





### 252 ARMY CADETS UNIT

Army Cadets – 252 ACU

#### Bunnings BBQ - 3 June

Another successful day which raised almost \$1500 for unit funds. Thank you to LT Russell Player who coordinated the event supported by 2LT Brynn Player, 2LT Anne McAlister and our other adults and cadets for volunteering their time at short notice to assist.

#### T2 Bivouac 9-11 June at Bowhunters (Lower Lewis Ponds)

A great turnout with 45 cadets and 12 adults who were joined by 10 cadets and 4 adults from the Dubbo unit. This was our first time using this venue and apart from the cold it got a "thumbs up" with people saying we need to use it again. It was coordinated by LT Russell Player who has now completed his training to gain the AAC qualification to be in charge of field activities. This is another milestone for 252 having more than one person qualified to run a field activity. Most issues with the online consent process have now been resolved. Thanks to all the adults who attended with father and son Peter Reid for their detailed planning of the navigation and indigenous fire pits plus 2LT Anne McAlister for her realistic first aid scenarios and "fake wounds".

#### **Adult Helpers**

Thank you to the parents that are helping when they can on Mondays and at Bunnings. We are always happy to see adults come along to find out more about the program and help where they can. It is important we continue to rebuild our number of adult helpers which has become depleted due to their cadet leaving and others deciding to become qualified adult staff.

#### Chief of Army Cadet Team Challenge 1-8 July (Canungra QLD)

Patrick Wright, Scarlett Petty, Jayden Kemp, Broghan O'Donnell, Natasha Baker, Rohan Mittal, Ben Catlin and Felicity Hack have been selected to be members of the (10 person) NSW Team to participate in this event to be held at the Canungra Army base in Queensland. The competition is an assessment of the Team's ability to complete challenges involving the basic skills of navigation, radio procedures, first aid, fieldcraft, problem solving and initiative scenarios. We have been revising these skills and group cohesion to optimise the "team". The Bivouac last weekend allowed them to work together with the Mudgee team member on activities and scenarios. They will be joined by other cadets from Camden in QLD.

#### NSW Promotion Courses 1-8 July (Holsworthy)

These are held at Holsworthy in July and January each year. Gaining a place (especially on the CPL Course where 180 applied for 120 places) is very competitive. Those who gained a place on these courses are:

CUO – Utah Middleton

SGT – Amaya Johnston, Will Roberts and Layla Docherty

CPL – Alex Baines, Chad Fenton, Will Cooney

LT Russell Player, 2LT Brynn Player and CAPT Nye have also volunteered as staff on these courses

Important Dates - No Monday Parades during OAGS School Holiday breaks

**1-8 Jul** NSW BDE Promotion Courses – selected cadets only

1-8 Jul CACTC (south QLD) – Selected cadets

21-23 Jul T3 Biv – ALL - Cudal

24-29 Sep AFX (Annual Camp) – Majura Range (Canberra) - ALL

CAPT (AAC) Terry Nye Officer Commanding 252 ACU

#### Chess Club

<u>Master Class</u> – Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm. Students attending are learning great strategies and skill from Mr Joe Cummins. Interested players are always welcome.

NSW Secondary Schools Country Championship (Western Region) – Our next (round 3) match has changed and is now against Parkes Christian School next week.

<u>OAGS Competition</u> - The Primary school competition is progressing well. The Secondary school competition has commenced with some great games played showing the improved skill levels of all.

Mr Terry Nye Chess Coordinator



### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Contact admin@oags.nsw.edu.au

#### **Orange Anglican Grammar App**

The best way to stay up to date with the school events and notifications is via the school App. From attendance to reports the App has everything needed to track your child's progress.

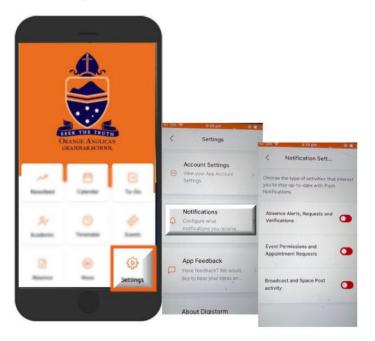
All event permissions will be available in the To-Do section along with information about the event. Future events for your child are listed in the Events tab.

Every absence your child has is now coming through to the app and no longer sent as an email. It's important for you to have the App in order to verify their absence, otherwise it will go through on their report as unapproved leave. Absences will appear in the To-Do section.

The timetable option is a fantastic way of checking what lesson your child has if you want to book appointments, so you can avoid Key Learning Areas like English, Science and Maths.

Our newsfeed is the source of all information that we want our Parents to receive from returning excursion updates to P&F second hand uniform sales.





Once you have the app, it's important to check your account settings have notifications "on" so you get pop ups on your lock screen and notification bar. The image provided is a guide to checking your settings.

If you have any issues with signing in to the App or Parent Portal, please contact:

helpdesk@oags.nsw.edu.au

The Orange Anglican Grammar App is available to download in the Apple App Store or on Google Play for android phones.



#### Children's Safety, Sextortion and Cybercrime information session

An important information session has been developed to educate and provide critical information on the topics of Children Safety, Sextortion, and Cybercrime. The session has been organised collaboratively by schools in the Orange Community and will be held at the Orange Civic Theatre, led by education representatives and local Police.

The purpose of the information session is to raise awareness and equip parents and carers with the essential knowledge to safeguard children from potential online threats. We believe that addressing this issue is of utmost importance in our rapidly evolving digital age. By educating parents and carers about the dangers of sextortion and cybercrime, we can work together to create a safer online environment for our children.

To ensure the success of this event, we have enlisted the expertise and support of Youth Engagement Officers, Senior Constables Jane Heffernan and Jeff Mullins from Orange police. Their vast experience and knowledge in dealing with these urgent and current matters make them the ideal individuals to deliver this crucial information to our community.

We believe that by coming together as a community, we can empower parents and carers and equip you with the necessary tools to protect your children from the dangers lurking online.

Thank you to Orange Council for donating the civic theatre free of charge for this important session.

When: Tuesday 20th June, 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm.

Where: Orange Civic Theatre

Cost: NIL

Limited seating available – please register at <a href="here">here</a>

Come along and join other parents to learn more about protecting those most likely to be targeted in online cybercrime and illegal activity. Due to the nature of the content, we advise parents and carers not to bring their children.

Senior Constable Jane Heffernan Youth Engagement Officer Youth Command

### PRE-LOVED UNIFORM STALL

Wednesday 21st June 3:00-5:00pm In the Media Centre

Donations of pre-loved uniforms can be left at Student Services

