**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

As Tim Mc Mahon is on leave it is my pleasure to write the final Principal report for 2015.

**Year 6 Orientation**

On Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th of December we welcomed our 2016 Year 7 students to the school as part of their Year 6-7 orientation program. It was great to see the students settle into their new surroundings so quickly and being supported as usual by our current Year 7-9 students. A special thanks to the Year 9 buddies who assisted in classes throughout the program.

**VCE Results**

Our current Year 12 students will receive their VCE results on Monday December 14th. All the staff at Oberon wish them well and look forward to hearing the results. Careers staff will be available throughout that week to provide any assistance to students with respect to course alterations or pathway advice.

**School Canteen**

As of 2016 there will be a change in management for the school canteen with H & H Canteens taking over the operations in other areas of the school. Linda will be working with students as a teachers aide and Elaine will be sharing her expertise as an assistant in the food technology area. On behalf of the whole school community and especially the many students who have considered these ladies as “extra mums”, we would like to thank them for their many years of dedicated service and wish them well in their new roles.

**Bike Repair & Re-Gift Program**

I would like to congratulate the students from G7A who were involved in this program as part of their Compass Award. The students, together with Sam MacKenzie (Student Welfare Coordinator) and Russell Stubbings (School Chaplain) worked to rebuild over 170 bikes that were originally donated and then re-gifted back into the local community. Special thanks also to the Salvation Army for their support and members of the Rotary Club of Belmont who worked alongside our students.

**Great Victorian Bike Ride**

We welcomed back the Great Vic Bike riders this week. Reports from the team indicate they had a fantastic time, despite some difficult weather conditions. Special thanks to Ms Casey Lawson for organising and supervising this group and to parent Kim Lim for her assistance as chaperon.

**Awards Day**

All students and parents are invited to attend this special occasion which we regard as one of the most important events on the school’s calendar. This ceremony celebrates the achievements of students with awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Outstanding Effort or for Citizenship/School Service throughout the year. Top students in Year 12 subjects, all students who achieve over 90% in the VCE score (ATAR) and our Year 12 Dux are also presented.

Students have been notified if they are to receive an award at the ceremony and, clearly, there is an expectation they will attend. All students attending and those receiving awards must be wearing correct school uniform. Awardees will not be presented on stage with their award if they are not in correct school uniform.

Please note this ceremony will take place at 11.00 am on Wednesday 16th December at Costa Hall.

Students who have paid for a school magazine will receive this at the conclusion of the Assembly. Other magazines will be available for collection from Room 20 on Thursday December 17th from 8.30 - 4.30 pm and Friday December 19th from 8.30 am – 12.00 pm.

**Activities Days**

Our activities week for Years 7-9 students started yesterday and will conclude with the school picnic on Tuesday 15th December. On this day students will walk along the river to Balyang Sanctuary picnic area and take part in Picnic games competing for the House Christmas Cup. A barbecue lunch will be provided. Students should wear appropriate footwear and bring a hat, sunscreen and a water bottle. Any student wishing to be dismissed from Balyang Sanctuary should bring a note to the principal’s office. Any student wishing to be dismissed from Balyang Sanctuary should bring a note to the principal’s office.

**Leadership Structure for 2016**

In 2016 there will be some changes in the personnel in leadership roles within the school. Please note the following:

- Year 7 – Ms Renae Barnett
- Year 8 – Mr Vlad Filipovski
- Year 9 – Mr Adam Freeman
- Year 10 – Mr Sean Fitzgerald
- Year 11 – Mrs Sharon Jimmink-Scott
- Year 12 – Mrs Carol Champion.
### Important Dates to Remember - Please Note in Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 6, 7, 8 &amp; 9</th>
<th>End of Year Activities for Years 7 - 9 - information has been distributed to students in Years 7 - 9</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10th, Friday 11th, Monday 14th &amp; Tuesday 15th</td>
<td>Oberon Awards Day - Costa Hall 11.00 a.m. All students are expected to attend Staff Professional Learning Program Program provided for those students in attendance. Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences by Appointment.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALL YEAR LEVELS</strong></td>
<td><strong>SCHOOL OPEN FOR NEW ENROLMENT QUERIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th December</td>
<td><strong>AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 17th December</td>
<td><strong>TERM 1 COMMENCES</strong></td>
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<td>Friday 18th December</td>
<td><strong>STAFF RETURN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COMMENCEMENT DATES/EVENTS FOR EARLY 2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>OFFICE OPEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd - Monday 25th January</td>
<td>Year 7, 11 &amp; 12 students commence school Year 8, 9 &amp; 10 students commence school. All students now in attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th January</td>
<td>Year 7 Sleepover</td>
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<td>Wednesday 27th January</td>
<td>Year 7 Beach Day</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY</strong></td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th January</td>
<td>School Photos - Catch Up</td>
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<td>Thursday 4th February</td>
<td>House Swimming Sports</td>
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<td>Friday 5th February</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<td>Monday 8th February</td>
<td><strong>TUESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY 18TH FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th February</td>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY 9TH - FRIDAY 11TH MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th March</td>
<td><strong>IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER - PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR DIARY</strong></td>
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**RESOURCES ROOM NEWS**

As the year comes to a close, it’s time to reflect on what has transpired this past year. It has been a pleasure to work with such a wonderful group of students, from Years 7 to 12. It has been fantastic to see how they have grown and learnt and to have learnt from them. These students are extremely fortunate to attend Oberon High School. While the school rightly celebrates exceptional success at VCE level it also provides outstanding support for students with additional needs. The caring and inclusive nature of Oberon High School is part of the schools very culture and is testament to the practices of the entire staff. I will be taking leave for 2016 and Lyndie Filipovski has been appointed to the role of PSD Coordinator. I would like to thank all the families that I have worked with this year and during my time at Oberon High School and to wish you and your families all the best for the holiday season and next year.

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**School Uniform**

A reminder of some uniform requirements that some students seem to have forgotten. Girls should wear white socks with their summer dress and polishable black school shoes. Boots are not appropriate. Dresses and kilts should be of an appropriate length. Students must bring their sports uniform on days when they have physical education but must change into school uniform for other lessons.

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**A Summer Safety Message from Barwon Coast**

With the end of the school year approaching and summer holidays soon upon us, the Barwon Coast Committee of Management has asked for us to relay an important safety message to our students with regards to the dangerous practice of bridge and jetty jumping into the Barwon River at Barwon Heads.

The Barwon River tidal channel through the mouth of the river and upstream of the bridges experiences quite rapid sand sediment changes which may build up near the structures that could be jumped off.

Signage is present on the jetty advising that jumping is prohibited but it is important to remind your children of this important safety issue.
In early December the library hosted two Reader’s Cup events for our year 7 and 8 students. Students had volunteered to represent their house and the competition required team members to read four books of varying genres. On quiz day, house teams then met the challenge of answering 70 multiple choice questions, along with specialised questions on their respective focus book, which required more details in order to gain bonus points towards their final score.

Three Houses were represented in the Year 8 competition – Cameron, Lipson and Thomson. Tariq Ismat flew solo for Thomson House and must be commended for his efforts, at times he confidently matched the 8-strong Cameron contingent. Congratulations to Cameron House for winning the Year 8 trophy – the numbers were on their side! Members of the winning team were Kirra Aitken, Julia D’Albora, Isabelle Gillam, Bonnie Hodge, Zac Morrison, Tadhg O’Connor, Josh Slattery and Axel Sparkman.

A number of students were late withdrawals from the Year 7 event, which made the contest all the more difficult for those present, as it meant their shared knowledge of the books was depleted. However it was a tight tussle for the minor placings and all team members must be applauded for their contribution and persistence to battle it out to the end – well done. Greeves House were victorious in the Year 7 event, again the benefit of a larger team. Congratulations to Will Brennan, Max Hoolston, Harvey Martin, Kade McKenzie, Chris McMahon, Caleb Morrissy and James Pullen.

Of course such events require a team effort to make them happen. I thank Mrs Barbara Staff and Mrs Bronwyn Knight for their wonderful role as respective quiz masters for the Year 8 and 7 tournaments. Thanks also to Ms Felicity Greene for her assistance with adjudication. Special thanks to all our Year 7 and 8 readers who demonstrated true house spirit by willingly taking on this challenge - it would not have been possible without their commitment. Well done.

Louise Monotti
Last week myself and four other students (Alex Kinross-Smith, Aran Barnes, Rohan Barnes, Liam Hobbs and Kim Lim (a.k.a. My mum)) set off with Miss Lawson on The Great Victorian Bike Ride. The nine day ride began in Ballarat and finished in Bendigo traversing most, if not all, of Australia’s gold fields and covering a massive 540km. We stopped off in Avoca, Dunolly, Inglewood, had a rest day in Bendigo and then continued on to Heathcote and Castlemaine finishing finally back in Bendigo. Our longest day was 103km and our hottest was 36°C (44°C in the sun).

Every year hundreds of students from all around Victoria take part in this ride as well as thousands of members of the general public, essentially making us a small moving town, we more than tripled the population of many of the smaller towns we passed through.

There were many highlights including the daily movies, live music, endless amounts of board games, the Good Oil (a daily Great Vic newspaper), roadside cheer squads, and inspirational quotes. Each day we woke at 5.30am, had breakfast at 6.00am and were packed up and on the road by 7.30am. Lunch was generally around 10.30 and second lunch frequently cleared out the confectionary aisles of many supermarkets we stopped off at. Despite our crazy schedule we were always settled in camp by 2.00pm leaving 7 hours left for us to play cards! We played countless games of UNO, snap, spoons, blackjack and spilt, by the end of the ride I was not only a pro cyclist but also a pro card shuffler.

The great Vic was an unforgettable, rewarding experience. I highly recommend anyone who has the opportunity to come along. Next year we will be exploring from the Grampians to the Great Ocean Road! If you are interested in coming along next year, talk to Mr Hallam in Staff Room 4.

Emily Kinross-Smith - Year 10
Simulated UMAT Day - Intensive Preparation Workshop for UMAT 2016

MELBOURNE- School Holiday Program
19th December 2015, 9am - 5.30pm

Students who are in years 10, 11 or 12 and are considering a career in medicine, dentistry, or optometry, will need to sit a compulsory entry exam known as UMAT (Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test) before they can apply for relevant placements in the above fields with Universities.

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 interested in medicine, dentistry, or optometry will need to sit the compulsory UMAT (examination) when applying for one of the above career choices. NIE will be conducting UMAT preparation workshop during summer break on the 19th of December 2015. Places are strictly limited. All details are available via www.nie.edu.au

The workshop includes an overview of the entire UMAT process - exam, scores, standardising, applications, university requirements, interviews, past experiences, professional advice, performance expectations, and more. Each student is individually assessed and fine-tuned for peak performance. Strategic problem solving and tuition in each of the three UMAT constructs, and of course medical interviews (MMI and structured panel). The workshop will be conducted by two highly experienced and expert lecturers who will define and explain each UMAT construct. A full practice test conducted under exam conditions, followed by a feedback session. This intense full day preparation workshop allows students to identify and explore their true strengths and weaknesses.

Cost: $289 (Lunch and refreshments will be provided)
If forwarding this email to a student, they can: ‘Click here’ to enrol online.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

The NIE TEAM
The National Institute of Education
1300 974 187
www.nie.edu.au
The Diversitat Reuniting Families Christmas Appeal has been established to provide much needed migration support to refugees trying to reunite their families.

Make your donation count! For every dollar donated to the Diversitat Reuniting Families Christmas Appeal, Deakin University will match your donation (up to a cap of $7500), thereby doubling the impact of your contribution. What a great opportunity to support others during the Festive Season! Donate online today https://www.givenow.com.au/diversitatchristmas

SUPPORT REFUGEE FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS!

Has your child missed vaccines at school this year? Boostrix (diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough), Chickenpox and HPV (human papillomavirus) will not be offered again to your child at Oberon High School. Missed vaccines can be done through Barwon Health Immunisation phone: 42 156963 or your Doctor. Below is a Barwon Health Immunisation Timetable.

Please note that from 2016 only Year 7 students will be immunised at school.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM BARWON HEALTH IMMUNISATION FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN YEARS 8 - 12

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OPEN DAY
Come and join us on
16TH JANUARY 2016
10AM TO 4PM

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SUPPORT REFUGEE FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS!