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School Council Election Nominations

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If you are interested in becoming a Council member under any of these categories please contact me at the school on 52434444 as nominations are due to me by Monday 15th February at 4pm. If we have more people interested than there are vacancies, a Council election will be held to determine the successful Council members.

See the timeline in this Newsletter for more information.

School Structure

The relevant Assistant Principals and Year Level Managers that should be contacted if you have a concern with your son/daughter are as follows:

School Photos - Order Forms have been distributed
Mon 6th

German trip compulsory student workshop - 7 pm in the Library
Tues 16th

School Captains Leadership Conference
Thurs 18th

House Swimming - Kardinia Pool
Whole school event, all students are expected to attend
Tues 23rd

Bob Hillman - Year 12 Motivational Session - Library 6.45 pm - 8.45 pm
Thurs 25th

Barry Heardon Speaker - Year 10 English classes Period 3 & 4 - Library
Frid 26th

Western Metropolitan Golf
Mon 29th

German trip ticketing meeting - 7 pm Library.

Thurs 3rd

Elevate - Year 11 Session Periods 3 & 4
Frid 4th

Defence Force Expo - VCAL Students

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Year 8 Manager – Mr Vlad Filipovski
Year 9 Manager – Mr Adam Freeman

Assistant Principal Year 10-12 – Mrs Carol Champion

Assistance School for Student Leadership

Six of our Year 9 students have embarked on seven weeks away at the DET school for student leadership Snowy River campus at Marlo. I wish Liam Connelly, Jacqui Honeywell, Grace McManus, Bonnie Hodge, Tariq Ismat and Rohan Barnes all the best as they undertake this wonderful opportunity.

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Some interesting courses Oberon students gained entry to included Work (3) were among the more popular courses for our students. Education (10), University (31), Federation Uni (8), Victoria Uni (5), The University of Melbourne (4) RMIT (3), and Deakin College (3). Education (10), University (31), Federation Uni (8), Victoria Uni (5), The University of Melbourne (4) RMIT (3), and Deakin College (3).  

It was pleasing to see so many of our 2015 Year 12 students accessing their first preferences into University and TAFE courses. Our class of 2015 not only produced some outstanding academic results but also achieved great employment and further learning opportunities. Many of our Senior VCAL students have secured ongoing Apprenticeships and Traineeships. A large proportion of our students are heading to Deakin University (31), Federation Uni (8), Victoria Uni (5) ,The University of Melbourne (4) RMIT (3) , and Deakin College (3). Education (10), Nursing (9), Science (6), Health Science (4), Engineering (3) and Social Work (3) were among the more popular courses for our students. 

Some interesting courses Oberon students gained entry to included Global Science and Technology, Acting, Fine Arts, Criminology/Law and Animal Technology.

We wish the Class of 2015 all the best in their career journey ahead. A number of our current Year 12 students achieved very good Unit 3-4 results in subjects whilst studying these as Year 11s. With hard work and dedication, we believe many students are capable of receiving similar results come the end of the year. To assist our Year 12 students and parents with their study habits and planning for the 2016 school year, Mr Bob Hillman (VCE English examiner) will speak at the school in the School Library on Monday 8th February beginning at 6.45 - 8.45 pm. I encourage all Year 12 students and their parents to attend this session. Having heard Bob speak previously he does provide a very worthwhile message and specific strategies that help students to achieve successful outcomes.

New Arrivals
I am pleased to announce that Oberon High School teacher Mrs Anne Fuller recently gave birth to a baby girl Emily Poppy. Congratulations also to Oberon High School teacher Mr. Seven Vinton who also recently welcomed a baby girl Fern.

School Attendance – Every Day Counts
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study. Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible. If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your Year Level Manager know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

School Buses
If parents or students are aware of any issues on school buses such as student misbehaviour, overcrowding or buses not getting to school on time. We would appreciate being informed of this at school so that we can work with the bus companies to address these issues.
Notice of Election and Call for Nominations
An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Oberon High School.
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Monday 15th February 2015.
Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Tim McMahon
Principal

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BUS TRAVELLERS

There is now a Public Transport Victoria Hub located in Westfield Shopping Centre Geelong. They can provide information to customers regarding student concessions. They can also help with the Student VPT card applications and provide students with photo ID for their public transport use. They are also available to help with any confusion you may have with who needs photo id and exactly what students of all ages are entitled to.

Please note that there have been some slight changes to the Geelong public bus network as of Monday 1st February 2016. The changes are as follows:

- The Waurn Ponds bus now travels down Rossack Drive (no longer Monterey Drive) Waurn Ponds to the Waurn Ponds train station.
- Timetable changes to routes 30, 31, 40, 50, 51, 55, 56, 60, 61 these changes are about 5 or 10minutes either side of prior times.
- S2 from Jan Juc will leave 3 minutes earlier from the first stop.
- S6 will start its first pick up in Barwon Heads (instead of Ocean Grove).

You can view the full details of all the changes at the following link: http://www.mcharys.com.au/newtimetables.html

HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS

The 2015 Oberon High School House Swimming Sports will be held on Thursday 18th February at Kardinia Pool. We encourage all students to participate and do your House proud. If you’re not a swimmer we encourage you to support your House by joining in the fun and dressing up in your House colours at this special whole school event.

IMMUNISATIONS - YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Immunisations will be held at School on Thursday 12th April.
Consent forms have been distributed and need to be returned to school by WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY even if your child does not require the immunisation.

Year 7 Students:
- HPV (Human Papillomavirus)
- Chicken Pox (Varicella)
- Boostrix - Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough (Pertussis) - One single injection

If parents have any questions regarding immunisations please call Barwon Health Immunisation on 42156962 or visit immune@barwonhealth.org.au.

YEAR 7 TRANSITION PROGRAM

As part of the Year 7 Transition Program, a two day Team Building and Initiative Program will take place from Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th March at Camp Wilken Anglesea.

This important program allows students to interact with their new school buddies, assisting in a smooth transition to secondary school life. The students will enjoy many activities designed to develop team skills, friendships and positive relationships between students and teachers.

Consent and medical forms have been given to students, if you have not received this please ask your son or daughter to collect one from the Office.

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open on Fridays at Lunchtime (1 pm - 1.30 pm) during 1st Term
- Second hand books and uniforms can be purchased during the above times.
- Money from sales of books/uniforms can be collected from the Uniform Shop during the above times. Please note that any money not collected by the end of Term 1, 2015 will be credited to your family account.

BOOKS : End of Term 2, 2015 will be the LAST opportunity to collect ANY unsold books. Books not collected will be considered a donation to the Chaplaincy Committee and boxed for disposal or sale at a later date.
The staff car park is not a drop off zone and we continue to experience frequent near misses as parents manoeuvre in the tight central space of the car park. This is a very busy space and the unpredictable behaviour of students makes traffic in this area dangerous. Please do not drive into the staff car park unless you are dropping off a student with limited mobility.

Could parents please use the designated drop-off zones which are along Kidman Avenue rather than surrounding streets to avoid congestion of local traffic. Also please be aware that Pickett Crescent has no parking signs during drop off and pick up times.

Could parents also please remind your sons and daughters to take care when walking or riding to school, particularly when entering through the staff car park. Please also remind your children of the danger of listening to music on headphones whilst crossing roads. A staff member has previously experienced a near miss with a student wearing headphones whilst riding a bike. He was completely unaware that he had almost been hit because he could not hear the approaching traffic.

A reminder to all parents of the importance of phoning in absences early on the day of your child’s absence. For your convenience you can leave a message on our absence number 0439 326 767.

Our SMS system will send a message out each day after 12 pm to those parents whose child is absent from class without notification. Parents can text or phone the absence number on 0439326767 and state the date, student’s full name and reason for absence.

If your child arrives late to school they must first report to the Assistant Principal’s Office with a note signed by a parent or guardian or they can state that a parent has phoned the school.

If your child needs to leave school for an appointment during the day they must report to the General Office with a note signed by a parent or guardian. If no note is provided the office staff will check if a parent has phoned the school. For your convenience you can leave a message on our absence line 0439 326 767. Alternatively if you prefer you can phone the school number 52 434444 to advise that your child needs to leave school early. To assist Office staff please phone at least 1/2 hour before you need to collect your child to allow plenty of time to pass the message to your son or daughter.

Thank you for your assistance.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is a program of academic competitions coordinated through the University of New South Wales.

The following information outlines the timing and cost for these for 2016.

Oberon would like to encourage any student who is interested in entering any of these to do so. Please contact Ms Kelly for further information and the possible availability of past papers. Interested students should register and pay at the general office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
<th>ENTERED BY</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Year Levels eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday May 17</td>
<td>Wednesday March 23</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>Year 7-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tuesday May 31</td>
<td>Friday April 22</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>Year 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 13 June- Friday 17 June</td>
<td>Friday May 6</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>Year 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday 15 June</td>
<td>Friday May 6</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Year 7 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 2 August</td>
<td>Friday June 10</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>Year 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 August</td>
<td>Friday June 10</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>Year 7-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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School photos will be taken on Monday 8th of February. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform, and Year 12 students wear or bring their Year 12 jacket.

This year we have changed companies to Arthur Reed Photos. This company runs an online order system. Order sheets with login details have been sent home with students this week. Please note that when entering the school code ensure that the first 4 numbers and last 3 numbers are entered as numbers and the OH is entered as letters. ie: 1602 OH 209 A copy of this order form appears below.

Photos can be ordered up until Thursday February 18th, 2016. Orders placed after this date will incur an additional $9.95 postage fee.
Could all parents talk with their students about any medical needs that they may have. Please note the following:

Students should always carry Ventolin Puffers, Epi-Pens, Diabetic Requirements with them on outings – often classes go to sporting or other activities out of the classroom or school. Sporting bags are locked in the change rooms during class time and are not always accessible. If your student has newly diagnosed or changed medical conditions it is vital that the school is notified of this information.

Any students with anaphalaxis are required to have epi-pens (current date) as follows:
- One to be kept with the student’s Action Plan at Sick Bay at all times, to be labelled with student’s name. (Staff members will take this one when student is on camp or at sport)
- Their own personal named pen to be kept with the student at all times.
- Any changes to their Action Plan must be provided to the school. If your student no longer has an allergy we require this information in writing from your Doctor.

If your student requires antihistamines for hayfever or cramp medication etc. they are able to carry one single dose of their medication with them or parents can send written instructions (name, dosage etc) and give the medication to Office staff who will lock it securely away in Sick Bay. Students are forbidden to offer any medication to another student. Please check that your students medications are in date, this is a vital requirement for Epi-Pens. If you receive a letter from the school reminding you of this need to update, please respond as soon as possible to ensure the safety of your child.

Please advise your son/daughter that emergency supplies of medications such as Ventolin ($6 cost for Ventolin payable to the office) and sanitary products are available in sickbay if they see Office Staff. During the warmer weather please remind your child to drink plenty of water during the day. Students are permitted to take water bottles into class.

These guidelines are in place to ensure the health and safety of all our students.

Thank you for your assistance.

**IMPORANT NOTICE TO PARENTS - SICK BAY**

If your son or daughter becomes unwell at school they need to ask their teacher to give them a note and come straight to the Office to be signed into Sick Bay. If the student is too unwell to remain at school a staff member in the office will then telephone a parent. For safety reasons it is important for students not to telephone their parents themselves. Please remind your son or daughter that Sick Bay is a place for sick students to rest and recover is at home. It is not a place for extended stays. It is vitally important for parents to provide up-to-date contact numbers and emergency numbers in case of illness or emergency.

Please remember that if your child is sick the best place for them to recover is at home.

**NAMING OF BELONGINGS**

A reminder to parents to ensure that all of your son/daughter’s belongings are clearly named for the start of the school year. This assists us to return lost items to their correct owner.

**OBERON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

The Oberon High School Parent Newsletter is produced fortnightly and is an important source of information for parents. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email and have not included your email address on your child’s enrolment form please contact the General Office. A small number of printed copies are available in the Reception Foyer waiting area and a copy is posted on the Oberon Website www.oberonhs.vic.edu.au

**WELCOME TO OBERON’S LANGUAGES CORNER**

More than 6 billion people in the world are bilingual. Is your child one of them?

Children who learn languages often outperform their fellow students who don’t. Beyond higher academic achievement, the follow-on benefits from learning a language other than English are considerable.

**Enhancing Literacy Skills**

Research has shown that language learning enhances a child’s literacy. According to research conducted into community languages in secondary schools, language learning increases knowledge of word and sentence structure.

**Building Confidence**

The communication requirements of language learning often lead to increased self and social confidence. Languages encourage students to participate more actively in the classroom by asking and answering more questions, and can initiate new-found success for students who have struggled with English.

**Encouraging Cultural Awareness**

Language learning significantly increases students’ awareness and understanding of other countries and cultures, and therefore increases the ability to deal respectfully with others.

**Teaching students to be thinkers**

Language learning is widely recognised as an important contributor to the development of problem solving skills that are beneficial across the school curriculum.

**Expanding job opportunities**

Young people who learn languages other than English often travel widely after graduation, and have increased opportunities to work in exciting overseas jobs, or for international companies in Australia.

**LANGUAGES NEWS**

German Trip - March 12th until April 16th

Seventeen Oberon students along with Frau Ray will be heading off to our sister schools in Germany in about 5 weeks. Most students have already met their exchange partners and are starting to get very excited about their trip of a life time.

Reminder: The final compulsory workshop for the students is on Monday 8th February in the school library at 7pm. The ticketing meeting will be on Monday 29th February.

[Image: WEP Student Exchange]

Germany has a rich history and a strong outlook to the future. This progressive country is a leader in Europe with its modern art, music and politics. Discover how the old and the new can combine to create a diverse society and delicious sausages!

**INCLUDED EXTRAS!**

- Four weeks of German immersion (including travel)
- Cultural programs in German culture during a week at Oberschule Baden-Baden (Germany)
- Get to meet and exchange ideas with other students and their teachers from Oberon.
- The trip includes a visit to another country and local activity.

**Info Sessions**

Come along to an info session near you and find out more at wew对学生交换生项目感兴趣的。你也可以参加一系列的活动和讨论会。

Contact WEP for a free information pack!

1300 886 733  info@wep.org.au www.wep.org.au
Has your child missed vaccines at school last 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.

**BELMONT LIONS SPORTS CLUB**

Junior Netball Players Wanted boys and girls

Please contact Tim Fryer 0450 414 718