

AUGUST

Wed 11th School Council Meeting
Thurs 12th Year 12 General Achievement Test - (GAT)
10 am - 1.15 - **Please note that we are awaiting further advice regarding this date due to the current lockdown**

Wed 18th Grade 5 Public Speaking at Oberon High School
Thurs 19th Yr 12 Parent Teacher Interviews 4 pm - 6 pm
Yr 9 Mock Interviews

Thurs 19th Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Excursion - Live Wire Park - Lorne
Frid 20th Yr 8 German Tech School Excursion
Mon 23rd - Frid 27th Yr 10 Leadership Camp to Bogong
Tues 31st Year 7 Student Led Conferences

SEPTEMBER

Thurs 2nd, Frid 3rd & Sat 4th Senior School Production - 'The Dream' - Shenton Theatre Geelong
Tues 7th - Frid 10th Yr 11 Outdoor Ed - 4 day canoe

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Remote and Flexible Learning

As articulated in my letter to the school community on Thursday 5th August, the Victorian Government announced new directions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

As a result, in line with the directions issued from Victoria's Chief Health Officer, all Victorian schools will be closed and move to a period of remote and flexible provision on Friday 6th August returning to face to face learning on Friday 13th August.

Under the current guidelines, the school will remain open but only children who meet the criteria outlined in the letter can attend onsite (students attending must wear a face mask unless they have a medical exemption). If you believe your child fits either of these categories, please complete the attached form and return this to Assistant Principal Bronwyn Knight - KNI@oberonhs.vic.edu.au

During the days of school closure we will be running explicit timetabled classes through the Teams platform following our normal bell times. In line with the model we ran in previous lockdowns in 2020 and this year, Year 11 and 12 class lessons will run for the normal 50 minutes whilst Year 7-10 class lessons will run for 25 minutes.

If your son or daughter experiences any wellbeing or anxiety concerns we encourage them to contact the appropriate Assistant Principal, Year Level Manager or a member of the Wellbeing Team.

I look forward to seeing the students back at school on Friday 13th August. I will provide further communication with you regarding the guidelines associated with the return to school.

General Achievement Test (GAT)

The Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA) have informed schools that the General Achievement Test (GAT), which is undertaken by any student undertaking a Unit 3/4 VCE subject had been postponed and re-scheduled to take place on Thursday 12th August.

An update confirming the date of the GAT in relation to the current lockdown has not yet been received. When any updates are received, affected students will be informed as soon as possible.

Staffing Changes

I would like to welcome Mr Jarron Cole who will be replacing Mr Alex Ray teaching Science and Mathematics.

Parent Opinion Survey

Due to the recent COVID lockdown, the distribution of the Parent Opinion Survey that is conducted by the Department of Education was delayed. Parents that have been randomly selected to complete this survey will receive information regarding this in the near future.

Planning for 2022

The school has begun its planning for the 2022 school year. Over the upcoming weeks we will be asking students about their intentions for next year in terms of returning to school. If you are aware that your son/daughter is not going to be returning to Oberon High in 2022 can you contact the school to let us know.

School Buses Requirements

A reminder to parents that students must be wearing masks when travelling on school buses to and from school. Students must also be using the myki travel passes that have been provided to them as a requirement of the bus travel. Your support with this is appreciated.

Tim McMahon

IMPORTANT VCE EXAM INFORMATION AND YEAR 12 IMPORTANT DATES

- **General Achievement Test (GAT)**
Thursday 12th August 2021, 10.00am – 1.15pm
Awaiting further updates/advice regarding this date
- **Unit 3 & 4 Performance and Languages oral examinations.**
Monday 4 October 2021 – Sunday 31 October 2021
- **Unit 3 & 4 Written examinations**
Wednesday 27 October 2021 – Wednesday 17 November 2021
- Last day of Year 12 Classes - Monday 18th October
- Year 12 Final Assembly - Tuesday 19th October
- Year 12 Valedictory Dinner - Monday 22nd November - The Pier Geelong

NAIDOC week – Heal Country!



Last week in Connect, students celebrated NAIDOC week (the week was actually during the school holidays).

Jaymee Drever, an Indigenous Year 11 student, encouraged the Oberon community to analyse the 2021 National NAIDOC Poster, 'Care for Country', designed by Gubbi Gubbi artist Maggie-Jean Douglas.



Using the 2021 NAIDOC Week theme, Heal Country! as inspiration, 'Care for Country' is a bright and vibrant artwork which explores how Country has cared for and healed First Nations people spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and culturally.

Indigenous Oberon students reflected on the 2021 theme 'Heal Country' and on what NAIDOC means to them:



Amali Baxter Year 10

NAIDOC to me means celebrating my culture and coming together to consider the past, present and future of our culture. It means celebrating our ancestors, keeping our culture strong for the next generation and acknowledging our spiritual connection with the land.

Djamari Hunter Year 9

To me, this year's theme reflects an opportunity for all to come together and acknowledge the importance of caring for country, respecting the traditional owners on the lands of which we live, and encouraging conversations about how to care for and preserve the natural environment. For aboriginal people, there is a strong connection between your own personal well-being, and the connection you have with country.

Jaymee Drever Year 11

NAIDOC week is about the celebration of the oldest living culture in the world...Healing Country doesn't just mean indigenous people it also refers to everyone living on the country, how they treat the land around them and the respect they show to it. To heal country, we also have to think about the past and tragedies that happened on this land and how we can heal from those. How we can improve our ways to prevent them from happening again. NAIDOC week to me is love, caring, remembrance and the connection to the past, present and future, how we can be one.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

VCAA PLAIN ENGLISH SPEAKING AWARD (PESA) - REGIONAL AND STATE FINALS

PESA is a public-speaking competition for students aged 15-18 years. It provides an excellent opportunity for students to build self-confidence and extend their skills in oral communication, speech writing and research.

The competition encourages students from government, Catholic and independent schools to speak to their peers from other schools on topics they are passionate about.

In Australia each year states and territories organise and conduct competitions at school, regional and state levels. State winners then go to the national final, which is held in the various States and territories on a rotational basis.

Kai Bowie and Imi Broadfoot of Year 11, participated in this year's Plain English Speaking Competition Regional Final at Sacred Heart College. On Wednesday May 19th, Kai and Imi competed against seven other schools from the Region, comprising of public and private schools.

Kai and Imi proved formidable opponents for the other schools. Kai and Imi delivered high quality prepared and impromptu speeches, impressing the Adjudicators, their opponents and members of the audience.

Both Kai and Imi are accomplished at public speaking and they are testament that consistently taking part in public speaking opportunities is the key to becoming confident and skilled.

While a student from Geelong College won this Regional Final, our students equalled the high standard of public speaking on the day. Congratulations to both Kai and Imi for their participation and for proudly representing our school.

Following the Regional Final, Kai was chosen as a wild card to participate in the Semi-Final of the Plain English Speaking Competition. This is a great honour and reiterate the excellent quality of Kai's public speaking skills. To put things in perspective, the winner of the Grand Final in the past, competed in London.

On Thursday June 25th, Kai competed in the Semi-final of the competition at Melbourne University. Kai once again, impressed the Adjudicators, the other competitors and the audience.

Kai delivered an outstanding prepared and impromptu speech and he deserves to feel extremely proud of reaching this level of the competition. Furthermore, Kai received some invaluable feedback from the Adjudicators, which he plans to take on board, enabling him to continue to develop and refine his public speaking skills.

As a school community, we thank and congratulate Kai and Imi for representing our school so admirably in the 2021 Plain English Speaking Competition.

Julie Buso



ROSTRUM STATE FINAL 2021

Harper Bolton from Year 9, won the Regional Final of The Rostrum Voice of Youth competition on Sunday April 18th, making her eligible to compete in the State Final. This is a prestigious and long-running competition and making it through to the State Final is an enormous accomplishment and we congratulate Harper.

Unfortunately, due to the situation with Covid 19, the organisers were compelled to cancel the State Final for this year. We empathise with Harper for missing out on this experience, but we encourage her to compete again next year.

Harper took it upon herself to also join her local Rostrum group, which is another opportunity for young people to develop and extend their public speaking skills. Harper's initiative demonstrates her commitment to improving her confidence and skills in public speaking.

Julie Buso



LANGUAGES NEWS

GERMAN CAREERS DAY - held last Thursday remotely

Students learning German in years 9 & 10 had the opportunity to attend this event. Here they learn about careers in many fields where German could be an advantage. e.g. foreign relations, industry and commerce, renewable energy, music and performing arts, etc. Students also found out about studying German beyond school at university and in German speaking countries.

After listening to the presentations, students were able to watch one of the two films on offer:

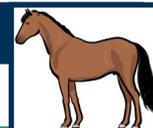


Goethe Poetry Competition – online on Monday 19th July

This competition was organised by Melbourne University for students in Years 10, 11 & 12 learning German. Oberon had 4 participants who must be congratulated on their efforts and enthusiasm. Whilst not making the top 3 in their year level, our students certainly “went one better”.

Well done to: Raegan Cameron of Year 10, Kai Bowie, Joshua Palmer & Jeremy Palmer of Year 11.

LANGUAGES CORNER



Animals

dog	anjing	der Hund
cat	kucing	die Katze
bird	burung	der Vogel
horse	kuda	das Pferd
fish	ikan	der Fisch
cow	sapi	die Kuh
chicken	ayam	das Huhn
pig	babi	das Schwein
goat	kambing	die Ziege
rabbit	kelinci	das Kaninchen

TALKING YOUTH Sees You

A FREE & FUN event for youth, to support and promote mental well-being, connection & have some REAL conversations!

Hi, I'm Fiona,
#Let's talk all things
Body & Self Image!

Hi, I'm Zoe,
#Lets Move cos' it feels
good!

Hi, I'm Ruth,
#Lets talk about our
Mindset

Hi, I'm Sammy,
#Let me tell you about
Drinking journey

STARTING A
PRODUCTIVE
DAY WITH
A WIN

TAKING
A STEP
BACK

Hi, we're ATMAN,
#Fiona's going to
interview us LIVE on
stage.

When: 12.09.21
Where: Venue, Platform Youth
Arts, Little Malop St, Geelong
Time: 10:00 - 14.15
Who: Young folk aged 15 -21
years

[Book online now](#)

[@talkingyouth_au](#)
www.talkingyouth.com.au

We're coming to you!

Victoria Police is hosting an information session in Geelong and we'd love you to come.



Want to learn more about the recruitment process?
Have a chance to speak to Police Officers?
Ask your recruitment questions? And;
Learn about what makes policing in Geelong so
special?

Where: Rydges Geelong, Myers St & Gheringhap St,
Geelong VIC 3220

Date: Wednesday 25th August 2021
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Interested in attending? Please register via
[Eventbrite](#)

Can't make it but want to learn more?
Call the Applicant Attraction Team for more information
03 8335 5003 or email [aat-enquiries-
mgr@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:aat-enquiries-mgr@police.vic.gov.au) and we'd be happy to help!

ARMSTRONG CREEK YOUTH SPACE



AGES 12-25 Years old
Wednesdays & Thursdays
3.30pm to 6.00pm During School Term
Armstrong Creek East Community Hub,
46 Central Boulevard,
Armstrong Creek

Activities including: Games, Music, Art and Craft,
Sport or just hang out with your mates.
Youth Space is free and light snacks are provided.

Contact youthadmin@geelongcity.vic.gov.au or 5272 6120

[@GEELOGYOUTH](#)



STUDENT ABSENCES AN IMPORTANT NOTICE

STUDENT ABSENCES

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 hotline number - 4241 8088. Please leave your child's name, Year level and reason for absence.

LATE PASSES

If your child arrives late to school they **must** first report to the Office **with a note signed by a Parent or Guardian** or inform the Office staff or Assistant Principal, on arrival, that their parent has phoned to let the school know that they will be late. The Office staff member will check the absence records and then issue a late pass. **Absences will be entered as unapproved until a phone call is received or a note provided explaining the absence.**

EARLY LEAVE PASSES

If your child needs to leave school for an appointment during the day they **must have a note signed by a Parent or Guardian or a Parent or Guardian must have contacted the school providing permission for the student to leave early.** The student will then present the note to their teacher who will allow them to leave class. Students must then report to the Administration Office with their note or state that a parent has phoned, before leaving the school.

If you require to take your child out of school for an **'unplanned'** appointment, please phone the school on 4241 8000 **as early as possible** to advise that your child needs to leave school early. That way the staff can ensure that your child is in the office at the time you need to take them.

Thank you for your assistance



Oberon High Uniform

SUMMER UNIFORM

WINTER UNIFORM

Uniform should be worn appropriately. This includes:

- Shorts and pants unrolled
- Kilts full length



All clothing worn must be the Oberon High School uniform.

- No:
- Hoodies
 - Long-sleeved t-shirts under uniform
 - External branded jackets

SPORTS/PE UNIFORM

You must get changed before and after PE into your sports uniform. Do not wear it to school

When representing Oberon at sports days, full sports uniform must be worn.



ACCESSORIES



No hats inside—leave them in your locker

Black or white socks only

Black polishable shoes

No boots



If you are out of uniform you **must** get a uniform pass!

Passes are available at the office at the beginning of the day.

Visitors & Parents are NOT to enter the school

The **only** exceptions are:

- **Parents:** who have been phoned by the office to pick up a sick/injured child.
- **Contractors/Visitors:** who have been requested to attend to perform an essential service at the school

If you require assistance: Please phone the school on 4241 8000 and we will assist you with your enquiry.

ALL APPROVED VISITORS Must enter through the school's main entrance at 163 Batten Road, register with the school's QR code (kiosk also available), wear a face mask and sanitise hands.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR BUS TRAVELLERS

A reminder from McHarrys Buslines, that **ALL** passengers, including students, on public transport, school and charter services are required under the Victorian Health Directions, to wear a mask when travelling unless they have a legal exemption or are under the age of 12. This requirement helps keep both drivers and passengers safe.

Uniting

- ✓ Volunteer in the best Op Shop in Geelong!
- ✓ Help Uniting Barwon raise funds to provide food and emergency relief to those in need.
- ✓ Make a difference in your local community.

Do you have a few hours to spare each week?

Do you need up to 15 hours volunteering per week?

Uniting Barwon needs motivated, reliable volunteers to join our passionate team at our new Op Shop in **Pakington Street Geelong West**.

Uniting Barwon (formerly UnitingCare Geelong) is an emergency relief agency providing assistance to individuals and families in our local community who need practical support during times of financial and personal struggle.

We need more volunteers to join the retail teams based at our Op Shops in Geelong West, Point Lonsdale, Drysdale, East Geelong, Corio, Norlane and Highton, and our welfare teams in Grovedale and Norlane.

Our current vacancies include:

- retail roles at our 7 Op Shops (customer service, merchandising etc.)
- receptionists (organising client appointments)
- food distribution (assisting our clients)
- pickups and deliveries (van crew member or driver)
- grounds and maintenance (mowing, weeding, cleaning etc.)
- interviewers (assisting our clients)
- sorting of donations (clothing and bric a brac etc.)

If you—or someone you know—would enjoy being part of a can-do volunteer team, even for a few hours a week, please contact Elizabeth Hopkin on 4210 1113 or email Elizabeth.Hopkin@vt.uniting.org

Support vulnerable people in the community and help make a difference.

Volunteer appointments are subject to satisfactory criminal history checks, reference checks and Working with Children Check prior to commencement.

OFFICIAL OBERON UNIFORM SUPPLIER

Uniforms can be purchased in store or can be purchased online through PSW's website (*see below*)

164 Malop Street, Geelong
(just East of Officeworks)

Ph: 5224 2229

Email: geelong@psw.com.au

Website: www.psw.com.au

Supplier:



Oberon High School
163 Batten Road,
Armstrong Creek, 3217
Ph: 4241 8000

Student Absence Hotline: 4241 8088

Email: oberon.hs@education.vic.gov.au

Web: www.oberonhs.vic.edu.au