# Oberon High School



Shape Your Future - Go One Better

# **Absence Hotline - 03 4241 8088**

# Issue 2 - Friday 23rd February, 2024

#### **FEBRUARY**

Mon 26th 2024 Indonesia Trip Parent Information Session

via video link - 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm VM Barista Course - Periods 1-6

Tues 27th

Yr 12 Biolab Excursion - Periods 1-4 Yr 12 Outdoor Ed Seal Swim & Snorkelling -Pope's Eye - Period 2-6

Yr 7 Cyber Bullying Incursion - Vic Police Sessions Periods 1-4 - 4 sessions, 2 Home

Groups per session

Wed 28th Yr 9 - Lifechanger Awaken the Hero

- Periods 3 & 4

Yr 10 Outdoor Ed Surfing - Periods 1-2 Yr 10 Outdoor Ed Surfing - Periods 3-4

Wed 28th Year 11 Outdoor Ed Surfing - Bancoora Beach

Periods 3&4

Thurs 29th General Assembly - 9 am - 9.30 am - Gym

Yr 9 Morrisby Survey - Periods 2 & 3 Yr 12 Drama - live performance Periods 4-6

**MARCH** 

Frid 1st VM Safe Food Handling Course - 8.50 am-3.10

Geelong Swimming Carnival - 9 am - 3 pm

Yr 12 Biolab Excursion - P1-4 Mon 4th Oberon Athletics Carnival - Whole School Event -

Landy Field

Tues 5th Yr 12 Physics Excursion - Luna Park - Periods 1-

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### **School Council Election**

As was detailed to the school community earlier this week; after seeking nominations for the three parent vacancies on School Council, we only had one nomination and therefore Kit Kline has been elected to fill one of these positions. I will work through filling the remaining vacancies over the coming weeks.

We also had three students nominate themselves for the one vacancy on School Council, therefore we will be conducting an Election amongst the student body to determine their student representative. The successful student will also be finalised and announced on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

#### Year 7 Camp

We had over 150 students and 15 staff members attend the Year 7 Camp in Alexandra from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. It's a wonderful way for students and staff members to spend some quality time together and build the positive relationships that will be so important throughout the student's secondary schooling. Thank you to all staff members that agreed to go on camp and to Mrs Cocking, Mr Cole and Ms Milich who were instrumental in organising this wonderful experience.

#### **School Uniform**

Thanks to all the Parents and Students for their support with wearing the correct uniform at school. Your support around these matters is always appreciated.

## **School Swimming Sports**

The School Swimming Sports were held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February at Kardinia Pool. It was great to see so many students in attendance and participating. See the full report of the day in this Newsletter.

#### **School Photos**

The school photos were taken at school on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February. If your son/daughter was absent on this day a catch up day occurred on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Information on how to order photos is included in this Newsletter.

#### Year 7 Meet the Teacher's Night

The school held our Meet the Teacher's Night for Year 7 Parents on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, from 6 pm to 7pm. This informal evening was a great opportunity for Parents to put a face to the name of the teachers who are teaching their son/daughter this year.

#### **Mobile Phones**

A reminder as was our school policy in previous years and a directive from the Education Minister and Department of Education, mobile phones and associated devices are banned from all State Schools during the school day. Students will be required to switch off their phones and store them securely in lockers from the start of the school day until the final bell. If an emergency occurs, Parents or Guardians can reach their child by calling the school General Office.

The School Mobile Phone Policy can be found on the school website.

#### **DET Policy on Personal Items**

A reminder that the Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors.

#### **School Camps**

The school encourages Parents to consider taking out travel insurance for School Camps as schools often incur a cancellation fee that we are not able to absorb if your child is forced to withdraw due to unforeseen circumstances.

#### **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Applications**

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Cont'd.....

163 Batten Road, Armstrong Creek Vic 3217 Ph: 03 4241 8000 Email: oberon.hs@education.vic.gov.au Web: www.oberonhs.vic.edu.au







## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT cont'd.....

Payment amounts this year are \$225 for eligible Secondary School students. Payments are made directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. It is important that funding made available in 2024 supports students to participate in school trips, camps and sporting activities this year rather than being held for future years. This funding can also be used in conjunction with any funding accrued from previous years. Please note these activities will only take place if they meet COVID safe requirements.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 42418000 and ask for an application form.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

#### **Privacy Reminder**

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the <u>Schools' Privacy Policy</u> which is located on the school website.

2024

Tim McMahon

# SCHOOL PHOTOS - POST PHOTO DAY INFORMATION

At Connect meetings on Friday 23rd February, students will be given their photo day flyer with their individual order code. Please follow the instructions below for ordering your child's photos.

Annual school photos have been taken by Arthur Reed Photos. To view the images of your child and order photos, you will need to first register online:

- 1. Go to <a href="https://order.arphotos.com.au">https://order.arphotos.com.au</a> and enter the 2024 image code for your child (from their personalized
- Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings
- 3. Fill in your email and mobile details and then review all details before confirming your registration

That's it! When 2024 photos are ready, you will be notified by email and SMS.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do it again each year using your child's new image code to link their photos for the current year with your contact details.

To ensure you are ordering school photos for the current year, please wait for notifications that 2024 images are online before placing orders.

In the webshop you can view photos and customize your photo package; Choose ANY layout, ANY image and purchase multiple digital image downloads.

All photo orders will be sent directly to the address you provide when ordering.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW to be notified when 2024 school photos can be viewed and ordered.





#### **PATHWAYS NEWS**

#### **New Careers Website**

https://www.oberonhighcareers.com.au/

We are very excited to be using Career Tools as our website for careers at Oberon High School. The website can be accessed through the portal on the Oberon school webpage. Through this website students will be able to explore lots of pathway options, complete Career Action Plans (CAP) and more. Parents are encouraged to view the website, in particular the **FOR PARENTS** section. In Connect classes students will be introduced to the website, set up their accounts in the secure area section and complete their CAPs.

Each week our Year 10, 11 and 12 students receive a link to Careers Newsletters through their year level TEAMS page. It's a great resource for students with up to date information on a wide range of pathways.

Meet a Scientist Webinar- Last week 5 of our senior students attended an online webinar hosted by The Royal Women's Hospital. An informative session that showcased many research and clinical occupation available in the medical space.

#### Year 9s

A busy term for our Year 9s as they start their Morrisby assessments and interviews as well as their enrolment into the Geelong Tertiary Futures Program. A reminder to return Morrisby Consent Forms to the office as soon as possible.

#### Year 10s

An Introduction to Work Experience and Occupational Health and Safety will occur during a Connect session soon to get our Year 10s ready to take on Work Experience throughout this year. Also available for year 10s is the opportunity to do their Construction Industry White Card with the CFMEU on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March (all day). This lifetime qualification enables students to access construction sites as part of their Work Experience or employment pathways later. The cost is \$90. Places are strictly limited so please let the Careers Team know as soon as possible. Payment needs to be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

#### Year 12s

This week our Year 12s started their Career Conversations with the careers team and senior staff. This meeting gives students in small groups an opportunity to discuss their pathways beyond school.

Nicola Maher Pathways Leader

# /HEADSTART

# APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

It's the start of 2024 and the Head Start program is kicking back into gear!

Katrina Coburn is the Head Start Coordinator for Oberon High School and will be working with any Year 10-12 students looking to find the right school-based apprenticeship or traineeship across a broad range of career areas.

Whether it's traditional trades, agriculture, or green energy, Head Start provides students with the opportunity to start learning crucial work skills, all while completing their senior schooling. If you want to learn more about the opportunities available through the Head Start Program, please speak to your careers coordinator to find out more.



## **YEAR 7 CAMP**

In the second week of school the Year 7 students went on school Camp to Alexandra Adventure Resort, which is three hours inland. This Camp was mainly for us to make friends and get to know our peers, students, and teachers. There was a variety of interesting and unique activities for us to do, which always kept us on our toes. Some of our main, but all-time favourite, activities were the Giant Swing, the High Ropes, Flying Fox, Canoeing (where some of us 'accidently' fell in to cool off), going in the pool, the campfire, and the wildlife show, which was on the last day. Some of the activities turned people's stomachs upside down, while others made people go over the moon with enjoyment. These were very fun despite the warm weather which had lowered some peoples' adrenaline.

At Alexandra we had the kindest staff working with us, making sure we were safe but also assuring that we'd have lots of fun. The staff was a mix of teachers; some from Oberon others from Alexandra. The staff were kind and supportive; like on the High Ropes they gave us the option to go on the treacherous ropes or we could just go up to the top of the platform. (Which is where you get your harness attached)

The food at Alexandra was always hot and fresh. Not only that but it was filling, though somehow there was no stitch after eating. The place indoors was always very neat and tidy, until us students got to it. After all meals and snacks that were eaten inside that building it became a mess! So, teachers allocated two groups after each meal to clean up everything, wiping down tables and sweeping the floors, teaching us to clean up our mess and contribute to the 'household' environment.

But all good things eventually come to an end. After two fun activities on Friday morning, we had to leave and unfortunately head back to school. The one thing we think nobody misses is the hot 25+ degree weather each day. So we got back on a bus for another three hours – where many of us caught up on some much needed sleep. We were exhausted!

Written by Imogen B and Grace H from 7B

















# YEAR 7 CAMP cont'd....











Meeting friends of the slippery kind!

































## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Year 10 student Noah Berry who during the school holidays competed at the Little Athletics State Championships and was part of the winning team in the Multi Class  $4 \times 100$  and  $4 \times 200$  Relays.

A wonderful achievement. Well done Noah!





Congratulations to Year 12, 2023 student Sarah Collard who is the recipient of the Deakin Regional Access Scheme Scholarship. Sarah will receive \$4,000 to use while she undertakes her Bachelor of Science studies at Deakin University.

Well done on this wonderful achievement and good luck with your studies and future endeavours Sarah.



Oberon Year 8 student Shafe Sagor is a member of Orchestra Geelong. Below is information from Orchestra Geelong on upcoming events and information for anyone who is interested.





#### **OBERON SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Last Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February Oberon celebrated their annual House Swimming Carnival. Students arrived with plenty of energy and house spirit, sporting their house colours. This was led by the Year 12 students who were eager to celebrate their final swimming carnival with infectious energy and great costumes.

The highlight of the day was the Year 12 boat race, which has become a tradition here at Oberon. Students lined to sides of the pool to get a glimpse of the Year 12 students swimming in their costumes, holding onto their chosen flotation device. There were blow up inflatables and even a stand-up paddle board this year, which led to a lot of fun to be had for all participants and on lookers.

The results came down to the wire and it was last student relay of the day which decided the final placing. We had Thomson finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place on 509 points, Lipson in 3<sup>rd</sup> on 525 points, Cameron in 2<sup>nd</sup> on 543 points and well and truly out in front on 820 points, Greeves were our 2024 house swimming sport champions!

Well done to all students who participated, cheered, and supported throughout the day!

We are looking forward to the House Athletics which is just around the corner on the  $4^{\rm th}$  of March!

#### **Josh King**





















# **SWIMMING CARNIVAL cont'd......**













































# SWIMMING CARNIVAL cont'd......























































#### LANGUAGES NEWS

#### BJR Exchange Program - apply for 2025

Students currently learning German in Years 9 or 10 can now apply to participate in a 10-week reciprocal exchange program in 2025 with Bavaria in Germany.

Further information is available at

https://agtv.vic.edu.au/students/agtv-bjr-student-exchange/

You can ask your German teacher for additional details.

#### German students celebrate carnival

Students in German classes have spent some time learning about the "Karneval" festival. This festival concludes 40 days prior to Easter and some regions wear masks to scare away the winter!

Year 7 students made some great masks!













# LANGUAGES CORNER

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 intercultural 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.



# **OBERON ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - MONDAY 4TH MARCH**

The Annual Oberon Athletics Carnival is fast approaching on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. All students should attend school as per normal school hours and will be bussed from Oberon to Landy Field in the morning to compete in a range of different events in their respective age group.

To encourage participation, there will be no sign ups this year but all students who wish to have a go at an event can turn up and put their name down when that event is marshalling.

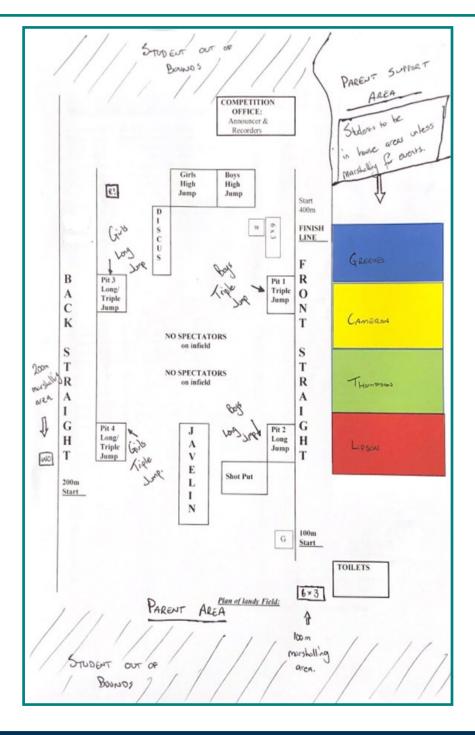
If students do not feel like these Athletics events are for them, they are still able to have an impact for their House by dressing up in a range of different costumes for House spirit. Parents are encouraged to attend the day as there is seating around the venue, just please be mindful, students are meant to be in their House groups unless they are competing in an event.

Below is an outline of the field.

Hope to see you there.

#### **Josh King**





#### NAPLAN 2024 - YEARS 7 & 9

Oberon students in Years 7 and 9 will participate in NAPLAN Online in 2024. Students will participate in a NAPLAN controlled practice test on Wednesday 6th and NAPLAN Testing begins on Wednesday 13th March and concludes on Wednesday 20th March.

- Wednesday 13th March Writing
- Thursday 14th March Reading
- Friday 15th March Conventions
- Monday 18th March Numeracy
- Tuesday 19th March Catch up day
- Wednesday 20th March Catch up day

If you have any questions regarding the program or your child's participation, please contact the NAPLAN Coordinator, Elise Schultz.

#### **STUDENT FREE DAY**

An important notice to Parents/ Guardians





School will be closed on this day. Please mark this date in your diary



# CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

#### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Information for Parents**

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

#### **CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. The applicant must be one of the following on the first day of Term 1 (Monday 29th January 2024) or Term 2 (Monday 15th April 2024):

- A parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card
- A temporary foster carer
- A student who is 16 years or older and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card or Disability Support Pension Card)

A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

\$150 for primary school students \$250 for secondary school students

#### **More Information:**

For more information about CSEF visit:

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/pages/csef.aspx

#### **How to Apply**

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances**; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure



# **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS - SICK BAY**

If your son or daughter becomes unwell at school they must 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/Guardian.

Please remind your son or daughter that Sick Bay is a place for sick students to rest before being picked up by a parent or to rest for 15 minutes before returning to class. 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.



Please remind your son/daughter to come to the office if unwell and <u>not</u> to telephone or message parents themselves.



# **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### Please mark in your diary

## TERM 1

#### Week 5

Mon 26th February

2024 Indonesia Trip - Parent Information Session - via Video Link - 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

#### Week 6

**Monday 4th March** 

Oberon Athletics Carnival - Whole School Event - Landy Field

#### Week 7

**Monday 11th March** 

Labour Day Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

#### Week 8

**Thursday 21st March** 

Open Night Tours from 5.30 pm - Info session 6.30 pm

#### Week 9

Thursday 28th March LAST DAY OF TERM ONE - 2.30 pm finish

#### Friday 29th March

Good Friday Public Holiday

#### Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

School Holidays

# TERM 2

#### Week 1

#### Monday 15th April

**TERM 2 COMMENCES** 

## **Thursday 18th April**

Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences - 11.30 am - 7.30 pm. School day to run between 11.30 am and 7.30 pm. attend the Conferences with Parents/ Students Guardians.

#### Week 2

#### **Thursday 25th April**

ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

#### 2024 SCHOOL TERMS

**Term 1** 29th January - 28th March (Good Friday - Friday 29th March)

Term 2 15th April - 28th June

**Term 3** 15th July - 20th September

**Term 4** 7th October - 20th December

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### Term 1 Holidays

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

- Friday 29th March - Good Friday - holiday

#### Term 2 Holidays

Monday 1st July - Friday 12th July

#### **Term 3 Holidays**

Monday 23rd September - Friday 4th October

# STUDENT ABSENCES

A reminder to all parents of the importance of phoning in absences early on the morning of your child's absence.

For your convenience you can leave a message on our absence line number 4241 8088 or enter it on Xuno.

Our SMS system will send a message out each day at 11 am to those parents whose child is absent from any class without notification.

# **LATE PASSES**

If your child arrives late to school they must first report to the student end of the Office with a note signed by a Parent or Guardian or they can state that a parent has phoned the school or entered it in on Xuno.

# **EARLY LEAVE PASSES**

If your child needs to leave school early for an appointment please ensure that you either:

- send a signed note with them which we ask students to give to the office when they arrive at school. Office staff will then enter on the roll that the student will be leaving early on that day.
- enter it on Xuno

PUT THIS

THIS

- phone the office in advance.
- email the school in advance

It is of great help to the office staff if students could please remember to report to the office at the arranged time of departure.

If you have an unexpected reason for your child to leave school early please phone the school on 5241 8000 as early as possible to allow plenty of time to locate your child in their timetabled class to have them at the office ready when you arrive. A reminder that the school does not have a PA system for contacting students, so if parents phone or call in to school during Recess or lunch break to pick your child up and they don't know you are coming, it will be difficult to locate them until they are back in class.

Thank you for your assistance.

# **STUDENT FREE DAYS 2024**

The following days have been approved by the Oberon High School - School Council as student free for 2023:

- Monday 29th April
- Staff Berry Street Training Day
- Friday 7th June
- Report Writing Day
- **Monday 29th July**
- Staff Berry Street Training Day
- Thursday 29th August -
- Staff Professional Practice Day
- **Friday 1st November** Staff Professional
  - Learning

Please mark these dates in your diary.











Join us at the Uniting book sale.

## Nothing over \$1

Join us at our monthly book sale.

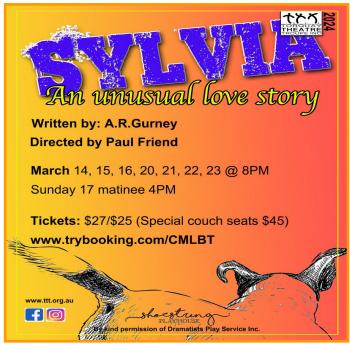
Held the first Friday and Saturday of each month at Uniting Grovedale, the Uniting book sale raises much needed funds for local services.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10am - 2pm

272 Torquay Rd, Grovedale
(Corner Reserve and Torquay Roads)

**Uniting** 







For more details and to register, visit

wep.org.au

**February** 

1:00pm - 4:00pm