Oak Park Primary School will work collaboratively to provide a stimulating, safe and challenging learning environment that promotes resilient, innovative thinkers.

The Oak Leaf

Principal’s Column

Oak Park Primary School’s three core values are the ‘Three R’s’:

Resilience, Responsibility and Respect.

We believe each one is equally important and are values that we should all demonstrate at all times - students, staff and parents.

We sometimes look back on childhood as a time when there were no problems, cares or stresses. But of course that is not true. Kids are often asked to deal with problems ranging from adapting to a new classroom to bullying by classmates or even abuse at home. Add to that the uncertainties that are part of growing up, and childhood can sometimes be anything but carefree.

The ability to thrive despite these challenges arises from the skills of resilience. And the good news is that resilience skills can be learned.

The value of resilience is often a difficult one to define, to encourage and to teach. As parents, our natural instinct is to protect our kids, to want to make things better for them or to give them the things that we didn’t have when we were kids. But we also want them to be resilient.

When some people see a child fall over, it is natural for them to want to pick them up and give them a little TLC. Others will encourage the child to get up, brush themselves off and ‘get on with it’. Both responses are valid.
depending on all the circumstances including what the child needs at the time and for their future development.

We get most of our values from home. A key aspect in children adopting a value and it becoming a part of who they are, is by what they see modelled at home and by other significant adults.

Students will soon be learning who their new teachers and class mates are for 2017. Some will be very happy, some less so. We need to help them develop the resilience to deal with this situation and understand that a part of growing up is to overcome little difficulties, see the positives and potential for growth in such situations.

I understand parents wanting to ‘go into bat’ for their kids and I encourage that. But it needs to be tempered with the understanding that it is not good for kids to develop the belief that their parents will fix anything for them, no matter what.

We ask that parents model appropriate behaviours when lists are announced. We have considered all parent input as per the process outlined many weeks ago and there would need to be extraordinarily compelling reasons for any change to be made. That a child is not with a particular friend is NOT a compelling reason. Please see this as an opportunity to help your child develop resilience and support them through that in positive ways.

Grade Structure 2017

As you know, several teachers will be leaving us at the end of this year. Breanna Kilmartin heads north to help open the new school in Epping, Jo Toman and Jannelle Bryant will soon be going on Family Leave (though Jannelle will be with us for a few weeks into 2017), June Pleban will be on Sabbatical Leave in 2017 and both Jessica Cullinan and Jan Flanagan will complete their contracts with us at the end of December. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of these teachers for their wonderful work throughout the year and wish them all their very best for the future!

The following is the staffing structure that we will commence the next school year with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Marina Plesa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Greer Arnold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Kira Hannah</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Lacey-Rae Garner</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Jane Cardamone</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Alexandra Macias</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kate Dyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hayley Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Carol Barty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jessica Costanzo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tania Haimon</td>
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Issue 38
December 1st 2016

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4 Denise Anderson
4 Meagan Ward/Brenda Jamieson
5/6 Livio Coreno
5/6 Kirsty Potts
5/6 Michael Hole
5/6 Tess Haycox/Stephanie Lambiris

Specialists:
Japanese Melissa Broso
Visual Arts Dave Flint
PE Liam Sutawan
Sustainability John Hughes
Performing Arts Melanie Ojczyk
Intervention/Playgroup Jodie Sperling

Support Staff:
Sheryl Hamilton, Michelle Watson, Karen Webster, Sue Blears, Ann Ramsdale, Anna Sheldrick

Office Staff:
Annette D’Elia, Fran MacDonough
OSHC:
Julie Andrews, Dawn Cadee, Alison German

Leadership Team:
Bryan Nolan, Jill Ridgwell, Monika Gruss, Sally Morath

In going through this process it is important to have a fair spread of experience across the school while providing teachers with the opportunities to experience new challenges.

The structure reflects our belief that ‘straight’ grades have been very successful for us in the past, but we also need to be flexible when the circumstances warrant this – as in the senior school next year. It also takes into account staff requests and ensures that a strong team focus applies at all levels of the school.

Please note that circumstances can alter very quickly and changes may still occur.

Children will meet their new teachers and grades on Wednesday 14th December.

Final Assembly

Our final assembly for 2016 will be on Friday December 16th at 3.00pm. Children will be dismissed following the assembly.

A further reminder that Monday 19th December is a student free Curriculum Day.

OPPS Holiday Program

Bookings Now Open

These holidays are going to be epic! We’re making sure every day is action-packed with a massive selection of awesome activities to keep them entertained all day long.

Team Holiday is a multi-award winning holiday program service bringing the fun to your school these holidays! We’ll be providing full day programs for kids aged 5-12 each day of the school holiday break from 8am-6pm! Every
Oak Park Primary School will work collaboratively to provide a stimulating, safe and challenging learning environment that promotes resilient, innovative thinkers.

child from every school is welcome to come and join the fun.

At Team Holiday, all programs are rebatable for Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate, which means you may be eligible for a discount on the full program price.

All of our staff are qualified, carrying a Working With Children card, and is either a teacher or studying in the education field. They’re also the absolute experts in creating unforgettable school holiday experiences.

If you would like more information, please visit www.teamholiday.com.au or call our friendly Customer Service team on 03 9532 0366.

Foundation 2017
Transition
Session 4: Wednesday 14th December (Term 4, week 11) from 10am - 10:45am
Children to meet their Foundation teacher for 2017 and their Grade 6 buddy.

Change for Change
Get ready to dig out your money boxes and to smash your piggy banks because we’re doing a change drive and we need your help. Tasmanian devils are critically endangered and they will be extinct if they don’t get help. So your child’s class will receive their very own milk carton converted into a money box (because we love to reduce, re-use and recycle!). The class that raises the most money will get a hot chip lunch as their prize!! All you have got to do is bring in as many coins as you possibly can, each class will put all of the coins in their class money box and wait to find out who brought in the most money. It will start on the 28th of November and continue on to 7th of December. Only coins are accepted. Tasmanian devils are calling out for help, your change will make a change!

Emily, Chloe, Chanel, Aishani, Grace.

From the Office
Dear Parents,

Grade 3 & Grade 6 Netbook payments are now OVERDUE. Statements have been sent via students for any outstanding netbook payments. Please check your children’s bags. Payments were due Friday 18th November, 2016.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please email Annette D’Elia delia.annette.a@edumail.vic.gov.au to discuss payment arrangements.

Regards
Annette D’Elia
Business Manager
Neighbourhood Watch Competition

We had a great response to this year’s Neighbourhood Watch Colouring Competition. Our winners were:

Foundation: the cuddly Blue Heeler was won by ATHULYA PANICKER in Foundation P

Year 1-2: The Police dog was won by Mahit Khatri 1/2T

Year 3-4: The Police Dog was won by Alexandra Dyer 3P

Year 5-6: $50 gift voucher for completing the Acrostic poem was won by Emily Fry 5K

Congratulations to these winners…..it was great to see so many students becoming involved

Sustainability

As part of our Sustainability class we have been asked to address an environmental concern. We have learnt that The Lost Dogs Home looks after approximately 26000 lost and abandoned cats and dogs. That’s a lot of animals!! The Lost Dogs Home relies on donations of food and bedding for the animals. So we are kindly asking you if you could donate only these things:

- Old blankets and towels
- Cat and Dog toys
- Good quality tinned and dry pet food

(Unfortunately we are not able to accept anything else so please do not put in) We will be collecting from the 5th to the 9th December

Thank you

By Maggie M and Mia M

Endangered Species Event

Wednesday 7th December: On this date students from 5/6 are holding a range of fundraising events to assist conservation efforts for endangered animals. They have worked very hard to put together their ideas and to find reputable organisations to help their animal of choice. It will be a big event so we would invite all students to bring along a few gold coins and get involved on the day. It will involve the following stalls, competitions and events:

- Cake stall
- Lemonade stand
- Lolly bags
- Guess The Lolly Jar competition
- Paper Plane competition
- Treasure Hunt
- Icy poles
- Movie screening with popcorn sales
- Freshly squeezed orange juice stall
- Casual clothes/animal dress up day

There will also be groups who will be aiming to raise awareness of endangered animals and collecting for Lost Dog’s Home and ‘Change For Change’ related to collecting for an
endangered animal. Stay tuned for more information in the newsletter, COMPASS, publicity signs and announcements. Thank you in advance for your support!

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

We are truly humbled by the generosity of so many amazing people, it is beyond inspiring! Words cannot begin to describe how overwhelming the support is. Our number one priority is Mia’s quality of life and happiness, she will be forever blessed thanks to everyone’s kindness!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!
From the Marcialis family xxx
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Bully Zero

**BUBBLE SOCCER WORLD CUP**

All funds raised will go to the Bully Zero Australia Foundation

**SATURDAY 4 FEB 2017**

10am - 7pm

Birrarung Marr, Melbourne

For Sale

Penola Catholic College blazer Size 12 - will suit a small build.

Drycleaned and in excellent condition

$50 with the old emblem or $90 with the new school emblem on a replacement pocket

Mary Petts 0438 538 271
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WOW AWARDS

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<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<td>Maggie McDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>O.S.H.C:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School Contacts

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PFA President         | Bron Barwick   | nursebronyahoo.com                |
School Council President | Rory Sercombe | ecossermhm@outlook.com               |
OSHC Coordinator      | Julie Andrews  | aftercare@oakparkps.vic.edu.au      |