The Oak Leaf

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 28  Walk to School Day  Fire Education Program: Foundation
October 31  Curriculum Day  Students NOT required at school
Nov 1  Melbourne Cup Day
Nov 10  9.15am Writer’s Festival  Assembly

Acting Principal Morgan's Column

Excited and nervous was how I felt when I had the opportunity to be Principal for a day on Monday. I had previously planned out the day with Bryan, Sally and Jill before I took on this role. However, not all things went according to plan. Unfortunately not all classes did Bottle Flipping and free time but all students had fun playing games outside for an hour as well as enjoying an extended lunchtime and recess.

Instead of The National Anthem we will be watching all staff members do the Chicken dance" was one of my first announcements at assembly. Everybody started laughing as we watched this hilarious moment.

Walking around each classroom doing a teacher inspection with my checklist in hand with my body guards Olivia and Yasemin was also an amazing experience. I felt honoured when students from each class stood as I entered the room to salute and say, “Good afternoon Principal Morgan…..we love you”! Probably this fantastic moment I will remember throughout my life.

Not only did I get the lucky opportunity to be Principal by spending only $2 in the

Thought for the Week

You aren’t a real boss until you have trained subordinates to shoulder most of your responsibilities.

William Feather
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raffle but the school raised over $300 with this fund raiser plus approximately $700 worth of lollies and icy-poles from the sales at lunch time.

It was the best $2 I have ever spent in my life!

**World Teachers’ Day**

Friday, 28th October 2016

Tomorrow is World Teachers’ Day.

UNESCO’s World Teachers’ Day was established to draw community attention to the important contribution teachers make in building a better future for the world’s children.

Teachers matter every day – in the curriculum they teach and how they teach it, through the connections they make with and for their students, and by the way they encourage a love of learning. Most of us remember fondly a teacher who made a positive difference in our lives, one who believed in us and our potential, and encouraged us to always give our best efforts to all tasks.

I commend the excellent work done by our teachers:

**Foundation**

Marina Plesa, Kira Hannah, Greer Arnold

**Year 1 and Year 2**

Josephine Toman, Denise Anderson, Jannelle Bryant, Jane Cardamone, Hayley Evans

**Year 3 and Year 4**

Megan Ward, Brenda Jamieson, June Pleban, Carol Barty, Jessica Costanzo, Tania Haimon

**Year 5 and Year 6**

Breanna Kilmartin, Michael Hole, Livio Coreno, Stephanie Lambiris, Jan Flanagan

**Specialists**

David Flint, Jessica Cullinan, Liam Sutawan, John Hughes

**Leadership Team**

Sally Morath, Jill Ridgwell

I trust our students will acknowledge the support their teachers give them during next week’s World Teachers’ Day.
Parent Opinion Survey

During Term 3, 15% of randomly selected parents were invited to complete the annual Parent Opinion Survey.

The results for our school were very pleasing and we scored more positively than the ‘State’ and ‘Like Schools’ groups.

Thank you to those who participated.

Student Free Day

The Department of Education and Training (DET) allows schools to conduct four Student Free Days per year.

Please note that the next Student Free Day for this year will be on Monday, 31st October 2016

Students are not required to attend school on this day.

Found in the School Grounds:

If this pusher belongs to you, please contact the school office.

Staff Car Park & Drive Through

There are many parents still dropping off & picking up their children from the Staff Car Park. We ask families to not access the staff car park at any time. Unfortunately there are not enough car parks for the staff at school, and it is very frustrating when staff arrive at school to find unauthorised people parking there. We have also had staff being blocked in by parents dropping off children.

DRIVE THROUGH: The drive through area in Summit Avenue is not for parking whilst waiting to pick up your child. This area is a drive through ONLY. If you arrive and your child is not there for pick-up, you must exit the zone and allow the area to remain free-flowing.
Parking to wait for your child, causes much frustration amongst families, please respect the rules. You must also exit the drive through to the left only, as per the designated sign.

These rules about school parking etc. are there for yours and your child’s safety.

**SUSTAINABILITY:**

**Frog Pond…Help Wanted**

The current batch of pre service teachers are participating in a curriculum project with an aim of redesigning our ‘frog pond’ so that it can be sustainable in the long term. As part of the recent developments which have included the excavation which has made the pond larger whilst also allowing for running water there are still various other requirements to help fast track the project. Although there is a budget to help with cutting costs, the pre service teacher group would greatly benefit any donations of recycled rocks, stones, boulders, logs and anything that can help make the pond look as native as possible whilst being able to hold on the pond lining. This doesn’t mean going out and buying items but if you see anything laying around the backyard which you will never use feel free to bring it in.

Please contact John (hughes.john.v@edumail.vic.gov.au) if you have something you’d like to drop off.

**NATIONAL WATER WEEK PHOTO COMPETITION**

You could win an amazing camera!!! Easy for kids to do on their iPads, and with the Moonee Ponds Creek so close by there are plenty of opportunities to take some amazing photos. Check it out here: https://www.smartwatermark.org/news/snap-smart-watermark/

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Saints Basketball Club**

**PLAYERS WANTED – UNDER 8’s**

Oak Park Saints Basketball Club is looking for Under 8 players (boys or girls) born 2009 or 2010 for the summer season. If your child is interested in playing or trialling training, please contact Cheryl Crotty on 0414 637 533 or email cheryl72@bigpond.com
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Milo Cricket

MILO in2CRICKET

MILO in2CRICKET introduces boys and girls aged 5–8 to basic cricket skills in a safe environment and is inclusive of all abilities, skill levels and children with a disability.

Oak Park MILO in2CRICKET is a 10-week program and begins on Friday the 31st of October at 5 pm at Parkmore Reserve. The cost of the 10-week program is $85 and the weekly sessions run for an hour per week by our qualified coach Carolyn Iremonger.

To register your child visit www.miłoworld.com.au/2cricket and select Oak Park Cricket Club as your centre. Once your child is registered and payment complete your child will receive a player pack which includes a back pack, plastic bat and ball, t-shirt, bucket hat, water bottle and a Milo sachet. Payment details are outlined on the registration page.

Term 4 Soccer

My name is Harry Amiridis and I am the Strathmore Secondary College (SSC) boys soccer coach. Over term 4, Adrian Mazzarella and myself will be running technical football training combined with physical preparation work for the new season.

Adrian, a teacher/coach at Maribyrnong Sports Academy, is a very experienced coach having worked at Melbourne City Youth, Crystal Palace and Chelsea academy and has been part of the Victorian Football team that travel to Nationals, as well as head coach of the Vic schoolboys teams.

I have been a PE teacher/coach at SSC for the past 11 years and involved with football (soccer) and futsal at State level. This year our boys were State Champions of which you may know some of them.

If you are interested in joining our program it will run from SSC gym on Saturday mornings. Cost is $260 for the term (75 minute sessions). Welcome for all ages and ability levels.

We will begin training NEXT SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER morning time slot around 9:30am.

You can register here: https://form.jotform.co/fim/joinow
This is Mia.

Mia is 11 years old and attends Oak Park Primary School. Mia was diagnosed with a rare, genetic condition called Ataxia-Telangiectasia (A-T) when she was two years old. A-T is often described as the worst parts of cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy and cystic fibrosis. Add cancer, and you have A-T. A-T is a progressive, neurodegenerative condition that causes severe physical disability. It has confined Mia to a wheelchair within the last two years. Mia now needs assistance with everyday tasks that we take for granted. A-T has also compromised Mia’s immune system and she is 1000 times more likely to develop cancer than you or I. If receiving a diagnosis of A-T isn’t devastating enough, watching Mia deteriorate before our eyes has left us with little or no hope for her future. There is no cure for A-T.

We are continuously fundraising to find treatments and eventually a cure for all children with A-T however stem cell research is still in its infancy. Our goal is to improve Mia’s quality of life to keep her safe and happy by:

- Modifying Mia’s home by purchasing a chair lift to assist her getting up and down stairs: $12,000.
- Modifying Mia’s bedroom by purchasing a hospital bed: $8,000.
- Purchasing a modified car that will transport Mia’s motorised wheelchair.

Thank you for your support. If you wish to support Mia and her family, please go to:

www.gofundme.com/ourmissionformia
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School Contacts

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