



# The Oak Leaf

Willett Avenue Oak Park 3046

t 9306 9182 e [nolan.william.b@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:nolan.william.b@edumail.vic.gov.au) [www.oakparkps.vic.edu.au](http://www.oakparkps.vic.edu.au)

Issue 16

June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 5** World Environment Day  
Interactive native wildlife presentation
- June 6 and 8** Grade 5/6 Swimming Program
- June 9** Japanese Day
- Jun4 19** PFA Meeting
- June 28** Reporting Day – student free day

## School Concert

**September 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>**

## UNIFORM AWARD



This week's

**Uniform Wearer of the Week Award**

goes to

**KYLE 1/2G & ETHAN RICHARDSON 2E**

Congratulations Kyle & Ethan for setting such a terrific example to the rest of the

## Principal's Column

I recently saw a You Tube video in which author and marketing consultant Simon Sinek, discussed the common attributes of 'Millennials'.

The general consensus of a Millennial (also known as Gen Y) is someone born between the early 1980s and up to the early 2000s. These are not our students of course, but some of our teachers are clearly Millennials. There were some interesting observations made by Sinek about the 'Millennial Question'.

There are four aspects that have contributed to making a Millennial; Parenting, Technology, Impatience and Environment.

The overriding thing about Millennials is that they feel 'entitled'. This has happened because of failed parenting strategies. They were told that they were special, that they could have anything they want. They often got As, not because of their ability, but because their parents would complain if they didn't.

This is the group whose motto was 'If you had fun you won.' They may have finished last in their race at school, but they got a ribbon for participation. Their parents have always gone in to bat for them, not wanting them to face the harsh realities of the world around them.

This has resulted in a group whose first experience of failure is when they commence in the workplace. They learn that they can't have something just

**June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**9.00am Finance**

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**5.00pm Buildings & Grounds**

**Thursday June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**7.00pm School Council Meeting**



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because they want it, their mum won't be there to get them a promotion and they get nothing for coming last.

A consequence of this is a generation with lower self esteem than previous generations. All through no fault of their own – rather it was *my* generation (according to Sinek) who has let Millennials down, through their parenting strategies.

Then you add in technology. Millennials are the generation that were raised with easy access to social media and technology; mobile phones, personal devices etc. Often their connections with others are tenuous – think Facebook, Instagram and instant messages. The worst thing that can happen to a Millennial is to be 'unfriended'. Many 'friendships' are superficial and they don't rely on their friends, being happy to cancel on them if something better comes up on the social calendar.

Millennials will often turn to social media in times of stress, seeking answers and support there, rather than from real people. Sinek likens this to a form of addiction - how often are you with people at dinner and they are texting someone who is not there? That's an addiction. Even if they sit with you and put their phone on the table, it sends the message that the people they are with are just not that important to them right now.

They are the impatient generation, used to immediacy. If they have a question, they don't need to wait to go to the library to look it up, they can access answers immediately. They don't need to wait for session times for movies; they can watch something when it suits them, and where it suits them. They can 'binge watch' *whole seasons* of TV

shows, not having to wait for an episode each week. Instant gratification. Anything they want they can have instantly. Except job satisfaction and strength of relationships – there are no apps for that. These things take time and error and are often uncomfortable and messy.

Millennials want to make an impact and so will consider quitting their entry level job because they haven't reached the top in the first 6 months. They need to learn patience. Important things take time to learn and are often difficult to navigate.

Millennials are an amazing group of people who have been dealt a bad hand. They are often placed in a work environment that focusses on numbers and outcomes and productivity rather than *them* as people.

We need to help our young people work out how to form meaningful relationships. One solution is to put away the mobile phone. When people are waiting for a meeting to start they will be on their phone and when the meeting starts they put the phone away. No. There should be some engagement with the people around us, casual conversation – this is how relationships are formed. Finding out about the person, the incidentals. No phones means quiet, thinking times. These are the times when many of our good ideas come to the surface. Phones can take away those moments.

## Parent Opinion Survey

As mentioned last week, we received many responses to our recent parent survey. All of the responses were constructive and generally very positive. Parents were glowing in their



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recommendations of many aspects of our school, including our staff, community, the OSHC Program and the breadth of subjects offered at the school.

We received lots of great suggestions too – some of which we have already acted on, and some which we will address in the future.

There were some comments made and questions asked which seem to indicate that some parents are not completely clear about everything that happens at Oak Park PS. This is to be expected of course. I will share some of these queries and misconceptions in coming newsletters, along with our response, in an effort to clarify any misunderstandings. Some are below:

## Music Classes

I believe strongly in having a great Music Program at Primary School. I also believe in our Visual and Performing Arts, Japanese, PE and Sustainability Programs. It is difficult to provide everything that we would like to – particularly if you include things like swimming. We have compensated for this by using Michael as our instrumental music teacher for those parents wanting the option of Music for their children.

## Assembly Sound System

We know it is bad! The gym was never built for assemblies or performances. I had an acoustics expert attend the school a couple of years ago and after much consideration and investigation, he was not able to assist - it is what it is; predominantly a basketball court with poor acoustics.

The kids try hard and we do try to teach them good microphone technique, but speaking in front of nearly 500 people is quite daunting for some of them and they forget when under pressure.

The mobile system we use seems to be the best option we have at the moment but we are investigating other possibilities.

\*\*\*Thank you to the parent who pointed out that my email address as listed in the masthead of the newsletter had two @! I checked back over previous newsletters and this was a typo that had been there for four years! (It's now been fixed).

## Reporting Day

**Wednesday June 28<sup>th</sup>** is our Reporting Day. Students do not attend school on this day, except when they accompany parents to their Teacher/Parent/Student Conference.

More information about bookings etc will go home in coming weeks.

## Japanese News

Next Friday of 9<sup>th</sup> June is Japanese Day! Here are some of the events on the day!

**\*Dress up competition** – Come dressed up as something to do with Japan's culture or language. There is a prize for the best dressed junior and senior student.

**\*Showko Performance**

**\*Sushi Lunch** – the last day for orders is tomorrow



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## **Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June.**

No late orders will be accepted

**\*Performance and parade at Assembly**

**\*Lunch time activities**

*Melissa Broso*

*Japanese Language Teacher*

## **Winter Holiday Program @ Oak Park PS**

June 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day of term. Parents are able to enrol their children in the school holiday program that operates from the Multi Purpose Room at Oak Park Primary School. The program is organised by Team Holiday from 8am to 6pm each day. For more information see the Team Holiday website:

<http://www.teamholiday.com.au/>

The program runs between 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## **Year 6-7 Transition**

### **OAK PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSITION TIMELINE Year 7-2018**

**9 August:** *Oak Park Primary School to notify parents/carers in writing, with placement offers*

**12 December:** *Secondary Schools host an Orientation Day for Year 6 students*

## **Walking School Bus**

Our school runs two 'Walking School Buses' and they would love to have more children joining them by walking to school on a regular basis. The Station Street 'Walking School Bus' is run by Lisa Kalimeris on Tuesday and Friday mornings. The New Road 'Walking School Bus' is run by Stacey Lowry on Thursday mornings from the corner of Kadana Street and New Road.

If you live near these areas and are interested in your child walking safely to school, please contact Lisa or Stacey.

Lisa: 0438304939

Stacey: 0403598299

## **PFA**

The next Parents & Friends meeting will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm

## **Heart Kids**

Our SuperHeroes Heart Kids day raised \$492.20, what an amazing effort. Thanks to everyone for getting involved, and especially to Emily Fry for her organising. The fundraising page Emily set up on the website raised over \$600, so an outstanding effort.

Check out some of the photos at the end of the newsletter.....



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## Sustainability

### 5/6 COOKING – SUSTAINABILITY

Over the last couple of weeks the 5/6's have planned and cooked their own menus, using ingredients grown at school in our gardens. The students have done exceptionally well and our produce has had the tick of approval! I would like to thank Kylie Gerber who came in and helped out in a frenetic two hours. She did a marvellous job and was able to advise and assist many of our students. The final chapter in this story will be held this week when the remainder of 5/6C get to cook their food.

### RESOURCE SMART SCHOOLS

The Victorian Government runs a program called Resource Smart Schools, which allows schools to access resources to reduce their resource use and general improve the sustainable nature of their operations. A large part of this is curriculum based and it also allows the school to achieve certification for the measures they take to reduce their environmental impact. For us, this affords the opportunity to be recognised for the work already done and what is planned in the future. There is a bit of work involved, but with a few sets of hands this is something we could definitely manage for our school. I've recently had a parent, Phil Jackson, offer to help in this process and it would be great if other interested parents would be able to jump on board. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me

([hughes.john.v@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hughes.john.v@edumail.vic.gov.au)). Due to the usual end of Term 2 chaos, it is envisaged that we will begin the process early in Term 3.

## Team Holiday



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## WOW AWARDS *for* RESILIENCE

Class	Name	Awarded for
FH	Evin Dissanayake	For being so polite and always using your manners. Well Done!
FA	Samik Ghimire	
FP	Gracie Lowry	For working very hard all week long and being a great role model
1C	Beatrice Galang	For your great work with your Mathematics and always having a go.
1/2G	Chase Byrne	For taking on new challenges with a positive and persistent attitude. Well done for all your hard work Chase
1M	Rida Fatima	For being a fantastic listener and always trying your hardest with all tasks
2E	Sharkya Fernando	For making sure you're not getting too distracted. This allowed you to finish some fantastic work
2D	Jack Gerber	For being a conscientious learner and for trying to get your work finished in class. Keep up the great effort
3B	Liya Li	
3C	Ben Liu	
3H		
4A	Imeth Katugampola	For doing great writing and being resilient
4JW	Alex Davies	For working hard and improving spelling
5/6P	Morgan Brownett	
5/6H		
5/6C		
5/6LH	James Valneris	For showing Mrs Hamilton how to use the iPad
Sustainability	Lukas Klaric-Hennessy 3B Brodie Goss 3C	For showing great concentration and attention to detail



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<b>Japanese</b>	Mahit Khatri 3B	For his mature and dedicated approach toward his wanted poster in Japanese. Keep up the great work Mahit!
<b>Phys. Ed.</b>		
<b>Performing Arts</b>	Noah Chun 2E	

## School Contacts

Principal	Bryan Nolan	<a href="mailto:nolan.william.b@edumail.vic.gov.au">nolan.william.b@edumail.vic.gov.au</a>
Business Manager	Annette D'Elia	<a href="mailto:delia.annette.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">delia.annette.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a>
Office Manger	Fran MacDonough	<a href="mailto:macdonough.frances.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">macdonough.frances.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a>
PFA President	Bron Barwick	<a href="mailto:nursebron@yahoo.com">nursebron@yahoo.com</a>
School Council President	Rory Sercombe	<a href="mailto:rorysercombe@hotmail.com">rorysercombe@hotmail.com</a>
OSHC Coordinator	Julie Andrews	<a href="mailto:aftercare@oakparkps.vic.edu.au">aftercare@oakparkps.vic.edu.au</a>



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