Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Today we have finalised our Best Start assessments with all our new Kindergarten for 2013. With the completion of these assessments our school was able to form classes for our year 1 and 2 students. With our school numbers we have had to form 2 straight Kindergarten and a Kinder/Year 1 class, there is also a 1/2 in our class structures with one year 1 and two year 2 classes rounding out the 7 classes of K-2.

As many people are aware, the 5 year 3-6 classes formed up on Wednesday. Our class structures are different to the past few years with the formation of 3 multi-age/ cross stage classes being 4/5/6. There is a 3/4 and a straight year 3.

This structure means that all of our classes are at or under the Department expected numbers for the appropriate year levels being: Kindergarten -20, Year 1 -22, Year 2 – 24 and Year 3-6 -30. The formation of this year’s structure took a lot of time as we considered all possible combinations with consideration to the best learning environments and opportunities for all students.

The number of students in 5/6 was greater than 2 classes whilst the large numbers in year 4 meant that having a 4/5 will still filter down across the Yr 1 and 2 classes forcing their numbers above the state expected sizes.

As in past years students in 3-6 have been placed in math groups according to ability. This will continue in 2013. As such the students will be in stage based classes for Math. Spelling is another subject that the students change from their normal class to work at their level. This year as the school is trialling the Australian Curriculum for science, the classes will again reform having all year 4’s of the 4/5/6 classes joining for science with Mr Connor and the 5/6’s doing their science with Mr Hyslop and Mrs Watling.

It should also be noted that in any given year the age spread of students is up to 18 months and the same is true of the individual learning levels.

We look forward to an exciting year with all our students involved in a wide variety of learning experiences, academic, social, cultural and sporting. Our first school newsletter will come home next Wednesday however; there will also be some important notes that will be sent home earlier.

Yours Sincerely

Ross Angus
Principal
P&C Association / Welcome Back BBQ

The Oaks Public School P&C Association supports the school by fundraising, provide an avenue for the community to seek information about the school and run the school uniform shop and canteen. Your involvement in the association is most welcome. Our P&C meets on the second Tuesday of the month at school in the staff room. Meetings start at 7.00pm and conclude by 9.00pm. Our first meeting is Tuesday 12 February.

The first event of the school year is a Welcome Back BBQ. We would like to invite all families to join together on the COLA for an evening on Friday 22nd February 2013 from 5:30 – 8:00 pm. There will be a jumping castle and inflatable obstacle course for the children.

This is a family event so all children need to be with an adult. Canteen will be open and sausage sandwiches will be sold through the canteen.

Please keep the date free and meet our new Kindergarten families. 2012 Year 6 families are welcome to come along and let us know how Year 7 is going.