Principal’s Message

If you have been to school this week you may have noticed all the work going on. A fence across the paths near Kindergarten and Year 1, IT cabling for the blocks that have Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 classes. This greatly enhances the schools capability for IT usage. Our fence will make it a little safer for the younger students and also redirect the students from the playground to the office in the appropriate course. The gates for our fence have pool locking mechanisms so still provide easy access for adults and older students.

Tomorrow and Friday our swimming team will represent the school at the Zone Carnival at Picton Pools. We wish them well in their endeavours.

Last Friday’s Welcome Back BBQ was a great evening and even with the threatening weather forecast it all held out. Thank you to the P&C for their organisation and running of the event on the night. The Canteen was very busy and the BBQ sizzled away.

DIGI ED 12th March – spaces available for Year 4

For the more senior students of the school, I organised a special incursion where Year 5/6 and some Year 4s will create their own animated movies. Spaces are limited with less than 15 positions left at the time of writing this newsletter. The students will write, create with Claymation, produce, edit and publish their movies all in the one day. The movies they create will go up on the school website however every student who participates will take home a DVD of their movie.

Teacher Professional Learning

At The Oaks Public School staff have an ongoing commitment to Professional Learning. The staff benefits from attending in-services in curriculum areas and management that will assist them in providing quality learning opportunities for the students in their class. It is also a requirement of the Department of Education and Communities for every teacher to ensure that they are up to date with all aspects of teaching. 2013 is a huge year for every school across NSW. We are preparing to implement the Australian Curriculum through the NSW Board of Studies Syllabus for English. This means that our staff will have professional learning commitments both outside of school time and during school. Last week the Executive attended training on Thursday and Friday. In the coming weeks and months staff will also attend various in-services.

Teacher Professional Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff member</th>
<th>Professional Development</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 27th March</td>
<td>Miss Edwards</td>
<td>Curriculum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 28th Feb &amp; Thur 7th Mar</td>
<td>Mrs Aldridge Mrs Freeman</td>
<td>Student Welfare</td>
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<td>Mon 4th Mar</td>
<td>Mrs Blackmore</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
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<td>28th &amp; 29th Mar</td>
<td>Mr Angus</td>
<td>Principals’ Conference</td>
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School Calendar

Unfortunately the calendar that went home with the term dates of events had the Assemblies on Odd weeks. This was consistent with previous years, however we changed the week of the assemblies to even weeks. I am sorry for the inconvenience.

Whole school Assemblies are on Friday Afternoon 2.50pm on March 8th, 22nd, April 5th.
Parents / Visitors to our School
If there is a need for any parent or visitor to come to the school during school hours it is first necessary to speak to the office staff and sign in. This is to ensure the safety of all children along with your safety in the event of an emergency. All authorised visitors are then easily identified by the display of a school visitor’s badge.
If there is a need to speak with a teacher at any time please either call or send a note direct to the teacher to arrange a convenient time for both of you. Please do not at any time go direct to a classroom or the playground to speak with a teacher or child before speaking with office staff.

Morning Drop off
Currently there are many parents who are waiting in the playground before school. This is causing an issue for the supervision of the students and their safety. We kindly request that once you have dropped your child at school you move away from the playground (area 1). If you are going to help in classes could you please wait up near the front office.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
This Friday 01st March students from The Oaks will be participating in “Clean Up Australia” by helping to clean up around our fantastic school. Students will need to bring a pair of gloves and a plastic bag to place rubbish in.

LIBRARY NEWS
A LIBRARY IN THE PLAYGROUND
Some enterprising students have seen an opportunity to promote reading. Isabella Davies, Ella Channell and some other friends (from Year 2) take a box of books into the playground at recess time. They encourage the students to read by changing the books every week. They are also monitoring attendance to their little library time and are enjoying continued success. Congratulations to all involved and I am very proud of your persistance to make this time enjoyable for all. Well done, girls!

CARTOONING GROUP – CARTOONING KAOS
Next Tuesday our lunchtime cartooning group starts. If your child would like to be in the group they need a sketch book, drawing lead pencils (HB, 2B), erasers. They will be taught by Cartoon Dave on You-Tube.

CANTEEN NEWS
CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 1 – WK 6
Wednesday 6th – Friday 8th March, 2013
1st Wednesday: Deuryn Williams, Vivien Jones, Jenny Wootton, Rita Atkins
1st Thursday: Tracey Meredith, Rochelle Jones, Kim Pes
2nd Friday: Deanna Parry, Emma Henderson

NB. If you are unable to do your duty day you need to find your own replacement. Phone Rita Atkins as a last resort. Phone numbers cannot be put in the newsletter, a copy of all numbers are available in the Canteen

P&C Easter Raffle
Every family should this week receive a book of raffle tickets for the annual P&C Easter Raffle (check the bottom of school bags!) All we ask is for each family to sell one book of raffle tickets (10 tickets at $1 each). Tickets once sold need to be returned with the money and placed in the pink P&C letterbox in the office. There will be lots of great Easter Hampers. Last year we had 7 prizes. There are additional books available from the office for those who wish to sell more than one book. Prizes will be awarded to the children that sell the most books. Raffle will be drawn at the hat parade. Thanks for your support.

Easter Raffle Donations
Last year for the first year we asked for donations towards the raffle prizes. This was a huge success so once again this year we are asking for donations towards the Easter Raffle Prizes. Some ideas would be Easter Eggs, boxes of chocolates, chocolate biscuits etc. donations towards the raffle can be left in the tub in the front office. Thank you for your support.
Year 6 fundraiser

T.O.P.S wristbands
yellow or blue
$1.00 each

Will be sold in the big cola
at lunchtimes this week.