**Principal’s Message**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to share the exciting news with you that at last Thursday night’s presentation in Bargo our school won “The Best School Garden” in the Wollondilly Council Garden Competition. Laurie Cole our General Assistant who works only two days a week has done most of the hard work to get our grounds looking so beautiful. He and his wife spend hours cultivating plants and checking on our grounds during non-paid time. Thank you so much Mr Cole. The judges also were impressed with how clean our school was. For that we can thank our children who are respectful of our school environment and usually put their waste in the right places.

**Swimming School**

This week our school started its Swimming School programme. This is a huge undertaking. This program is available for students who are not independent swimmers. In Australia children drown because they cannot swim. The Oaks Public School has utilised funding from the state government to reduce the cost of the bus and to provide this service to our community for as little money as possible. The scheme itself and the teaching is free. The children leave school at approximately 12.00pm each day and return by recess. Some children who remain at school will be taught by a different teacher during this part of the day. That is because we must send swimming trained teachers to the pool to assist with the water safety training. The children who are remaining at school will also be participating in lessons about water safety in Stage 1 and planned themed units in Stages 2 & 3. If your child is attending the swimming scheme they must be involved each day.

**P & C**

You are all aware that the P and C is hosting a Family Portrait Day on Sunday the 8th November. This is a wonderful opportunity to have professional photos of your family taken and to get them in time to give as Christmas presents. All the money raised from this activity will go towards the refurbishment of our school library. On this day we will also have school chairs and tables of various sizes available for sale. The money raised from this will go towards purchasing innovative furniture for the school. If you are interested in any chairs and tables, please let our office know and I will ensure that we have the right sizes available. Currently these pieces are in storage and will require a bit of effort to get them out.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our outgoing P and C executive from 2014 – 2015. I shared the news last week that we had some new office bearers. To Paul Davey who was our P and C president, Scott Hackett who was our Treasurer and Sian Bryant who was our Canteen Manager, we cannot thank you enough for the many hours that you spent working for our school. We truly do appreciate your efforts.

If you would like to join our P & C please come to our next meeting on the 10th November.

**Safety**

It has come to my attention that there may be some unsafe parking practices in the park across the road from the school in the afternoons. Please be very careful in this area. As you know our children spill out of the school in the afternoon and they do not think that they have to look out for traffic in a park. The Police do make spot checks on this area, so please ensure that you are parking responsibly.

**Year 7 in 2017**

Later in this newsletter is information for parents whose children are going into Year 7 in 2017. The full booklet is on our school website in the Newsletter section. Please read this very carefully.

*Please remember to 'save the date’ for Grandparents’ Day on Thursday 12th November.*

Sharing the learning journey with you,

Suzanne Crouch
Principal.
**Canteen Roster for Term 4 – WK 4, 2015**

**Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th October, 2015**

4th Wednesday: Renee Jenkins  
5th Thursday: Tracey Meredith, Katrina Zafosnik  
5th Friday: Rochelle Jones, Janelle Kelly, Marie Lamont

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

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**Reminder**

As part of our School Welfare Policy you and your child need to be reminded that any child who loses 10 points or has a suspension in Term 4 may forfeit the privilege of attending the Stage 2 camp to Yarramundi or the Year 6 Farewell.

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**This full booklet is on our school’s website in the Newsletter section.**