**Principal’s Message**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**Bus travel for 2016**

From Term 1 2016 Transport for NSW will be issuing School Opal cards to students eligible for travel under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) via a new online application process. Please see information further in this Newsletter.

**Smoke Free Zones**

The Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 requires enclosed public places to be smoke-free. The Act also requires certain outdoor areas to be smoke-free including within 10 metres of children’s playgrounds, public transport stops and stations, spectator areas of sports grounds and within 4 metres from an entrance used by pedestrians to get into or out of a building. Within the Department, pedestrian access points include areas such as school gates where there is limited opportunity for people to avoid second hand tobacco smoke. NSW Health has processes to ensure compliance with smoking bans, including enforcement activity, compliance monitoring and education and public reporting of outdoor smoking ban breaches. An on the spot fine may apply for anyone who fails to comply with the law.

**Grandparents Day Cake Stall**

I promised in last week’s newsletter that I would let you know how much we raised at the cake stall held on Grandparents’ Day. We raised $298. This money will be added to the money for the Library refurbishment. Many, many thanks again for your assistance.

**School Validation**

Last week our school was involved in a pilot program that will soon involve all schools in NSW. It involved our school being assessed against the School Excellence Framework. The framework consists of standards of practice in 3 different domains. You should be very proud of the school that your child attends because we did extremely well in all 3 areas of teaching, learning and leading. A huge thank you to the staff at The Oaks Public school for their quality practices that ensure that we are a “TOP” school. Another huge thank you to the executive team at the school for their above and beyond approach to their work to create an executive summary for our school that was considered to be a very impressive submission.

**Parent/Principal Afternoon Tea**

This Friday I will be hosting the last Parent/Principal Afternoon Tea for 2015. You are very welcome to join us. Please complete the form found later in the newsletter.

**Medallions**

Next Monday we will be holding the last Whole School Assembly for 2015. We have run out of Friday mornings so we will use Monday of Week 9. This allows any child who gained a medallion during the year to participate in our Medallion Excursion to be held on Friday 4th December. If your child has achieved a medallion this year prior to Monday’s assembly, they should have received a yellow note home on Monday of this week informing you of this special excursion. If your child is receiving a medallion next Monday, we will get an excursion note to them that same day so that you have time to complete the permission and medical form and return them to school. No payment is required. Our P and C pay for this very generous day out. This will be the last occasion when these rewards will be used. Please get all awards to your teachers in time for this assembly. For the latest information about our new award system, please join us at the P and C meeting on the 8th December, at 7pm in the Staff Room.

**Year 6 Showcase**

On the 9th and 10th December our Year 6 children will be showcasing some of their final works in primary school to show our public the standard of work from our Year 6 students. I know that you will be impressed. If you are able to visit our school sometime between 9.00am and 3.00pm either day, pop into our hall and have a look at these efforts.

**Celebration Of Learning**

On the 10th December our school will be hosting our annual Celebration of Learning. This is a special assembly held to recognize the academic, social and sporting achievements of students from Kindergarten to Year 6 at The Oaks Public School. We hope that you will be able to join us for this once a year celebration. The Year 6 showcase will also be available in the hall before and after the assembly. Sharing the learning journey with you,

Suzanne Crouch

Principal
**Canteen Roster for Term 4 – WK 9, 2015**

**Wednesday 2nd – Friday 4th December, 2015**

**1st Wednesday:** Jenny Wooton  
**1st Thursday:** Sarah Kroh, Chantel Norris, Cheryl Hunt  
**1st Friday:** Janelle Kelly, Kelly Mathiasch, Julie Redmond

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.

**The Canteen will be CLOSED on the last day of school, 16th December 2015.**

I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all the families who have supported the canteen this year. If anyone is interested in volunteering in our canteen, please contact Amanda Ormerod on 0409 537 265 or amanda0779@hotmail.com.

Looking forward to a successful 2016.

Thank you  
Amanda Ormerod

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**Bus Travel for 2016 ~**

**Who needs to apply**

Most students who already have a school student travel pass won’t need to apply for the School Opal card. It will be sent to the student's school at the beginning of the school year in 2016.

**An application is needed if the student**

- Has not had a travel pass before  
- Is moving from Year 2 to Year 3  
- Is moving from Year 6 to Year 7  
- Is changing schools  
- Is changing address

**How to apply**

**Step 1**

Complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students

**Step 2**

Print, sign and date the completed application, then submit it to the student’s school for endorsement.

**Step 3**

The school then sends the endorsed application to Transport for NSW. Once approved, the School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application.

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**Parent/Principal Afternoon Tea**

I, _______________________________ would like to participate in the Parent and Principal afternoon tea to be held on Friday, 27th November, at 2.40pm.

My child is in __________________________ class.

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**A parent or guardian must apply for students 15 years and under. Students 16 years and over must apply for themselves.**
TOPS P&C Christmas Raffle

Raffle ticket books went home last week with the Newsletter so please check the bottom of school bags for them.

Tickets are $1.00 each and there are 10 tickets in a book. It would be great if every family could sell at least one book of tickets. Spare books of tickets will be available at the office if you would like one. All money and tickets sold are to be put in the P & C letterbox in the office before 10/12/15.

Thank you so much to all those who have already donated something. Don’t forget if you would like to donate anything towards the prizes they can be left in a box in the office.

Thank you all for your support,
T.O.P.S. P&C

LIBRARY NEWS

Please return ALL library books to the Library as soon as possible ready for Stocktake.

REMININDER

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 Year 6 Farewell.

The Oaks Public School Wins the Chess Challenge Cup

The Oaks Public School hosted Oakdale Public School in the annual Chess Challenge Cup on Friday. The senior chess team of Dylan Langdon, Jake Langdon, Zane Davis and Sebastian Moussa took on the best 4 chess players from Oakdale Public School. Last year Oakdale won. This year, TOPS gained their revenge by winning 11-5 over Oakdale. Sebastian Moussa led the team by winning all 4 of his matches and Jake Langdon excelled by winning 3 of his 4 matches. However, all students contributed wins to the team victory and all conducted themselves with a sportsmanship which brought credit to the school.
Achieving your weight loss goals
this Christmas just got easier!

The Oaks, Plus Fitness Personal Trainer is offering a 10 week fitness program designed to keep those extra kilo’s at bay this silly season!

Contact Sonja on 0437 456 184
and ask about her special Christmas prices starting at just $15 for your first session!

- One-on-one personal training
- Group personal training (3-4 people)
- Indoor and outdoor sessions

Not a member of Plus Fitness?
Sign up for you free 7 day trial and receive your first PT session for just $15!