**Principal’s Message**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**Anzac Day**

As you know, last Friday we held our Anzac Day assembly at school. A huge thank you to those of you who were able to send in flowers for this special occasion. The flowers remain on the memorial on the corner of the school grounds. The assembly was a very impressive effort. Our choir sang beautifully and Mr Hunt spoke to the children who were all very respectful. I would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Levings who tried to involve all the children in this special event – thankyou.

On Saturday Mrs Levings and I were overwhelmed with the number of students who came to march with us as The Oaks Public School. We had 70 children march in the Camden Anzac Day Parade. What a great effort from our school community. Our school leaders laid a wreath and tolerated being very, very hot in their very smart new school blazers. I was sooooooooooo proud of our whole school community. You should be too. A big thank you also to the people who sent us photos of this historic and very special day. Some of these photos are on display in our foyer.

**Opportunity Classes for 2016**

If you are interested in your child attending an OC class please read on. Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 22 July 2015.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2016, you need to do so soon. You will need to apply on the Internet using a valid email address (not the student’s email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 27 April 2015 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. The application website opened on 27 April 2015 and closes on 15 May 2015. No late applications will be accepted. There are no paper application forms. If you do not have Internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 27 April 2015.

**You must submit only ONE application.** If you are applying please complete the form inside this newsletter so that the school knows that you are applying.

**Mother’s Day stall**

The P and C are holding their annual Mother’s day stall next Thursday, the 7th May starting from 12.30 pm. This stall saves busy dads having to think of a gift for mums and helps the school raise money for some of the ambitious projects that we are planning. Please read the note further in this newsletter.
Mrs Gard’s Retirement Assembly
This Friday at 2.30 pm the school is hosting a special retirement assembly for Mrs Gard. You may not be aware that Mrs Gard has been a teacher at The Oaks Public School twice during her career. Once as a classroom teacher and then a few years later she returned to us as an Assistant Principal. Mrs Gard is held in very high regard by children, parents and staff. You are welcome to join us at this special assembly at 2.30 pm.

A calendar of Term 2 events will be in next week’s newsletter once they are all confirmed.
Sharing the learning journey with you.
Suzanne Crouch
Principal

CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 2 – WK 3, 2015
Wednesday 6th – Friday 8th May, 2015

1st Wednesday: Vivian Jones, Jenny Wootton,
1st Thursday: Sarah Kroh, Chantel Norris, Cheryl
2nd Friday: Kylie Mayhew, Rochelle Jones, Sue Martin

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

Peer Support
We are commencing our Peer Support lessons this week with the whole school participating in 30 minute lessons. Most groups will consist of One Year 6 Peer Leader and one Year 5 Co-Leader to facilitate a small group of students from Kindergarten to Year 4. However due to a limited number of groups, a few groups will have 3 leaders. The groups will work together through a number of structured activities. Each classroom teacher will supervise 3 groups in their rooms. We are working on a module called Promoting Harmony helping us define individual and community values, build relationships and improve decision making skills. The module will consist of 8 sessions. Our first session enables the children to get to know everyone in their group, agreeing on how they will work together and interact cooperatively with others. They will also begin to think about what is a value and something they value in themselves. We recommend you talk to your children about Peer Support every week, as it will help to reinforce the concepts learned in each session.
Mrs Scotney and Mrs Grieve

Mother’s Day Stall
The Mother’s Day Stall will be held Thursday next week 7th May, 2015.
All gift $5 each

Stewart House Envelopes
Stewart house envelopes were sent home last week. If you would like to donate $2 to Stewart House, place it in the envelope provided, fill out the entry details on the back, send it back to school by the 8th May, 2015 and you will go in the draw to win a $4,000 family holiday to a destination of your choice

OPPORTUNITY CLASS FOR 2016
My child _______________ in _______________ class
will be applying for the Opportunity Class for 2016.

Parent name ____________________ Parent signature ____________________
Cobbitty Village Markets
www.cobbittymarkets.com.au  
ph: 0438 512728  
email: admin@cobbittymarkets.com.au

Cobbitty Village Market is a vibrant well-known country-style craft market that has been run by local community volunteers since May 1982. It provides quality unique crafts and produce, drawing large crowds of visitors from local and wider Sydney/NSW areas. As a non-profit organization, the market also functions as an important local fundraiser, typically raising $40-50,000 each year that is distributed to local community groups, charities, and the disadvantaged.

The markets are held on Cobbitty Public School grounds on the first Saturday of each month except for January and February, and are open to the public from 8am-1pm. There are a large variety of stalls providing predominantly homemade art and craft, delicious foods and beverages to take home or eat at the market; some of which are provided by local groups including Lion's club, School P&C, and Scouts, for their own fund-raising. There is also entertainment, including local bands and groups. There is parking for 1,000 cars behind the school/along Cobbitty Road. We warmly welcome all visitors to our market, and encourage anyone interested in joining our volunteer market committee to contact us.