Principal’s Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week in schools and workplaces all around the state people are saying thank you to our **School Administrative and Support Staff** as it is SASS week. In our school those people are Mrs Giles, Mrs Erickson, Mrs Parkes, Mrs Granger, Mrs Munday and Mr Cole. These people work tirelessly every day to help us and we should always remember to say thank you for a job very well done.

**Concert**

By the time that you read this you will have sat through our bi-annual concert known as The Oaks Factor. At the time of writing I have only seen the dress rehearsal but it was so good that I know that Tuesday’s matinee and evening performances will have been brilliant. I hope that you are as proud of your children and their teachers as I am.

**Parent/Principal Afternoon Tea**

Thank you also to the parents and carers who were able to come to the Parent/Principal afternoon tea last Friday afternoon. We looked at the ideas for refurbishing the library that are on our website and we discussed NAPLAN.

Who won?

This week’s BIG news is that we are announcing the class that raised the most money in our recent **Walkathon**. The class who raised $1,145.80 was K Lynx and as the class who had the largest amount of donations, they are the class who will receive a special Pizza Party on the 11th September. The total for the entire Walkathon was $9,031.60 which is brilliant. Thank you to all of you for your contributions. This money will all be put into the refurbishment of our school library. Your children will get to benefit from every cent of it.

**Staffing**

Mrs Lees will be absent from her teaching duties for the next two weeks as she will be on Long Service Leave. Mrs Walsh will be teaching in her position. I will also be taking some leave from next Monday. I will return Monday Week 2 of Term 4. Mrs Manga will be the relieving principal in my absence.

**Surveys**

Please continue to complete the surveys regarding our Welfare system and return them to us as soon as possible.

Sharing the learning journey with you,
Suzanne Crouch
Principal
**PLEASE NOTE**

**THE CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER (WEEK 10)**
Due to no volunteers available to work on this day.

**CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 3 – WK 9, 2015**

**Wednesday 9th – Friday 11th September, 2015**

2nd Wednesday: Diane Taplin, Amanda Ormerod, Kem Pes  
2nd Thursday: Renee Jenkins, Amanda Biffin, Roisin Piefke  
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.

**REMEMINDER**

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 3 or 4 may forfeit the privilege of attending the Stage 3 camp to The Blue Mountains or Stage 2 camp to Yarramundi.

**Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers**

Don’t forget to keep collecting the Earn & Learn stickers from Woolworths and put them in the specially marked box in the Office foyer.

**KINDERGARTEN 2016**

We are now taking Kindergarten enrolments for 2016. Please notify the office at your earliest convenience if you are planning on sending your child to The Oaks Public School next year.

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**The Great Book Swap**

This year our school is supporting the work of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation by holding a GREAT BOOK SWAP on Friday 11th September, 2015 (Week 9). The Indigenous Literacy Foundation works to put books into the hands of children and families in remote Aboriginal communities across Australia. In the lifetime of the project, with the support of many people and organisations including schools, they have sent more than 120,000 new high quality books to over 230 remote communities. Our Aboriginal students, School Leaders and School Ambassador will help organise the event, which is to be held in the school Library. They will help sort books into sections, take money and help promote the event across the school.

To take part, students need to bring along a book that they are happy to donate for another student to “buy” in Weeks 8 or 9. Students will need to fill out a ‘Great Book Swap card’, stick it in their book, explaining why their book is a favourite. Then on Friday 11th September, students bring in a gold coin donation to buy a ‘new book’ of their choice. All money donated will go directly to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation to buy books for students in remote Aboriginal communities. For more information: http://www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au/

Thank you for your support

Mrs Krystle Levings  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Coordinator
**Student Report**

Last Monday, Amelia, Lizzie, Quin and I went to the Children's Book Council event at Narellan Library. To attend this day we submitted writing and illustrations about how 'Books Light Up Our World'. A panel then selected talented students to meet with author Suzanne Gervay and illustrator Benjamin Johnston. Suzanne taught us about all the parts of writing. She was very funny and gave us some excellent tips. I was so inspired by Suzanne that I have started writing my own chapter book. Benjamin taught us about all the ways you can make a picture. He gave us a piece of writing as a stimulus and we had to develop an illustration from it. It was interesting to see what all the other students had drawn. The message that Benjamin wanted us to take home is there is no right or wrong way to draw.

Thank you to Rachael from The Children's Book Council for organising the day and to the Narellan Library for hosting the event.

Hannah M (year 6)

**Bike Artwork Competition**

The popular bike safety competition is on again for students to design their dream helmet. The winning design will then be made commercially and sold in the retail shops as well as the winning student receiving a new bike and helmet set valued at $350.

To enter –

- Students create an original helmet design on the template that can be accessed from the NRMA bicycle NSW website mynrma.com.au/bikecomp
- Return it unfolded to Ms Stevenson on Thursday 15th October, 2015, or sometime before that date.

Good luck to all students (we had a past student win this prize in 2013).

Ms Stevenson

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**School Concert**

Wow!!! What a fantastic two days. As I said, I love these crazy performing arts experiences but it makes it so much more enjoyable when you have a great team to work with. Each item showed passion and creativity! Plus all of our 320+ children were involved in some way- even those who told us they didn’t want to be involved!! Everyone should be so proud of what we have just achieved.

Big thanks to those on the committee who did all those additional yet necessary jobs leading up to the event. So many jobs done by lots of people makes the whole event run smoothly.

In addition to those we thanked last night, I’d also like to thank Leigh for staying on later to clean up & organise bins, Mrs Giles, Mrs Erickson & Mrs Granger for coordinating the ticket sales from the office and Laurie for his early arrival for chairs.

The job done by Kellen Wheatley, James Reid, Harry Small and Josh Moore was also brilliant and enormously helpful. They did everything asked of them and more, and showed their maturity.

Each little shining star on the stage reminded me why I became a teacher. You've all helped to create amazing memories for The Oaks students.

Once again, thanks for making our kids shine like the stars we know they are!!!

Ms Watling
Assistant Principal
First Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd November, 2015

Classes begin for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion on Tuesday 15th September, 2015.

Children must be in Year 3 or older and have been Baptised.

All classes are held at The Oaks Catholic Church hall between 5pm – 6pm.

All enquiries ring Ann Daley 4657 1382