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8 December 2015

### Principal's Message



As the end of the year approaches and a most deserved holiday break, I would like to thank our community for their support in 2015. It has been a very successful and extremely busy year at GRC Oatley.

#### **HSC 2015**

Our Year 12 students finished their HSC in Mid-November to the collective sighs of students, parents and teachers. It is indeed a very stressful event but one I am sure will bring great results for all the hard work and effort put in by everyone. HSC results will be released by BOSTES on Wednesday 16th December at 6am. Students are able to apply to receive their results electronically via a text message to their mobile phones. We invite all Year 12 students to come back to school on that day to celebrate their achievements with us and enjoy a BBQ lunch.

ATARS are released by UAC on Thursday 17th December. Schools do not have access to ATAR

information so we appreciate a phone call or email so we can collate the ATAR information. Sign out day for Year 12 students was Friday 13 November. Students who have not already done so must return all equipment belonging to the school. Many thousands of dollars are spent on textbooks and resources each year to loan to students for their studies. We rely on the return of these to pass on to the next group of Year 12 students. Best wishes to our Year 12 2015 as they await their results and embark on the exciting future years ahead.

A number of students received great news that their HSC Major Work has been accepted to the various HSC showcase events of outstanding work. This year Valeria Perez has been chosen for Dance, Ben Devin for Art Express and Tina Luo for Art Rules. This is an outstanding achievement by these students to

have their work recognised as being of the highest quality to showcase.

#### Oatley Lions Club Festival

The SRC worked tirelessly from 8am to manage the car park for the annual Oatley Lions Club Festival. Subsequently the Lions Club were very kind to donate \$500 to our campus to purchase a new additional honour board to record our past student leaders, honour blue and academic achievers.

We thank the Oatley Lions Club for their support.

#### Year 11 2016

This week we held Orientation Days for our Year 11 students of 2016. We will enrol approximately 500 students into year 11 next year. Most students will transition from our 3 middle campuses but we will also have a large number of students joining the GRC family from many different schools, both government and non-government schools Thank you to Year 11 2016 and to the teachers from our middle schools for their contribution. The behaviour and attitude of the students was excellent and we look forward to starting the senior school journey in 2016.

#### Return to School dates 2016

Year 12 returns on Thursday 28 January and Year 11 commence on Friday 29th January.

Classes begin promptly at 8.40am. We ask all families to review morning procedures to ensure all students arrive on time.

#### **Recognition of Achievement**

Congratulations to the 2015 Titration Team (Chemistry).

The GRC Oatley teams placed 2nd and 4th in NSW and 14th in the National competition. The competition involves a great commitment and many hours of practise and preparation.

I thank the team members and the staff, especially Ms Ashfaq for their hard work in attaining such an achievement.

Two of our students won a VET Excellence Award in the Public Schools NSW Ultimo, 2015 Vocational Education and Training

Awards. Darcy O'Loughlin for Entertainment and John Gamboa for Hospitality Food and Beverage. Congratulations also to Rebecca Jamieson, Hospitality teacher, who won a Commitment to Excellence in VET Delivery award.

Students in the support unit, participated in Schools Spectacular 2015 and had a great time. GRC Oatley students also participated in the Choir. Thank you to the staff that supported the students with very long hours of rehearsals and the 3 days of performance.

Three special teachers leave us at the end of 2015 for retirement.

Mr Anthony Allison, Head Teacher VET, Ms Jennifer Henderson College Head Teacher Teaching and Learning and Mr Adam Zhao Language Teacher. We thank them sincerely for their

commitment to the students of GRC Oatley. We wish them a happy, healthy and long retirement.

I wish all our community a safe and happy holiday, with much time spent relaxing and enjoying family and friends.

## KATE MCRAE R/Principal

### Installing the Schoolzine App

#### Apple devices:

- On your Apple device, open the App Store.
- 2. Search the App Store for Schoolzine.
- 3. Download and install the Schoolzine App.

#### 1. Selecting Region

Once downloaded, launch the app.
Select your school's region.



#### Android devices:

- On your Android device, open the Play Store.
- 2. Search the Play Store for Schoolzine.
- 3. Download and install the Schoolzine App.

#### 2. Find your School

Search for the School Name. In the school drop down select your child/s school.





#### 3. Notification Groups

On the group selection page you

can choose which groups you would like to receive notifications from.

Once you have selected all relevant

groups, select the Save button. The Schoolzine Feed will open up by default.



#### 4. School Feed

Swipe right to access the School Feed.

You can access your schools menu in the top-right of the app.

Here you can access links and manage your group subscriptions.





#### Hot Tip:

You can set your child/s School as your home screen from the menu.

For any further information see the App FAQ page.

## White Ribbon 2015 at Oatley Campus





Congratulations to our White Ribbon Day Committee. This was our 4th year of commemorating White Ribbon Day and our team of 30 students designed an informative and entertaining assembly for our school. We are lucky to have so many students who are prepared to stand up in the name of respectful and safe relationships. Thanks go to our special guest, Shaun Timmins, NRL State of Origin and Australian representative and White Ribbon Ambassador. Thanks also to Mr Ibrahim Haydar, who is a role model to many of our young men. As well as being an ex-student, Mr Haydar is a representative soccer player for Sydney United FC as well as a teacher at our Peakhurst Campus.

Our chairpersons, Remi and Kanaan, conducted themselves with great dignity introducing 16 other student presenters for our assembly. Five staff helped to guide the student committee, meeting at lunch times for most of Term 4. Thanks to Mr Butler,

Mr Munroe, Mr Polyzoidis and Mr Xenikos. Mr Poly did a great job organising the printing of the Oatley White Ribbon shirts as well as two commemorative banners.

Thanks to all our staff who purchased T Shirts. It really made a strong statement on the day to see so many openly supporting the cause, but as stated by Mr Haydar: "as soon as you leave this assembly, you must live by the principle that any sort of violence or harassment is absolutely unacceptable".

Students involved in the organisation of the day:





Rawad ABBAS
John AITOA
Christina
ATHANASOPOULOS
Tully BROWN
Stefanie
Saad EL HASSAN
Kanaan EL-ETRI
Zac ELHASSAN
Kassam ELKORDI
Sleiman ELMIR
Theresa ETEAKI
Stanley FAKAOSI

Josiah FINAU Remi GEORGE Hussein **GHABCHA** Khava **HOLMWOOD** Manu **HOLMWOOD** Patrick HOOPER Ali IBRAHIM Jasmine **KARAVELAS** Luke **LEVALLIANT** Lukman NAYEF Carl PFEILL Malia POASA

Peter
POLUTELE
Imran
RAHMAN
Mohamad
REDA
Connor RYAN
Julia SAAB
Sara TANANA
Ellie TICKLE
Raymond
WHIPPY
Hussein
YOUSSEF

http://vimeo.com/147545708

Mr Wright Head Teacher Welfare

## GRC Oatley Student Representative Council

We are very pleased to announce the 2016 leadership team at GRC Oatley.

School Captains: Clarence Villasista

Sasa Widjaja

Vice Captains: Connor Ryan

**Tully Brown** 

SRC President: Remi George SRC Vice President: Jai Ghorpade

SRC Secretary: Tiffany Li

SRC Treasurer: Matthew Widders

Year 12 SRC: Kanaan-Adam Eletri, Azaria Rogers, Aaron Hau, Carl Pfeil, Victoria Tan, Kelvin Liu, Lachlan Beccaris and Nuntawon Sathapanasethe.

Congratulations to all students who were elected. I look forward to working with this leadership team in 2016.

Rebecca Jamieson SRC Coordinator

# What did students say about their photographs?



Lauren I enjoy the creative process of this project, called "Little Planet". We took photos around the school and at first they were just average, but we learnt how to turn them into a creative an interesting image..... into our little planet I always get a vibe when I can capture a Cooper Liedtke moment that really captures how vibrant life is Marsha I love doing Photography because it makes me express myself and be really creative. This Gerussova was such an exciting task. Using Photoshop I made the photograph look like the school is our planet

David I enjoy the work I have created because 1
Templeton picture tells 1000 words. When it makes people smile or be amazed, then it brings a

smile to my face

Sarah What I enjoyed most about this task was
Parry learning how to take ordinary pictures from
around the school and editing them to look
surreal and interesting

Anon Our assignment was to turn something ordinary into something extraordinary using

our creative photography skills. I found this

TVET course very enjoyable

#### Penny Morrison, Careers Adviser

## **National Titration Competition**

Georges River College, Oatley has again achieved outstanding success in the National Titration Competition. One team, comprising Jai Ghorpade, Steven Li and Kenny Rong finished second in the state and 14th nationally. As well Kenny achieved the best individual score in the state competition and was awarded a special award. He was presented with the award by Dr Joseph Bevitt, the President of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, at the year assembly on November 10.



David Kerwick
Rel Head Teacher Science

## Great times in the Support Unit



Semester Two has been a busy and successful time for the students in the Support Unit. They have all kept busy learning in classes, work placement, camp and community access. What has been a very busy period really enabled all of our students to learn and grow as young adults.

Camp this year was held at The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops. The students enjoyed The Giant Swing, Archery and exploring the bushland and ponds around the camp. It is always great to spend time at camp getting to know the Year 10 students from Peakhurst who will join us in 2016.



Community access this Semester included visits to the Apple Concept Store in the city for a photography class, Hazelhurst Art Gallery in Gymea, Cronulla Beach, a tour of the ABC studios, Sydney Aquarium and the V8 Supercars at Homebush. This wide variety of activities enables the students to hone their living skills in practical situations.

A special learning experience occurred with the students visiting Punchy's Gym at Oatley as part of their PDH/PE

program. The kindness and generosity of the owner and staff at Punchy's enabled the students to work on both their gross motor skills and fitness in a specialised learning environment.

While we were sad to say goodbye to Year 12 student, George Senavellis, who has successfully graduated, our Year 11 students relished the opportunity to show next year's students around during their transition days. They really showed everyone just how far they have come since beginning at GRC Oatley in January. Well done to Eva Tomaras, Cameron Chance and Nicholas Pelekanos.



Brendan Dalley Teacher

## **PACFEST**

GRC Oatley PACFest Group represented all the campuses of Georges River College, and performed at Sydney PACFEST 2015, at the Whitlam Centre, Liverpool on Friday 26th June 2015 in front of 4,000 people and 500 high school peers. It also included attending three PACFEST Youth Leadership Workshops through-out the Sydney Region in which our young leaders stood out. Also, there is also an opportunity to be selected to perform at several major events that will be happening around the Sydney region e.g. NRL Games, Multi-Cultural and Community Events etc.

Sydney PACFEST is a Cultural Pacific, Indigenous and Maori Festival involving Secondary Schools throughout Sydney region that have Pacific, Indigenous and Maori students. It aims to reconnect the students to their cultural heritage and learn the importance and beauty of traditions that evolve through time and generations to create who they are today. Our goal is awareness and getting your attention through the voices and music of the next generation.

Bring on 2016.

James Munroe - CEO
'Community Engagement Officer'

## U Turn the Wheel

On Wednesday 11th November, 2015 all Year 12 students were involved in the program "U Turn the Wheel – It's Your Choice!". U Turn the Wheel includes 6 sessions presented by NSW Police, NSW Ambulance, NRMA Motoring Service, YouthSafe, Trent Driving School and St George Services.

**U-Turn the Wheel** is a series of road safety and awareness workshops aimed at those young beginning and developing drivers run by the local Rotary Club.

This one-day program is designed to reinforce the Road Safety curricula already being implemented in schools and provide an opportunity for Year 12 students to access additional road safety resources not easily available within the school. The U-Turn the Wheel program is designed to specifically address the ATTITUDES & AWARENESS of driver related issues such as speed, fatigue, alcohol, drugs and the wearing of seat belts; each which have been identified as major contributors to road casualties among our young drivers. This program also addresses the issues of risk taking behaviour, peer pressure and responsible decision making in the areas of insurance and purchasing of a vehicle.

This day was an outstanding success and if one students life has been saved or serious injury avoided, it will be well worthwhile.

Neale Harries Deputy Principal Georges River College Oatley Campus

#### **Fine Arts**







Jason's Incredible Helmet

Visual arts has had a very exciting year with two significant nominations:- Ben Devin for Art Express and Tina Lou for Art Rules at Hazelhurst.

Ben's pen drawings of birds were majestically represented bringing out some fabulous character, particularly in his vulture: everybody's favourite. I think he could have sold that many times on the night of our exhibition.

Tina's 'The Eyes are the Windows to the Cult' were exuisitely designed, and lasercut to fom many beautiful layers representing the colours and patterns of religions and cultures around the globe. The hours spent on extensive research and

developing colour swatches and designing on photoshop definitely paid off.

...And of course, it has been a constant delight to see Jason Tamas' incredible work representing not only Oatley Senior Campus, Georges River College but indeed NSW public education as one of the main images on the DEC website. Jasons incredible helmet was brilliantly crafted, right down to making the individual links in his chain mail. His work demonstrated his mastery of metal working as well as ceramics and wood turning, and his passion and appreciation for his cultural heritage.



Tina's Artwork

Stephanie Kentwell, Art Teacher