

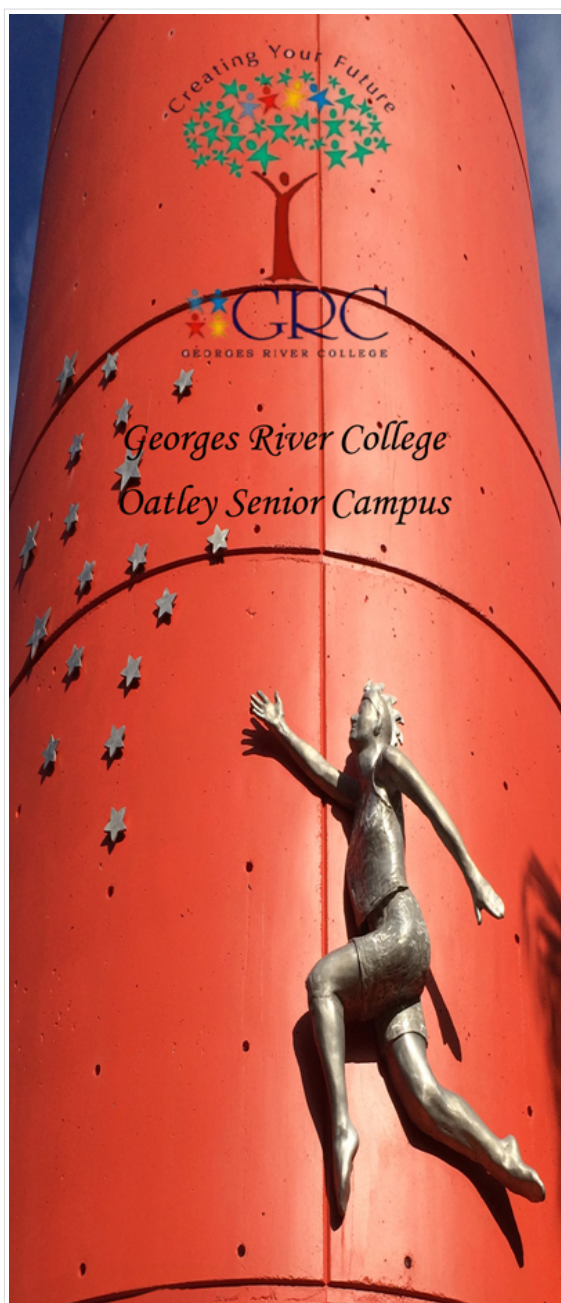


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8 April 2016



Principals Report

School Plan 2015 - 2017



The School Plan outlines our vision and strategic directions for the next 3 years. Below is a snapshot of what we aim to achieve in this period.

We began the process of consultation with all stakeholders last year and we are really excited about what lies ahead for GRC Oatley. The full version of the document can be accessed on our school website.

School strategic directions 2015 - 2017



Annual School Report

Our Annual School Report will be available to all parents and community members via our school website by the beginning of next term. It is an informative document that contains worthwhile information about the school's academic performance, sporting performance, extra-curricular activities and outstanding achievements over the 2015 calendar year. A big thank you to the staff who contributed to the Annual School Report.

Professional Learning

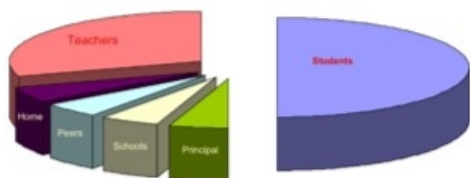
- Term 1
This term teachers at GRC Oatley have spent their professional learning time developing a Performance Development Process. The overarching purpose of the performance and development process is to support the ongoing improvement of student outcomes through continuous development of

skilled, effective and professional teachers. Teaching is enhanced when teachers are provided with positive encouragement to reflect on their practice, and benefit from regular feedback and professional development throughout the year. Teachers at GRC Oatley will observe one another as part of this process in order to stimulate discussions on the complexities and subtleties of making a difference in the classroom. Congratulations to the staff for a successful term.

- Term 2

Professional Learning in Term 2 will focus specifically on "What makes a difference in the Classroom?"

This is some of the research that is behind what we are doing. Professor John Hattie, one of the world's leading educational researchers, has spent many years trying to determine the factors that have the biggest impact on student success. His findings are as follows:



In summary:

- **Students:** Around **50% of student achievement is attributed to what students bring to their learning themselves** and this is more influential than any other variable. Their personal skills, attitudes, interests, knowledge and ability are the biggest influence on how well they achieve.
- **Teachers:** Account for about 30% of the variance in student achievement. **It is what teachers know, do, and care about which is very powerful.**
- The other areas of influence on student success are the Home, Peers, School and the **Principal**. While very important and essential each of these areas contributes about 5-10% up to a total of 20% of the influence on student success.

Teachers at GRC Oatley do an outstanding job of teaching and supporting all our students to achieve their personal best in learning in all areas of the curriculum. They are prepared to keep learning and step out of their comfort zone in order to perfect their craft. Student achievement is always at the forefront of our discussions.

Year 12 Exams

Our Year 12 exam period went smoothly. The exam period is very important as it allows Year 12 time to reflect on the topics they have studied and put this knowledge into practice. Congratulations Year 12 for your behaviour and focus during this time.

Parent Teacher Nights

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held on the following dates:

- Year 12 Tuesday 3rd May, 2016 4:00pm – 7:00pm
- Year 11 Monday 16th May, 2016 4:00pm – 7:00pm

We are changing the way we do things! The process for booking appointments will be different this year. Parents will now be able to make appointments with teachers online from home or work. Information for how to make interviews with teachers for Parent Teacher Night will be sent home when the online booking system for each year group has been activated with clear instructions on how to make bookings with classroom teachers.

Farewell

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Mr Ian Fay and Ms Stephanie Kentwell for the commitment to GRC Oatley. Both have spent a large amount of their career here.

Mr Fay has decided to retire after a very successful teaching career. He came to us in 2005 from Belmore Boys High School. He is an outstanding mathematician and has taught mathematics at all levels throughout the years. His hard work and dedication to his craft have helped many students over the years achieve excellent HSC result. He had high expectations not only of his students but also of himself. We wish you all the very best Ian for your retirement. You will be greatly missed by staff and students.

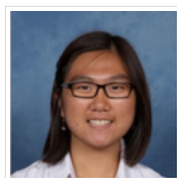
Ms. Kentwell is leaving us as she has been granted a service transfer to Cronulla High School. She is extremely excited about this appointment as it allows her to work with not only senior students but also students in Years 7 – 10. Stephanie's dedication and commitment to her craft have seen the number of classes in Visual Arts and Ceramics increase overtime. Good Luck Stephanie – we wish you all the best at Cronulla.

New Staff

This term we welcomed Ms. Fiona Sedgers to the CAPA department who has replaced Ms. Kentwell. She comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge, which we know, will benefit students at GRC Oatley.



Congratulations Kimberly Chan



I am delighted to inform the school community that Kimberly has been invited to attend the UBS Finance Academy 2016, which will be held at Dunmore Lang College, Macquarie University.

The 5-day program is designed to provide leadership in banking education to secondary students in the public school system. It is a holiday program and participants will live-in at a Macquarie University residential college.

Kimberly is one of only 22 students across NSW who were selected. She now has the opportunity to explore and learn about a wide range of career opportunities in the finance industry.

Uniform

GRC Oatley Senior Campus is a uniform school. The school uniform creates an identity for our school and is an important part of being a school student.

It is essential that all students are in correct school uniform everyday and wear the uniform correctly during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours.

Our school uniform reflects school community standards and expectations. It was developed in consultation with and agreed upon by the school community. It is based on a strong student and parent voice.

Please support us in ensuring that your child arrives to school in full school uniform. The school uniform requires all students to be in black leather shoes and white socks.

Diary dates

Important dates to put in your diaries:

- Term 1
 - Year 12 reports distributed – 8/4/16
- Term 2
 - School resumes for students 27/4/16
 - Year 12 Parent Teacher Night – 3/5/16 4pm – 7pm
 - Year 11 Parent Teacher Night – 16/5/16 4pm – 7pm
 - P&C Parent Education Event – 31/5/16

GRC Oatley Senior Campus is focused on developing students who are not only academically successful but who are thoughtful citizens who contribute to their local community in a positive manner. I look forward to working with you this year to achieve our goal.

As this is the last newsletter of the term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the staff and students for their hard work and the parents for their ongoing support. Have a safe and happy holiday and I am looking forward to a productive Term 2.

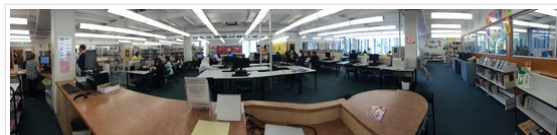
Anna Girginis
Principal

NEWSLETTER CO ORDINATOR REPORT

Thank you to all the staff and students who contribute to the school newsletter and to the students who assist with the photography. As we approach the end of Term 1, I would like to wish all a safe holiday period. The holiday period would be a good opportunity for all students to revise their work and catch up where necessary.

Mr. Dimitrios J Polyzoidis
GRC Newsletter Co-ordinator

LIBRARY REPORT



THE LEARNING AND RESOURCE CENTRE at GRC OATLEY:

The students at Oatley Senior Campus have access to some of the best resources available to anyone in the state. The Library facilitates this. We prefer to be known as “The Learning and Resource Centre”.

There are 20 computers readily available in the Library. Every student in the school by now should have a computer log-on. That password will now provide access to most digital applications and printing.

Students are issued with ID cards, which contain all relevant information for the HSC entrance, and which act as Library Borrowing cards. These cards also can have money loaded on to them for photocopying.

However, printing requires the purchase of a PaperCut voucher from the Office on Level 3, usually in \$5 lots. Library staff can assist with loading the voucher on to Network accounts.

All students are issued with textbooks, in most subjects, through the Library. That process is faster with the ID cards.

All students can borrow any resources available to them, within reason. For example, if an English student wanted to borrow a study guide on every text being taught in their course, they could do so – but not more than two on any one text. The usual loan period is 2 weeks.

Our new Library system, ‘Oliver’, is user-friendly and accessible from home. Students can create resource lists, reserve books themselves, and utilise the quick links that are embedded for Clickview and E Books. There will also soon be added features on the Oliver Home Page.

The Learning and Resource Centre on Level 2 includes:

- Teacher Librarians Mrs Caron Baumgartner and Mrs Elizabeth Love (Tuesdays), plus Support Staff Mrs Hazel Thomas and Mrs Vicki Johnson.
- Library services and ‘troubleshooting’ research and password issues.
- Focus on information and digital literacies.
- Computer access.
- Printing and photocopying facilities
- Classroom areas
- Private study cubicles
- Seminar Rooms for group work.
- Small Group study areas overlooking our ‘lake’.
- The office of ‘The Learning Centre’ Support teacher, Ms Voula Alexiou.

- The Careers staff, Mrs Penny Morrison and Mrs Narelle Collins.
- The Counselling staff, Mr Rick Francis and Mrs Honny Henderson.



RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

GENERAL LIBRARY COLLECTION:

- A wide range of Fiction books, of varying levels and most genres.
- Carefully selected Picture Fiction – used as supplementary materials in English, and for Visual Literacy.
- Graphic Novels, both Fiction and Non Fiction.
- Non Fiction titles that cover most general areas, and specifically cover HSC topics and areas of interest for students doing major works or extension courses. Even 'Reference' books are borrowable.
- Study Guides for all courses, generally held in multiples.
- Topical and pertinent Magazines and Periodicals, and Media Reviews.
- A large selection of DVDs, and some CDs.
- Careers literature and books.
- Cameras and other AV equipment.

TEXTBOOK RESOURCES:

- Textbooks, some with or without discs and/or web-based support materials, are available for most subjects, for a year.
- TAFE textbook resources.

CLICKVIEW and CLICKVIEW ONLINE:

- The school holds a very large Clickview Teaching and Learning Library. There are about 7000 'video' titles, many of them commercially-produced up-to-date teaching videos. There are also about 2000 locally-added files – programs, films, series, etc. captured from television. They come across like a YouTube video file.
- The entire Clickview Library can be accessed from school via Clickview Player (a 'Shortcut' on the desktop) and also from the web-based Clickview Online. The system is designed for saturated use,

anytime, anywhere. Multiple devices can be enabled (see Clickview Website).

- All students can view Clickview programs when needed, using their DET credentials. Search clickviewonline.com.au ; User Name is the student's email address > 'Single Sign On School' and > Georges River College, Oatley Senior Campus.
- Clickview programs can be utilised for revision, research and catch-up lessons.

E BOOKS:

- Soon, we will have an E Book Collection, embedded into our Oliver Homepage. We are choosing titles now. It is anticipated that some of the recommended reading for English will be available via this platform.
- This will bring the added flexibility of digital access, from any internet connection, across several devices.

GRC Stage Band ready to tour

The GRC Stage Band have been working hard in rehearsals preparing for this year's tour to the Big Band Blast in Port Macquarie. This will be a bittersweet experience, as it is the final tour for many members of the band who are in Year 12. However we intend to make the most of the experience and enjoy this year's musical theme – Mowtown Soul!

Band members are selling chocolates to offset the costs of the tour – so buy a Freddo and support our musicians!



The GRC Stage band - pictured here at the 2015 Big Band Blast.

Stage Band Report:

Being part of the stage band and playing drums amongst a group of talented musicians, is indeed a lucky privilege for myself to experience the jazz environment. Though I have only started learning the drums since the end of year 9, when I attended GRC Hurstville Boys, I still have a lot to learn from my peers in the stage band whether the genre ranges from rock to jazz.

The stage band group has really helped me out in learning the aspects of music and performing with confidence. At the end of the day, music is all about having fun and should be enjoyed for entertainment. My recent drum solo of 'Sing Sing Sing' is a HSC major piece for my music 1 performance exam. I was

inspired by famous drummers such as Benny Goodman, Buddy Rich, Daniel Glass and many more.

By Edmund Siu Y12

CAPA Report:

All students have now settled into the term and Year 12 have completed their half-yearly performances. As we approach the holidays, students need to turn their attention to completing their major works, which should be well underway. The sooner projects are completed, the sooner teachers can help students refine and polish their work in Term 2, ready for submission early Term 3. Here are some suggestions for holiday preparation on Major Works:

Music 1 – rehearse performances, finalise ensemble members, complete compositions, create a playlist of aural samples for viva voces, type up your viva voce outline.

Music 2 and Extension – rehearse performances, complete core composition and create score, update entries in composition diary, type draft of musicology essays.

Visual Arts and Ceramics – complete or further extend work on your Body of Work, update VAPD.

Drama – rehearse Individual Performance, meet up with your Group Performance members, complete all drafts of design projects and start on final versions, scripts, create final draft edit of film projects and update your logbook for all projects.

Dance – rehearse core and major performances, complete compositions and rehearse with your dancer. for submission:

Subject	Trial HSC	HSC Examination
Dance	Week 1, Term 3	Week 4, Term 3
Drama	Week 3, Term 3 Dates (Showcase)	Week 6, Term 3
Music 1	Week 3-4, Term 3 (Showcase)	Week 8, Term 3
Music 2	Week 3-4, Term 3 (Showcase)	Week 8-9, Term 3
Visual Arts	Week 3, Term 3	Week 8, Term 3 (Submission)

RECYCLING REPORT

Clean Up Australia Day 2016

On Friday the 4th of March, the following students volunteered to clean up the grounds of GRC Oatley Senior Campus: Sinead McCormack, Daichanel Ifopo, Janet Omotade, Kavya Saxena, Ellyn Cho, Latisha Carey, Nataszia Pawlicka and Feryial Merhi.



It was fantastic to see these students participate in such an important community event. They did an amazing job and special thanks goes to Ms Rayward and Mrs Morrison for helping out on the afternoon.

By Ms R Burgess
GRC Oatley Environment Coordinator

ENGINEERING STUDIES – 2015 RESULTS

BY MR POLYZOIDIS

Congratulations to the 2015 year 12 Engineering Studies class. The students in this cohort were committed to their studies and their hard work has paid off. Their HSC results were above state average by 1.49%. A tremendous effort by all. Six out of the eight students are now studying Engineering at UTS, Wollongong & TAFE.

Their success is contributed firstly to their hard work throughout the course. Secondly, incorporating theoretical with practical hands on work in class, using actual testing equipment allowed students to view the cell microstructures of the materials before and after testing. This equipment is used by engineers such as a Tensile Tester, Bending Tester, Shear Tester, Hardness Tester, Specimen Preparation and Polishing, Microscopes both traditional and modern USB models.

We were fortunate to have this equipment donated by the Industrial Arts departments from GRC Hurstville and GRC Peakhurst Campuses as they no longer had use for it. As an Engineering Science teacher, my aim was to bring the real world into the classroom. I created an Engineering Studies Learning Wall in the back of my classroom to help students consolidate their learning. This is an interactive wall which makes reference to the syllabus and once students completed their practical work, they were given the opportunity to display it under the relevant topic.

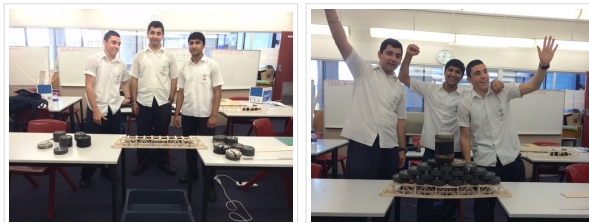


Excursions included visits to The University of Wollongong Engineering Day where students spent the entire day participating in introductory courses designed by the university engineering department to give students a taste of the various facets of Engineering.



The Bridges excursion consisted of visits to The Sydney Harbour Bridge, The Anzac Bridge and the decommissioned Glebe Island Bridge. This experience exposed students to the scope of each structure and the building material used throughout the decades to construct these bridges.

Students were then asked to put this learning experience into practice by designing a miniature scaled bridge in class made from balsa wood. Each bridge was then individually tested to see how much weight it could withhold. The winning design was a truss bridge which carried a total 34 kilograms over a span of 600mm. The total weight of the balsa wood bridge was 120 grams. This bridge design carried 284 times its own weight.



<http://vimeo.com/161850556>

The aeronautical unit allowed students to learn about aircrafts. Their task was to make model planes from paper / cardboard and then recreate their design using balsa wood. Aircrafts were tested in a Wind Tunnel designed by the class using photocopier boxes and a fan.

Overall the students throughout the course worked as a team. No opportunity was wasted. They supported each other throughout the learning process and their results truly do reflect this.

I am very proud of these students and I wish them all the best in their future careers.

Mr. Dimitrios J. Polyzoidis
TAS Department GRC Oatley Senior College

WELFARE REPORT by Robyn Watkins




THINK YOU KNOW...

- › HOW YOUNG PEOPLE USE TECHNOLOGY?
- › HOW TO HELP THEM OVERCOME CHALLENGES ONLINE?
- › HOW TO REPORT IF THINGS GO WRONG?

ThinkUKnow Australia is a cyber safety education program that educates parents, carers and teachers about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

THURSDAY 7 APRIL 2016
7.00PM - 8.30PM
HURSTVILLE LIBRARY

Bookings essential go to www.hurstville.nsw.gov.au/lmg or go to www.thinkuknow.org.au to find out more.

FREE

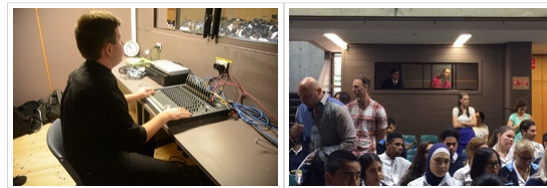







STUDENT REPORTS

LUKE DE VALLIANT



In a College of Opportunity.

As the saying goes 'time flies, when you're having fun', but then again so does school. So what really describes school and its environment? Why all the rules?

We all know what I'm about to say. Essentially, its to enhance our learning and cognitive thinking towards problem solving and sets you up for a wild adventure that your parents call work or the real world. Ideally, we all know the purpose of why we work hard at school, but that shouldn't stop us from showing mutual respect.

So what is Respect?

Well, I'll leave it up to you to think about because it's a pretty simple concept. Specifically, if you want to learn at school, especially GRC, show respect and strive to achieve your personal best, that's all your teachers and parents wish for. To year 11 in particular, don't stress over disappointing results. In time and with practice, you will improve and learn from your mistakes. My advice to you is to start studying now if you haven't already for your half yearly exams. It will help trust me.

See respect and learning go hand in hand. Fundamentally guys, if you want to see good results, aim for excellence. Your work ethic will need to improve in order for you to gain the skills you will need in the HSC and beyond. Think outside the box, and your friends, teachers and family will be there to support you, the whole way through.

Have a balance:

Although personally, I am involved with many extra-curricular activities, and yes it does take time away from school work, it is important to have a balance. These experiences enrich your ability to communicate effectively with others and problem solve. The main reason I am involved in SRC, the PBL college committee, White Ribbon and the GRC Stage band is that this is my way of giving back a little extra to the college that has shaped me and still continues to. It is my way of saying thankyou for the blessed education I am receiving and the life lessons I have learnt at this school.

The opportunity to be involved in the school has been a privilege. Being able to have a say and contribute to decisions, has shaped who I am today. So seek the balance you need if you don't already have it, put your hand up for something and seize an opportunity, it might challenge or change you for the better. Throughout the journey, remember to be dignified and show respect to the people around you, the school and its facilities that are here to help you enhance your ability to learn.

Success is not final, failure is not fatal, it is the courage to continue that counts. – Winston Churchill.



By Luke Le Vaillant (Year 12 Student)

SARAH TESORIERO – BLUE RIBBON EASTER SHOW

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Tesoriero of Year 11.

Sarah has won in her First Place, Second Place and Third Place in the Cake Making Divisions at the 2016 Royal Easter Show.



PACFEST – BY MR MUNROE



<http://vimeo.com/161851462>

SPORTS REPORT - Sport in Brief by Mr. Buttler

Term 1, 2016 has been one of the most successful terms on record, with a host of outstanding individual and team performances.

Swimming

Our small, but powerful team represented with determination and pride at the Sydney East Carnival. Well done to Mitchell Ede, Melissa Henry, Shakeela Martin, Nuntawun Sathapanasethe and Emily Webber.

Special mention must go to Nuntawun, who represented in three events at the highly competitive CHS carnival at Homebush. Well done team.



<http://vimeo.com/161851688>

Cross-country

An elite band of distance runners took part in the GRC carnival with Peakhurst Campus at Gannons Park. It is pleasing to see so many talented runners at our campus and we will be sending a very strong team to the St George Zone Carnival in Term two. Congratulations to our age champions:

- Lauren Chappell – 16 Girls
- Emily Webber – 17 + Girls
- Connor Ryan – 17 + Boys

Basketball

The boys' squad progressed through the Sydney East draw with emphatic victories over Newtown Performing Arts and Blakehurst High. Momentum was eventually halted by a well drilled and talented Rose Bay outfit. Congratulations to all of our boys and in particular, Charles Cox and Christian Diones who were selected in the Sydney East Squad.

Our girls' team also played with admirable determination when they met a well drilled and star studded Alexandria Park. Our girls fought bravely, but were eventually beaten by the better team on the day. Special mention must go to our star guard, Racquel Villavicencio and our brave skipper, Casey Dimitriou.

Touch

Well done to our girls touch team, with an emphatic 8-0 hammering of Gynea High. The team developed great understanding and team work in a very short time, particularly the almost telepathic connection between Khaya Holmwood and Tatiana Waitere, who totally dominated the game. Good luck in round two against the highly fancied Woollooware High.

Baseball

Our boys baseball team had a tough first round encounter against Menai High. The team hit the lead on the back of some impressive pitching by Lachlan Beccaris, Craig Emmerson and Brandon Toko. Unfortunately the game was blown open in the sixth inning, with Menai hitting six runs. This proved the deciding factor in the match as Menai won a thriller 10-9. Special mention must also go to Lachlan Straney, who has represented the college for five years, since beginning as a fresh faced year eight student.

Netball

This has been the success story of the term. A true College team comprising of GRC Peakhurst, GRC Penshurst and GRC Oatley students. The girls were outstanding in rounds one and two of the central venue day at Sylvania.

Our mighty team warmed up with a resounding victory over Sylvania High, however, this was only the entrée. The main course was served with a feast of goals and a nail-biting encounter against our nemesis, Woollooware High. Our brave girls won a see-sawing affair by a point, in what must be the College's finest netball victory.

Good luck in the final eight round at Menai in July.

BASKETBALL KNOCKOUT BY MR POLYZOIDIS



Having had a convincing win against Newtown Performing Art High School a few weeks earlier, the team was confident but at the same time humble about the teams they were about to play at Sutherland Basketball Stadium. As they walked onto the first

court to get ready for their first match against Kirrawee HS, the boys were checking out their opposing teams and noticed that these teams had a wealth of experience behind them.

The boys had a convincing win against Kirrawee of 53 to 23. A great team effort from all.

Through to the second round, the boys played Rose Bay High. During the warm up it was clearly evident this was going to be a difficult match. Till about half time the score was neck to neck 20-20 until Rose Bay took the lead winning 58 – 32.

Regardless of the loss, the boys played the best they have ever played. They displayed great sportsmanship and the school is extremely proud of their efforts.

Two of our players - **Charles Cox** of year 12 and **Christian Diodes** of year 11 have been selected to play in the Zone basketball team. Well Done boys!



BASEBALL KNOCKOUT – MICHAEL FEENING

GRC Oatley Senior College Vs Menai High School.

The boys travelled to Barden Ridge Oval for their knockout encounter with Menai High School.

With Lachlan as starting pitcher the team got off to a good start heading into the 5th inning up 7-2 after some strong batting performances from the whole team. Unfortunately, in the 5th inning Menai was able to capitalise on a couple of defensive errors to go ahead 8-7 and never relinquished their lead taking out the game 12-10.

Some strong performances from Lachlan Straney with the bat and some great plays from the catcher while Lachlan Beccaris provided a good starting platform from the mound. The boys played well and were unlucky not to regain the lead in the final inning with a loaded base hit from Lachlan Straney being hauled in by right field stopping the go ahead runs.



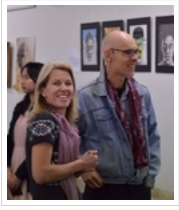
SCHOOL ASSEMBLY PHOTOS & VIDEO PERORMANCE

<http://vimeo.com/161852304>

<http://vimeo.com/161852303>

FAREWELL MRS KENTWELL – ANGELA PRYCE

FAREWELL MS KENTWELL



GRC Oatley has farewelled one of its longest serving staff members, Ms Stephanie Kentwell. Ms Kentwell worked tirelessly in the Art and Ceramics department since the founding of GRC Oatley. She made an enormous contribution to the school, as a teacher,

Year Advisor, relieving Head Teacher, mentor and working on many CAPA performance projects behind the scenes and painting amazing backdrops. Ms Kentwell coordinated the annual HSC Visual Arts and Ceramics exhibitions, which are a highlight of the school calendar.

She will be sadly missed by staff and students but we wish her all the very best at her new home at Cronulla High School.

Stephanie Kentwell – pictured here with Mr Chapman at one of the many HSC Art Exhibitions she has coordinated at GRC Oatley.