



Cnr Oatley Ave & Hurstville Rd
 Oatley NSW 2223
 Subscribe: <https://grcoatley.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: oatleysnr-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
 Phone: 02 8567 3700
 Fax: 02 9570 3622



4 September 2019

Principal's Report



Department of Education Service Certificates

It is with pleasure that we recognise staff who have spent their working life making a difference to students and giving so much to public education. Congratulations to:

- Ms Danika Kalan and Mr Kamal Singh for 20 years of Service to Public Education in NSW
- Ms Sophie Ventouris for 30 years of Service to Public Education in NSW
- Mr Andrew Salter who was notified by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) that he has achieved accreditation at Proficient Teacher.



2019 VET SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AWARD

What a year we have had at GRC Oatley Senior Campus! In 2019 we have been recognised as catering for all types of learners in our care. This is an excellent example of how **'Every student is known, valued and cared for in our school'**.

This year, once again, we were recognised for our outstanding HSC Value added data. The Department of Education has indicated that our value added data (ie: whether we make a difference for our students and add growth to their learning) is sitting at **EXCELLING** and has done so for the last 3 years.

Last week we attended The 2019 Vocational Education and Training Awards at Bankstown Sports Club. It was a night to celebrate the dedication of students, parents, schools and

community partners who contribute to the Vocational Education and Training of over 10,000 students.

Vocational Education and Training courses:

- are designed for all students
- are offered to students in Years 9 – 12
- are dual-accredited and lead towards Certificate I, II or III qualification
- contribute to further studies at TAFENSW, Private Colleges and University
- allow students to acquire work related skills and hands on experiences.

At the Ceremony, we were awarded the **2019 VET SCHOOL OF THE YEAR**. This nomination recognises the school for our excellence and commitment to Vocational Education and Training.

Eight of our students were also recognised last night and were presented with Excellence Awards in their chosen framework. Congratulations to all the award winners and can I also mention the staff, parents and families who attended to support our school. Award winners are as follows:

- **Stephanie Keremelevska** – VET BUSINESS SERVICES STUDENT OF THE YEAR
- **Jeremy Alysandratos** – VET Entertainment Industry Diligence Award
- **Michael Campagna** - VET Entertainment Industry Excellence Award
- **Costa Ilioglou** – VET Construction Excellence Award
- **Xanthe Ingamells** – VET Hospitality Food and Beverage Excellence Award
- **Julie Khuyag** – VET Retail Services Excellence Award
- **Vivian Liang** – VET Hospitality Kitchen Operations Excellence Award
- **Erin-Rose Wardrop** – VET Sports Coaching Excellence Award

A big thank you to our Head Teacher VET, Rebecca Jamieson and their teachers who work tirelessly and go above and beyond to ensure students meet competencies and work placement hours.



STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Kate McRae – Deputy Principal



Years at GRC Oatley

Appointed Deputy Principal at GRC Oatley in 2012

Subject Area

Careers and Vocational Education

Previous School

GRC Hurstville Campus and Consultancy

Why did you become a teacher?

Because education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Favourite Holiday Destination

One with snow and a ski resort

Favourite Food

Mangoes

Your Quirkiest Trait

Double jointed thumbs

Favourite Joke

Two cows were standing in a paddock. One cow said moo. The other cow said oh my god, I was going to say that.

Scott MacKenzie – Deputy Principal (Relieving)

Anything Savoury, but Probably Seafood and eat it!

Your Quirkiest Trait

Gee, so many! Probably my Superhero ties.

Favourite Joke

An atom walks into a bar and tells the barman

"I've just lost an electron!"

The barman says "are you sure?"

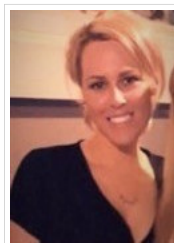
"Yes, I'm positive!"

Then a Neutron walks in and orders a beer.

He asks the Barman "how much?"

The barman replies "for you, NO CHARGE!"

Name: Sarah Potter – Youth Worker



Years at GRC Oatley

2 weeks

Subject Area

Youth Work

Previous School

Alternative Education Program

Why did you become a Youth worker?

To support young people through a challenging time.

Favourite Holiday Destination

USA

Favourite Food

White bread

Your Quirkiest Trait

Listening to very alternative music

Favourite Joke

Why is it hard to explain Puns to Kleptomaniacs? Because they take things literally.

Scott MacKenzie – Deputy Principal (Relieving)



Years at GRC Oatley

5 years permanent and 4 years cross campus teaching

Subject Area

Science (Chemistry, Physics and Biology)

Previous School

GRC Penshurst (10 yrs), GRC Hurstville (2 yrs) GRC Peakhurst (1 yr)

Why did you become a teacher?

For the 12 weeksholidays a year. That and the high rate of pay!

Favourite Holiday Destination

Camping with my family

Favourite Food

2019 Deadly Kids Doing Well Awards



The Deadly Kids Awards is a successful initiative that has been implemented by the Department of Education since 2009. The awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding talents of Indigenous students and the outstanding contribution of both Aboriginal and non-aboriginal staff in NSW Public Education.

It was with immense pride and excitement that students, families, teachers, Aboriginal Education staff and special guests entered The Great Hall of the University of Technology on Friday 2nd August to celebrate the successes of our Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander students at the 2019 Deadly Kids Doing Well Awards.

A big congratulations goes to William Neville (Year 11) who was awarded a Deadly Kids Doing Well Award. The awards are a highlight of the Public Schools NSW Aboriginal Education calendar each year. They celebrate the academic achievements, leadership skills and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in NSW public schools.



Congratulations GRC ENSEMBLES!

On Sunday 28/7/19, the GRC Stage Band and the GRC Combined Concert Band competed in the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival. The festival is held over several weeks at various locations in Sydney.

Results:

- **Gold Award:** GRC Combined Concert Band – Dreyfus Concert Band Event
- **Silver Award:** RC Stage Band – John Morrison Big Band Event



Some of the proud Concert Band members with their Gold Award.

Back row: Patrick Butler – Peakhurst, Sarah Butler – Oatley, Jacinta Smith – Oatley, Dominique Smith – Penshurst, Thomas Jensen – Hurstville, Nicholas Solomos – Peakhurst.

Front row: Kaylee Butler – Peakhurst, Zoe Butler – Peakhurst)

Thanks to **Mrs Angela Pryce** (GRC Oatley Senior Campus) who conducted the ensembles.

CAPA Showcase

What an outstanding display of GRC Oatley talent. Our CAPA Showcase was a wonderful success on all 3 nights – Monday 5th August, Tuesday 6th August and Wednesday 7th August. There was a great vibe in the audience and, for that matter, on stage. Student performances were sensational. It is hard to pick

a favourite. Year 11 and 12 Entertainment students were hard at work behind the scenes keeping the show running smoothly.

Congratulations goes to all of the performing students and their dedicated teachers, who gave up so much of their time. It takes an enormous amount of organisation, time and energy to co-ordinate more than 60 performances over 3 nights. The annual showcase tradition would not be possible without the hard work of the CAPA staff. A big thank you must go to Angela Pryce, Annette Lynch, Anastasia Cardillo and Scott Gerrard.

Emily Spyrou – Gymnastics

Congratulations to Emily Spyrou in Year 11 for her outstanding achievements in gymnastics. Emily attended the Women's Artistic Championships on Thursday 8th August as part of the NSW CHS Gymnastics Team. She placed 1st on vault and overall placed 7th. An outstanding achievement for Emily who is dedicated to her sport. She is a proud ambassador of our school and really demonstrated our three core values of Respect, Responsibility and Aiming for Excellence.



Year 12 Graduation

Our Year 12 Graduation will be held on Friday 27th September at the Sydney Town Hall. The prime focus of this event is for students to have the opportunity to celebrate with their parents, teachers and year group, the successful completion of six years of secondary schooling graduating from Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus.

The event starts at 10.30am. Year 12 are required to be at the venue by 9:45am. We look forward to seeing you at this event. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from our front office from Monday 2nd September until Wednesday 25th September. Each student may purchase a maximum of 4 guest tickets.

Year 12 Formal

Our Year 12 Formal will be held on Wednesday 25th September from 6.00pm -11.00pm (arrivals from 6.00pm) at Doltone House Sylvania Waters. This is a school event. Staff will be in attendance and students will be required to stay for the duration of the function. Parents are welcome to watch the arrivals at the beginning of the event.

SASS Recognition Week

Last week was SASS recognition week. We are fortunate to be supported by 17 wonderful administrative and support staff who do everything from managing finances, enrolments, rolls and attendance, answering phones to helping teachers, parents and visitors, supporting students with learning difficulties, tending to the gardens and maintenance, managing building projects, assisting in Science labs, the kitchen and the library.... and the list goes on. We simply could not function without them.

SASS Staff are a dedicated group of professional workers who are often overlooked in the school setting. Recognition Week gives the whole school the opportunity to demonstrate to them that they are valued members of the school community and to recognise them for their hard work and dedication. In honour of their work, a lunch was held to celebrate with, and thank, this terrific group of people.



On our last lesson, we measured the abiotic factors in both the open woodland and the quarry lake. We made quantitative measurements which included using the soil probe to test the soil moisture and pH level and a portable meter to test the salinity, temperature and the pH levels of the lake water. While testing the measurements for the quarry lake, we spotted the one and only eel we have in the lake. Even though we were only given three lessons, we were able to uncover the abundance and distribution of biodiversity within our school.

Science Faculty

Science Report

Invitation for the National Titration competition



Congratulations to the following Year 11 titration competition participants for receiving an invitation to participate in RACI NSW National titration competition:

- Dheeraj Panjwani
- Jackson Chen
- Jordan Xirodimas

The competition will be held on Saturday 14th September at UNSW, Chemical Science building. We wish them good luck in their adventure.

During week 4 of this term, Year 11 Biology students were given three lessons to take part in field work to explore our own Oatley campus. This included open woodlands and the quarry lake. In the field study, the students observed the biodiversity of each area, comparing the difference in the flora and fauna.

One day one, we had some time to observe the variety of bird species in each area and counted how many of each species that inhabit the environment. At the lake, we saw pacific black ducks, ibises and to our surprise, a mother masked lapwing with her two chicks waddling by her feet. We walked around and noted the different types of relationship between the organisms as well as the relationship with the environment. We observed magpies and mynas fighting for food sources at the open woodland and the algae providing resources for the organisms in the lake.

On day 2, we used quadrats and transects to find the abundance and distribution of the plants found in the open woodlands.