This year in Education Week we have been asked to reflect on how public education has changed since the 50’s to the present time. The theme this year is “lighting the way to a better world.”

In the past discipline has been more punitive with the teacher totally in control and the child was voiceless and did not have the authority to express opinion or be part of the decision making process. I’m sure many of us can remember the sting of the cane, a harsh tongue lashing or feeling we didn’t get to tell our side of the story. Minor incidents were dealt with more harshly; not in a straight line a wack on the back of bare legs by the teacher, not knowing you tables embarrassed and stood apart from your peers; daring to be different was often a reason for segregation.

Now in our school we have reflection not detention; there is no corporal punishment. Students are encouraged to talk about incidents even if they were in the wrong. The aim is to change behaviour by assisting children to make better choices and to understand there are consequences for their actions. In our school we do not tolerate aggression, bullying or any other behaviours that hurt others psychologically or physically. We do not use fear as a tool to change behaviour as it has short term effects; we use encouragement and skill development so students want to be better people.

Less conflict and learning to resolve issues peacefully surely has to be the flame to “lighting the way to a better world.”

There was a focus on the 3R’s: Reading, Writing and Arithmetic in decades past but now the curriculum is so diverse it allows all students lights to shine. In our school we have a focus on the basics that build the foundations for learning but we know that the world has so much more to offer that we want to give our students a taste of what they may have a talent for and can pursue into their adult years. Areas offered such as art, music, dance, public speaking, photography, science, technology, sport, gymnastics, camp, excursions, incursions, choir and so much more. We hope we can ignite a light of desire to pursue and excel in as many areas as possible nurturing the growth of the whole child.

Teaching in the 21st Century is more individualised as we now know every one of us learns at a different rate and that we all can achieve success. We are not all reading the same book, being delivered the same content. We work a lot more in groups developing the skills of collaboration, turn-taking, listening to others and reporting back about what has been learnt. When I was in Year 6 watching the landing on the moon felt surreal but children are now taking virtual tours through a museum, talking to other students from schools across the country whilst sitting in one of our classrooms. Learning is now about engaging, exciting and inspiring students to be creative, confident, active and informed citizens who can light the way to a better world.

Our schools are more culturally diverse now and accepting of differences. Support for students with special education needs, gifted and talented students and students learning English as an additional language are inclusive of our teaching framework. We are now taught about tolerance; we look for similarities between us and celebrate our differences.

Students with disabilities make up a large portion of our student population and we are all the better for it as it broadens our understanding of the real world beyond the school gate. Public schools do not discriminate and we should all be proud of that. In the past many students were segregated for a variety of reasons.

Now it is common place to see parents working about the school in diverse roles. School business has become much more transparent. Our finances, policies, assessment results and reports are there for all to see, there is no secrecy as we are proud of what we are doing in this school. Parents are an integral part of each day in classrooms, in the sporting arena, raising funds to support improved education and assist with the operation of the school. Parents, teachers, Department representatives and community come together for one purpose to light the way to successful learning for the children of Oakdale Public School.

A major shift has been the focus on student wellbeing. We place emphasis on programs that lead to a healthy lifestyle. We encourage healthy eating, exercise, getting enough sleep, engaging with age appropriate content, being respectful and many more areas that will assist students lead active, healthy and productive lifestyles. Mental health issues have risen nationwide which has been an area schools have had to become skilled in; to assist students develop strategies to cope with anxiety and other concerns. Making adjustments to accommodate students’ needs is something we are trying to improve on a continual basis. Lighting the way to a better world for all students.

As schools become more and more accountable with each passing decade teachers are regularly involved in professional development, their efficiency is constantly monitored there is one thing we are sure of that we are illuminating our students days with fond memories that they will pass on to their children about the school days at Oakdale PS.

I am a Chipping Norton Public School and it is 1969, I’m in Year 6. I’ve just had to hold my nose to gulp down lime green milk warm from sitting in the sun or stay in with the principal. My next lesson is scripture and unfortunately I made a paper aeroplane with I love Nigel Holt on it. I tried to glide it through the small space between us but it was swept up in a current of air and hit the nun in the forehead. Whilst out on the verandah Mr Becker takes my school captain badge and tosses it in the grass for terrible conduct. The bell rings and I can’t wait to have lunch; a pecks paste sandwich on white bread wrapped in grease proof paper, it’s as dry as an old boot but I wash it down with diluted orange cordial. Ah the good old days!

After school my sister and I have thruppence to buy a cream bun from Coles New World in Liverpool. I’m going to break it in half this time as she always gets the half with the jam and cream and I get the dry bun. You wait I’m going to tell mum I scream.

No system is going to be perfect but I’ve learnt to make the most of what you’ve got.

Let’s continue to work together to light the way to a better world!
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECENTLY VISITED THE TREASURE CHEST. YOU HAVE ALL BEEN TRYING VERY HARD TO DO YOUR BEST IN CLASS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Alyvia Bond, Alex Tait Palummo, Ryan Young, Aedan Hannigan, Paige Fraser, Hayley Austin, Alex Tait-Palummo, Deegan Attard, Liisa Lehtonen, Charlie Hooper, Morgan Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Joel Harvey, David Milne, Chris Fordham, Phoenix Chelin, Lily Hooper, Emma Palmer, Claire Sproule, Zahli Hoare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2H</td>
<td>Zac Crawford, Josh Graham, Xander Reid, Joshua Ryan, Timothy Prout, Blake Takiari, Talina Seisun, Jake Griggs, Seth Attard, Suvi Lehtonen,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Lauryn Takiari, Joel Graham, Stephanie Fordham, William Milne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Zoe Palmer, Tori Davis, Tori Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5F</td>
<td>Taylor-Lee Johns, Maddison Hartshorne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Swim School 2014

Unfortunately we have to cancel Swim School for 2014 due to numbers. We understand that at this time people are unable to afford to pay this amount. The price of buses to transport the students to and from the pool is becoming too expensive. Mrs Bailey will be reimbursing money to those parents who have paid deposits over the next week.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2015

We are now enrolling for Kindergarten 2015. Forms are available at the office. We will be sending forms home with siblings if we know they have a brother or sister starting in Kindergarten next year. Your swift return of paperwork is appreciated.

Change of Arrangements for Staff Development Days

The staff of Oakdale Public School have made arrangements to come to school on Saturday, 21st June, 2014 and Saturday, 13th September to continue working on the implementation of the English Syllabus K-10. As we are committed to the delivery of well-planned and programmed lessons staff will be working on how to take the content from the new English Syllabus and turn it into engaging units of work for the classroom.

The last day of school for students would be Wednesday, 17th of December, 2014 with no staff here on the Thursday (18th) and Friday (19th). These are the same as the arrangements made in 2012 and 2013. If you have any queries about these arrangements please contact the school on 46596251 and speak with Mrs Green.
My name is Simone and on the 28th April 2014 I was diagnosed with lung cancer which had spread to my liver and has now spread to my bones. For those of you who know me and for those of you who don’t I am sure that you can relate to my story. Like many of you I am a mum. I am a mother of 8 children with 2 step children also. My kids range in age from 24yrs to 6months old. Of those children, 8 of them live at home still and I have 5 children with Autism and other related disabilities. I am very tough and am not going to lie down and let this beat me. I need to be here for my children as I am sure you can understand as they are my life and always will be.

It is absolutely shattering to be given a cancer diagnosis and be told that you may have only a year to live. To even think about that you may not see your daughter’s first birthday or your other children grow up is absolutely gut wrenching and the most debilitating sadness in this whole world. Every time I think about my children and their futures and the possibility that I may not be a part of it I am brought to tears because I just cannot imagine life without them or their life without me. No-one ever does it the same way your mum does and like all mum’s out there I have my way of doing things which my kids live by. Whether it’s a kiss goodnight or tucking them into bed, picking them up when they fall or great encouragement for doing well or trying their best I am always there to give it and can’t imagine not being there and that’s why I am not giving up without a fight.

I am very busy and always on the go. I rarely get sick as I have a very positive attitude and really just do not have time! That may sound silly but it works for me. My life and my children keep me going. I manage all my children’s therapies and everything else they do. This is a full time job and that is why I plan to be here for a long time regardless of this cancer diagnosis. They need me and I most definitely need them!

I am asking for your help so that I can raise enough money to go overseas for medical treatment which has been extremely successful for others with cancer and has given them many more years of life. I also hope that I will get many more years of life with this treatment and so I hope that you can find it in your heart to make a donation. It doesn’t matter if it is big or small as everything count.

I thankyou very much for taking the time to read my story and thankyou for your help!

Please share this link with everyone you know so that people can donate!

Kind Regards

Simone

The staff at Oakdale Public School will be organising a hamper to raffle to support Mrs Micallef through this difficult time. Your support is appreciated. Tickets will go out next week.

FATHER’S DAY STALL

This year our Father’s Day Stall will be held on Wednesday 3rd September. If you are able to volunteer on the day please contact Kalika Austin
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3 Week 5</th>
<th>3B</th>
<th>4L</th>
<th>5F</th>
<th>6W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Myia Tabone x 2</td>
<td>Caitlyn Hartshorne x 2</td>
<td>Zoe Palmer x 2</td>
<td>Maddison Hartshorne x 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Tyrus William</td>
<td>Reanna Thornton x 3</td>
<td>Charlene McKinlay</td>
<td>Sarah Hooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Madelyn Russell</td>
<td>Charlie Roberts</td>
<td>Brooke Campbell x 5</td>
<td>Dylan Newham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Katie Chelin</td>
<td>Hayley Underwood</td>
<td>Ebonnie Brincat</td>
<td>Taylor-Lee Johns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Dylan Palmer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joshua Young</td>
<td>Shaylee Robinson x 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>William Milne</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Dalton x 2</td>
<td>Joshua Prout x 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Stephanie Fordham x 3</td>
<td>Bilal Dirani</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Webber x 2</td>
<td>Tori Davis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Kailyn Harvey</td>
<td>Tori Ryan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Owen Ryan</td>
<td>Lydia Foster x 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Emily Roberts x 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Ava New</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Star Student:</strong></td>
<td>Mitchell Nash x 3</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**KB**

**Term 3 Week 4**
- Alyvia Bond X3
- Ryan Young X3
- Liisa Lehtonen X2
- Alex Tait-Palummo X3
- Morgan Scott X2
- Lachlan Russell X2
- Paige Fraser X2
- Deegan Attard
- Matthew Prout, Jed Palmer
- Hayley Austin, Charlie Hooper
- Angus Richardson
- Aedan Hannigan X3

**Student of the Week:**
Paige Fraser

**Term 3 Week 5**
- Lachlan Russell
- Liisa Lehtonen X2
- Samuel Walker X2
- Angus Richardson
- Alex Tait-Palummo X3
- Brody Hartshorne X2
- Charlie Hooper
- Ryan Young X2

**Student of the Week:**
Matthew Prout

**IC**

**Term 3 Week 4**
- Reagan Austin
- Esther Brown
- Zahli Hoare
- Kuljas Kapoor
- David Milne
- Ella-May Dern

**Artist Award**
Lachlan Russell

**Writer Award**
Aedan Hannigan

**Term 3 Week 5**
- Lily Hooper, Bindi Woods
- Esther Brown, David Milne
- Torin Rowland X3
- Georgia Griffin
- Chris Fordham X3
- Phoenix Chelin X4
- Emma Palmer X2
- Claire Sproule, Zahli Hoare
- Ella-May Dern X2
- Ashley Barnes

**Student of the Week:**
Lily Hooper

**2H**

**Term 3 Week 4**
- Joshua Ryan
- Xander Reid X2
- Blake Takiari X2
- Seth Attard X2
- Josh Graham, Tim Prout
- Savannah Dancuo, Jacob Burley
- Suvi Lehtonen
- Nash Brackenrig
- Jackson New, Zac Crawford

**Student of the Week:**
Jackson New

**Term 3 Week 5**
- Joshua Ryan
- Xander Reid
- Seth Attard
- Bowyn Scott
- Tim Prout
- Jake Griggs X3
- Suvi Lehtonen X3

**Student of the Week:**
Joshua Ryan
OAKDALE SPORTING NEWS

Milo Cup Cricket

On Friday 8th August this term, I had the absolute pleasure of taking the senior boys and senior girls’ cricket teams to Tahmoor Oval to play against other teams from our area. The weather was beautiful and the day was very capably run by NSW Cricket. Each of the teams played four games. The senior boys were at a slight disadvantage because there were only seven of them in the team due to a student getting sick and being unable to attend. I say the disadvantage was only slight because the boys rose magnificently to the challenge. They played with enthusiasm and skill throughout the four games. It was a measure of their maturity that they organised “double ups” in the batting order and fielding. There were some flashes of individual brilliance but the boys showed real strength as a team. Whilst they weren’t victorious in any of the games, they cheered each other on and generally had a wonderful time on the pitch. The senior girls’ team had a strong line-up of eleven players (including Tori who played at the State Cricket Carnival earlier in the year). They batted triumphantly in pairs and fielded brilliantly. They won the first three games convincingly and had a very close match-up in the last deciding game. They just lost by a narrow margin (nine runs) and were thrilled to be runners up in the final. NSW Cricket also provided music whilst the teams were playing and it was a charming spectacle to see a large amount of cricketers dancing throughout the day. (Special mention must be made of Dylan’s groovy moves at the start!). So congratulations to the following cricketers, you have made our school proud!


Mrs Fuller

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Notes have been sent home to all students eligible to compete at the Zone Athletics Carnival on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September at the Campbelltown Athletics Facility. Please return notes by Tuesday 26th August so as transport details can be arranged and further notes sent out. If your child/ren is/are not attending please let Mr Barr or Mr Luckman know as soon as possible. Please make sure that competitors are on time, especially for the 800 metres which begin to marshal prior to 9am. Children that are late run the risk of missing their event. Please note that the carpark (60 spots) on Pembroke Road will be used for officials and team managers ONLY this year. There are multiple car spots on the Airds Road/Railway carpark. There is an overhead foot bridge and a lift that can be used. Pedestrians then follow the fence and enter through the bottom gate in between Wests Leagues and The Tennis Club. It is all fully sign posted. There is also a large area and turning circle there if children are just being dropped off. Below is the order of events for both days.

ORDER OF EVENTS: 1.9.14

| 1. | 800 m Jnr, 11 yrs, 12/13 yrs |
| 2. | Junior Long Jump           |
|     | 11 Years High Jump         |
|     | 12/13 Years Discus         | 4. | Junior High Jump           |
|     |                             | 5. | Junior Discus              |
|     |                             |     | 11 Years Shot Put          |
|     |                             |     | 12/13 Years Shot Put       |
| 3. | Junior Shot Put            |
|     | 11 Years Long Jump         |
|     | 12/13 Years High Jump      | 6. |                             |
| 4. |                           |
| 5. |                             |
**ORDER OF EVENTS: 2.9.14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>200m heats (Junior, 11 years, 12/13 years)</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td>200m finals (Junior, 11 years, 12/13 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Age Champs Heats (8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 years)</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Age Champs finals (8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Relay Heats (Junior, Senior)</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Relay finals (Junior, Senior)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr Barr

**YEAR 3/4 CAMP**
The Year 3/4 Camp to Yarramundi is fast approaching (just over 2 weeks away.) Only about half of the permission and information notes have been returned at this stage. Please ensure notes are handed in by Monday 25th August to ensure your child/ren is able to attend. Please fill in the forms in as much detail as possible. A further note will be sent home with final details shortly. The coach will be leaving at 8:45am on Thursday 4th September and estimated to return to school by 3:30pm on Friday 5th September.

Mr Barr, Mr Luckman and Mrs Karliotis.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN 3B

3B have been very busy since the last newsletter entry - exploring, investigating, enquiring and learning about many ideas, concepts and subjects. In particular, the subjects of The First Fleet and Space have provided vast learning opportunities and all the students have made engaging discoveries. The excursion to The Rocks and Royal Botanic Gardens was a fantastic learning experience for us all. We have also been studying some quality literature including Refugees, The Twits, The BFG, The Rabbits and currently Ice Bear. In these texts, students look under the surface of the written word and investigate the author’s messages and themes – as well as being interesting stories! It is encouraging to hear from parents, that their children are retelling information from school with enthusiasm. It was also with great pride that the class sang Raining On The Rock at our Education Week assembly. It always amazes me how quickly students are able to learn lyrics. 3B are currently working hard in class and at home to complete their speeches. Their enthusiasm and work ethic in this activity has been a positive experience as they continue to mature and progress throughout the year. Enjoy the work samples below from some of the students from 3B.

COUNTDOWN PET POETRY COMPETITION

3B recently entered the Countdown Magazine Pet Poetry Competition. Here is one of our entries.

My Perfect Pet
My cobra is a scary pet
But I got him at the vet
My cobra is very sneaky
You might even find him creepy
At least he is very tame
But he doesn’t have a mane
Sometimes his appetite goes too high
Then he almost eats his tie
He is great at playing soccer
But he’s not quite a shocker
He is a bit of a king
But he doesn’t want a ring

By William

FIRST FLEET JOURNAL

Students kept a journal of a First Fleet convict, taking on their persona and writing about their feelings on their journey to Botany Bay.

I feel ashamed and I have already forgotten why I am on this ship. There is not one person I know in here. I just stole that wallet so I could survive, not so I could become a criminal. There are many things I don’t have anymore, like my own space and privacy. But I like to think on the positive side. At least I have plenty of mates that are not trying to kill me. Besides leaving my family, I am starting to feel happy. I think I need to stop thinking on the negative side.

By Madelyn
Cricket NSW School Heroes Program

Cricket NSW will be delivering their ‘School Heroes’ program in Term 4 to all K-6 students. The program runs over 4 weeks (Weeks 2 to 5) with students participating in class groups throughout the day. The program will be delivered by qualified, accredited Cricket NSW staff. Students will develop the fundamental skills associated with cricket, while also covering gross motor and movement skills.

The total cost of the program is $12 ($3 per session). All equipment is provided by Cricket NSW. Each student will be exposed to cricket in a fun, inclusive, learning environment, and will also receive other information on how they can continue a healthy and active lifestyle. The program complements the Health and Physical Education syllabus.

What: Cricket NSW School Heroes Program
Who: K-6 students
When: Term 4 (Weeks 2 to 5)
Time: Fridays (different times depending on class)
Where: Oakdale Public School
Total Cost: $12 ($3 per session)

Please complete the following permission slip and return with full payment of $12 directly to the office.

Permission to participate in Term 4 Cricket NSW ‘School Heroes’ Program

I hereby grant permission for my child ______________________ of class _______ to participate in the Cricket NSW School Heroes Program in Term 4.

Enclosed is payment of $12 which covers the duration of the 4 week program (Weeks 2 to 5 on Fridays).

Signed: ______________________________ Parent/Guardian

Date: ___________