

# Oxenford state School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2

2 February 2017

## Date Claimers:

- Parent Information Sessions 7/2/2017
- School Photos 07/03/2017

## Principal's Prose



Welcome to the 2017 school year. A special welcome to those families who are new to Oxenford State School. Our 563 students have had a very smooth start to the school year which is thanks to the effort of staff, parents and of course the students themselves. The vibe in our school in the first two weeks has been very positive with the highlight being how quickly students have embraced their new classroom environments and seamlessly returned to learning.

## Inside this issue:

Principal's Prose	1
Deputy's Desk	3
HUB News	4
Guidance Officer	5
PE & Music	6
Library & Chappy	7
Office	8
P&C	9
Tuckshop	10
Helping Hands	11

Our staff is to be congratulated on their preparations for 2017. All staff were involved in an intensive three day student free day program prior to the start of school. These days of professional development focussed strongly on knowing students as learners. The common theme throughout the days was centred on the very diverse range of children within our Oxenford community and developing an understanding of how we personalise our teaching and learning to suit the needs of all students.

We have an amazing depth of expertise and experience within our staff. This year we are fortunate enough to welcome the following teachers to Oxenford Kim Maroske (5/6K), Sandra Gutierrez (3G), Wendy Nolan (2/3W) and Carole Kendall (Prep K).

Developing positive partnerships and two way communication between school and home are significant factors in supporting students to achieve their potential. Next Tuesday 7 February we will host a Meet the Teacher afternoon. Parents are encouraged to come along to meet with classroom teacher and hear information on year level learning, routines and school expectations. Letters have been sent home, please contact the school if you have any questions.

Year Level	Date	Starting Time	Venue
Prep	Tuesday 7 February	3.10pm	Prep G/K Prep R/O
Year 1	Tuesday 7 February	3.40pm	1D/1L classrooms
Year 2 and 1/2N	Tuesday 7 February	3.10pm	Year 2 classrooms
3M 3T 2/3W	Tuesday 7 February	3.40pm	3M classroom
3G	Wednesday 8 February	3.10pm	3G classroom
Year 4	Tuesday 7 February	3.10pm	4P classroom
Year 5	Tuesday 7 February	3.40pm	5M classroom
Year 6 and 5/6K	Tuesday 7 February	3.10pm	Year 6 classrooms

The change to the morning routine is working really well. Students now have several options about what they do before the school day starts. Students sit in the tuckshop area until 8.15am. From 8.15am students can choose to go the oval for supervised play, to the Library or computer lab and The Hub is also an option. Well done to all students for how well you have managed the change and the positive comments have been well received.



On a personal note I would like to thank the Oxenford school community for the very warm welcome I have been given. I am very excited to have been given the opportunity to lead Oxenford State School for Semester One. Vicki Marchmont told me that I would enjoy being part of such a great school and she was certainly right. Our school has much to celebrate but we also know there is plenty of work to do. This year we have a very clear improvement agenda at Oxenford SS – Reading, Positive Behaviour for Learning, Attendance and Teacher’s improving their classroom practice. We all look forward to the challenges of 2017 and encourage our parents and wider school community to be as involved with your school as you can be.

Looking forward to seeing many of you next week at the Meet the Teacher sessions.

Kind Regards

**Shirley Hadwen**

**Acting Principal**

# Deputy's Desk

Welcome back to the 2017 school year, we do hope you enjoyed some quality family time during the holidays and are back at school excited about all the new school year brings with it. To our new families and to the parents of our Prep students we extend a very special welcome. I know there were some very excited Prep students and a few teary parents as they said their goodbyes!

## PBL news

2017 will see the continuation of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) throughout the school. We have some exciting additions to add including further incentives for those students demonstrating great behaviour. We will be having our "hoot" shop where children will be able to choose from a variety of prizes and rewards. Signage will be up in the next few weeks and the message of "Be respectful, Be safe and Be a Learner will be heard everywhere. All students should be congratulated on their efforts so far with their behaviour.

## Religious Education

Religious Education is offered at Oxenford State School for all students from Year 1 to 6. Students are allocated to religious instruction based on information provided by parents on the completed Application for Student Enrolment unless other written instructions have been provided to the school.

Students who are not participating in Religious Education will be provided with other instruction in a separate supervised location. Other instruction must relate to part of a subject area already covered in class and may include, but is not restricted to: wider reading, personal research or revision tasks.

Parents will be advised of any changes to the Religious Instruction program to ensure they are able to make an informed decision on their child's participation. Religious Instruction will commence in the week beginning 6th Feb.

**Dani Radley**

**Deputy Principal**



**Our school photos will be taken on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2017**

For the convenience of our school community, school photos can be ordered and paid for online using a secure online platform. Orders placed online DO NOT require an envelope, cash/cheques or paperwork returned to school.

*Envelope Orders:* photos can also be purchased in the traditional manner using an envelope, with cash/cheque enclosed.

The preference of our school is that orders and payments be made online, as this reduces the administration and associated security issues related to the return of cash & envelopes on photo day.

To place your order visit [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) and enter the code: **M3H 1DX 6L6**. This code can also be found printed on your envelope. Please be aware that:

1. Sibling/Family Photos can be ordered online or via envelope. To ensure a smoothly run photo day, online orders for Sibling/Family Photos will be cut off at 12.00 a.m. the night before our photo day to allow a list of students that require Sibling/Family Photographs taken to be compiled. Sibling photos can still be ordered after the online cut off date by collecting an envelope from the office and returning the envelope on photo day with your payment enclosed.
2. All online orders should be placed on or before our day of photography.
3. The online code above may also be used to order sports and other group photos.

All orders placed online will be delivered to the school for collection

## HUB News

Welcome back to 2017!

The first two weeks of the school year are always very busy as our children settle into their new classes and new routines. This is the second year that children have used a "countdown calendar" to keep track of when school goes back. I am happy to have heard from some families that these were again useful.

The HUB as our school's "special education service" continues to evolve as we respond to the current need of our children with disability. We stand true to our name's meaning **H**elping, **U**nderstanding, **B**elonging and strive, in all that we do, to ensure success for our children.

Below is The HUB Team for 2017, there may be some changes to this as our staffing allocation for this year is finalised over the coming weeks, I will keep you posted.

HUB TEAM 2017	
<b>Head of Special Education Services (HOSES)</b>	Mr Damien Nielsen
<b>Special Education Teacher</b>	Mrs Emma Jensen
<b>Special Education Teacher</b>	Mr Adam Lawson
<b>Guidance Officer</b>	Mrs Kirsty Thiesfield
<b>Support Teacher: Literacy &amp; Numeracy (STLAN)</b>	Mrs Di Kay
<b>Chaplain</b>	Chappy Kirsten
<b>Special Education Teacher's Aide</b>	Mr Clinton Field Mrs Donna Forrest Mrs Cheryl Hainberger Mrs Mandy Richards

**Damien Nielsen**  
**HOSES**

## From the Guidance Officer

Welcome to the new school year! I felt that this article was relevant and interesting considering we are all starting 2017 with a new class and teacher. Enjoy the year with your children and assist them in feeling 'connected' to school.

### Feeling Connected at School

When kids feel part of their school community and are cared for by people at their school, they are less likely to get into trouble. They also have higher levels of emotional well-being.

This feeling of belonging, often called "connectedness," can be especially important during times of stress or when difficult decisions have to be made.

Adults and peers, curricular and extracurricular activities, policies and practices all affect the level of connectedness your child feels at school.

#### This article:

- Defines school connectedness.
- Explains the importance of being connected to the school.
- Suggests ways for parents and teachers to help kids feel more connected at school.

### What Is School Connectedness?

These are some of the major elements that help kids feel they belong and are cared for at their school:

- Teachers who support and care for individual students.
- Good friends at school.
- Parents and students caring about current and future academic performance.
- Discipline policies that are fair and efficient.
- Participating in extracurricular activities

### Benefits of Connectedness

Some of the benefits of helping students feel a sense of connectedness to their school community are listed below.

Academic benefits: "Connected" kids are more likely to

attend school regularly, pay attention to their grades and pursue post-secondary education.

Reducing risky behaviour: Students who feel a sense of belonging to the school community are less likely to be involved in activities such as smoking, alcohol and substance abuse, early sexual activity, drinking and driving, suicide attempts and weapon-related violence.

Mental well-being: Connected kids are less likely to have emotional distress or experience abuse. They are able to handle stress effectively and are more resilient (that is, they can bounce back from stress).

### How Parents Can Help Kids Feel More Connected At School

The first step is to recognize the importance of school connectedness in your child's life and

development. Second, use the information in the "What Is School Connectedness?" section above to assess your child's school situation.

As a parent, you can take these steps to influence your child's level of connectedness: Attend parent-teacher meetings and get to know all of your child's teachers through regular conversations. Be involved with the school. Go on field trips, volunteer and know what is happening at the school. Get to know your child's friends and their families, and encourage positive peer relationships. Talk to your children about their grades and effort, and access resources to help you ensure they are reaching their potential and taking ownership of their performance. Discuss the school's discipline policy with teachers and administrators. Encourage your child to get involved. Most schools offer a wide variety of extracurricular options, from band to basketball. Your child's sense of belonging to school (connectedness) plays a key role, not only in academic success but also in decreasing risky behaviour and supporting mental well-being. Talk with your children about how connected they feel at school. Above all, involve yourself in their school lives and be aware of what happens there, both negatively and positively. Feeling Connected at School <http://www.healthyalberta.com/HealthyPlaces/660.htm>

Warm regards,

Kirsty Thiesfield

Guidance Officer

## PE with Mr Stark

I would firstly like to welcome back the entire Oxenford State School Community for 2017 with a special welcome to our new families to the school. My name is Tim Stark and I'm the Physical Education Teacher here at Oxenford State School.

### Interschool Sport – Year 4, 5 & 6 Students

Interschool Sport for Year 4, 5 & 6 students for 2017 will be staged towards the end of Term 2 on 22 May, 29 May, 5 June & 12 June (all Mondays). All students this week received an 'Expression of Interest' note explaining how Interschool Sport works. Can you please discuss participating in Interschool Sport with your child/ren and return the completed 'Expression of Interest' note to your child's classroom teacher by Friday 10 February. If you have any questions relating to any aspect of Interschool Sport, please don't hesitate to contact me on 5585 7666.

Term 1 is an extremely busy time of year in the Broadwater District sporting calendar with many sports conducting their trials over the next two months. Please keep watching this space in future newsletters for further information regarding the trials.

### District Swimming Trials

On Thursday 16 February, the Broadwater District is conducting their annual Swimming Trials at the Southport Aquatic Centre for students born between 2005-2007. These trials are extremely competitive events, where schools are asked to nominate only their very

best swimmers whom are able to reach qualifying times.

If you believe your child is an extremely competent swimmer (preferably a squad swimmer) and would like them to be given the opportunity to attend these trials please don't hesitate to come and see me at school or call me on 5585 7666 to discuss this further. Please remember that there are very strict qualifying times that need to be adhered to in order for your child to attend these trials so please don't hesitate to contact me as soon as possible if you believe your child is up to that standard.

### District Hockey Trials

On Wednesday 22 February, the Broadwater District are conducting their Hockey trials for boys and girls born between 2005-2006. If you believe your son or daughter is an extremely talented hockey player (at representative standard), and would like them to be given the opportunity to attend this trial, please get in contact with me as soon as possible.

The Broadwater District are also conducting trials for Netball, Rugby League, Basketball, Soccer and AFL later this term so please watch this space for further details regarding this.

Yours in Sport,

Mr Tim Stark

## Music News

Welcome back to Music at Oxenford for 2017!

We have had a great start to the year. Strings lessons began this week and it was wonderful to see the buzz of excitement around the Music Block as both continuing and beginning students arrived for their lessons. Woodwind, brass and percussion lessons will start in the next few weeks so stay tuned for more information about those.

I have had many excited students asking me about choir for this year and I am pleased to let everyone know that choirs will start up again next week. Junior Choir (years 1-3) will rehearse on Mondays at second break and Senior Choir (year 4-6) will rehearse on Tuesdays at second break. Please encourage your children to come along and enjoy some fun music making – no auditions for these choirs.

Oxenford Music Staff and teaching days for 2017 are as follows:

Miss Jacinta Morris (Classroom Music and Choirs) – Monday to Thursday

Ms Stacey Bolton (Instrumental Music - Strings) – Monday

Mr James Henshaw (Instrumental Music - Band) – Tuesday all day and Wednesday afternoon

If you have any questions about the Oxenford Music Program please email or arrange a time to meet with one of the staff.

## Library News

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning families here at Oxenford State School. It is sure to be another busy, happy year with many stimulating activities to be enjoyed both in and outside the classrooms.

Borrowing from the library has started this week with many eager children keen to get their hands on an Andy Griffiths or an Anh Do book! It was pleasing to see so many named library bags being used to take home the first book of the year. There are still books from 2016 to be returned. I shall contact the families concerned this week to discuss this issue.

Look out for City Libraries in parks and shopping centres this summer as there is now a new Pop-up Library appearing around the Coast where you can find library resources and see the many advantages of a library membership. Check out more details on

[cityofgoldcoast.com.au/libraries](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/libraries)

Celebrate the 2017 Lunar New Year ( the Year of the Rooster)at Gold Coast Chinatown with food stalls, a movie under the stars, live music, cultural entertainment and a fireworks display. This is a free event from 4pm -9pm on Saturday 4 February. Chinatown is located at Young and Davenport Streets, Southport.

If Roald Dahl is a popular author in your house, then you will be able to collect all 14 books from February 5-18 through copies of The Courier Mail and The Sunday Mail. The books will be available at participating newsagents, Woolworths and IGA supermarkets while stocks last. The first book "The Twits" and the collector's case will be free when you buy The Sunday Mail (\$3-00) on Sunday, 5 February. Books 2-14 will be available from 6 February-18 February for \$2-60 each when you buy The Courier Mail or The Sunday Mail using the token found in the newspaper. Happy collecting.

Zan Bond

(Teacher-librarian)

## Chappy News

Hope everyone had a great holiday! It doesn't take long to get back in to the swing of things. It's week two already and I'm sure were all going to have a great year.

I would like to introduce myself to those that are new to the school. My name is Kirsten Forbes and I am the Chaplain at your school. My role at the school is to provide social and emotional support to the students and I am here on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's always great to meet the new students to the school and get to know them.



On Thursday mornings at 8:15am we run a Breakfast Club where the students can come and enjoy a cup of milo and some toast.

We are always looking for helpers to come along and butter some toast if anyone would like to volunteer half an hour on a Thursday morning.

If you would like to contact me you can email me at [kirstenf@chappy.org.au](mailto:kirstenf@chappy.org.au)



Thank you

Kirsten Forbes



**New Year, New Details? See the office.**

Moved house? Changed phone numbers? Please inform the office of any changes to your child/ren contact details. It is important that we have the most current details for your child on file. Thank you

**Money Window**

As per usual we are open for Money on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:30am – 10:00am. We are now taking payments for:

- Voluntary contribution (receive a diary with first \$20 payment)
- Music Levy (for students in the band)
- Snr Shirts (Year 6 )

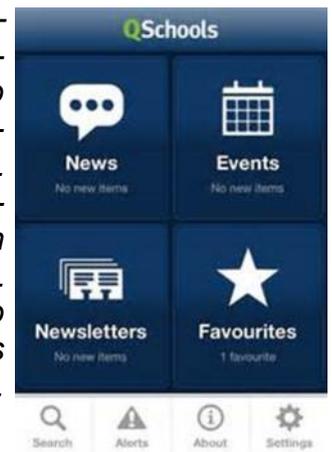
**Office Hours**

Office hours are 8:00am—3:30pm  
Children need to be collected prior to 3:30pm  
If you are going to be running late please inform the office.

**Hard copy of Newsletter**

As you know we distribute the school newsletter electronically. To order your emailed electronic version of the newsletter you should ensure your email details are correct at the office.

*The **QSchools app** is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about schools. The app is designed to integrate with school websites, and allows users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their selected school website. The school community can also receive emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app. The QSchools app will be particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app manages updates from multiple schools in a single view. All Queensland state schools are searchable via the app. Find out more about [QSchools](#) and download the app today.*



# P & C News

Welcome to all our returning and new families.

Our first meeting for the year will be Friday 17th February at 5pm. Everyone is welcome. It is always a great opportunity to keep informed of what is happening, and be involved with the school.

In March we will be holding our Annual General Meeting. At this meeting all positions on the P&C committee become vacant and a new committee is elected for this year. I encourage everyone to consider becoming involved in one way or another—it is a great support to your children, to the school and is also something you can add to your resume—not to mention lots of fun!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteer Uniform shop convenor, Kylie, for that fantastic effort in the week prior to school, and to the wonderful volunteers who came in and assisted her over the three days, Debbie, Leisa & Lisa. Thank you ladies!

Tanya Harris  
President

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Oxenford State School P&C](#)



## Uniform Shop Hours

*Follow our Facebook page  
for updates to the hours*

*Tuesday 8:15 am—9:00 am*

*Wednesday 3:00—3:30 pm*

## Book Club

All orders for Scholastic Book Club need to be in by

10th February please.

The easiest way for you and for our volunteer book club convenor is to order online at

[https://  
mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/](https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/)

## P&C Meeting

**5pm Friday 17th February**

**Everyone Welcome!**

## Tuckshop News

Welcome back to school everybody.

A new menu will be out in the next few weeks. It meets all of the 2015 smart choices rules and most of the 2016 ones which are not yet mandatory.

The 2016 smart choices rules once enforced would say goodbye to a lot of favourite pastry and crumbed items unless sold along with a side of salad or vegetable.

More tuckshop made items are being encouraged by education Queensland but unfortunately we just don't have enough volunteers to implement this. This is something we will strive to change this year.

The new school year means we have an empty volunteer roster, if you have an hour spare, these are the days/times we need help:

Monday—Friday

8:30am—9:30am—serving window and sorting bag orders when delivered by classes

Monday—Thursday

9am—10am—filling paper bag orders and snacks

9am—11am—help make sandwiches or general preparation work

If you are unable to assist us this year in the tuckshop, it will help us if you can please place your child's order via the MunchMonitor online order system—this saves us so much time. Orders can be done via your phone, iPad, computer in a very quick time, I love ordering my children's lunch this way.

We strongly encourage parents/children to order online instead of via the tuckshop in the morning, and if you know your child will be late for school, please definitely order via online.

Thank you very much to all our wonderful volunteers from 2016 and to our future 2017 volunteers. The tuckshop can't run without you. Thank you Bob for making it possible for us to have a vegetable garden and for keeping it alive!

One other change to note is that the tuckshop opening time has changed to 8:30am. This gives us more preparation time.

Thank you,

Stacey Lee

Tuckshop Convenor

### [MunchMonitor online ordering](#)

First time Log In details

Username: oxenford

Password: munch4210



# Helping Hands Oxenford



0458 008 319



Oxenford@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

From The Assistant Coordinator:	What's been happening:	What's coming up:
<p>Dear parents and Families of Oxenford State School,</p> <p>We would like to welcome our new Coordinator, Lyn who has joined us from WA. Lyn has had over 6 years experience as an OSHC Coordinator and is excited to get to know and work within the Oxenford State school and Helping Hands community. We are very excited to start the new year and look forward to introducing our team to you.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p> <p>Lyn, Chloe &amp; Staff</p>	<p>What an exciting start to the new year! Vacation Care was a hit with excursions to the movies, putt putt and bowling, Incursions including an inflatable gladiator arena and the animal welfare league, as well as many themed days including a trip to treasure island. We have some great activities planned for next holidays so stay tuned!</p>	<p><b>Term One</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking Activities</li> <li>• Chinese New Year</li> <li>• Feel Good Feb!</li> <li>• ELA Program</li> <li>• Bookings for our next vacation care towards the end of the term!</li> </ul> <p>And that's just the start! Book your children in today for a fun-filled time with their friends!</p>

**WE PROVIDE BREAKFAST AND AFTERNOON TEA EVERYDAY AS WELL AS FANTASTIC ART, CRAFT, SPORT AND COOKING EXPERIENCES THAT YOUR CHILDREN WILL LOVE!**

Before School Care from \$14 per session\*

After School Care From \$20 per session\*

Vacation Care from \$44 per day\*

\*Based on your income for 1 child in care per session after your Child Care Tax Rebate.

**COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR PROGRAM!**