The end of the school year is fast approaching, with only two weeks to go until we break up for the holidays. We always have so much happening at this time of the year and have plenty of opportunities to celebrate the students’ efforts and achievements.

Last week our swimming program concluded after six lessons, with most students having participated each week. Next week we have the Swimming Carnival for the Years 4 – 6 students to look forward to. This is always a great occasion for our swimmers to show their newly acquired skills in the water and to compete against their peers in a non-threatening environment. Parents are welcome to attend the carnival at Coomera Anglican College Aquatic Centre, to cheer from the sidelines and enjoy the abundant community spirit on the day.

On Monday we were entertained by our very talented musicians at the Instrumental Music Concert, hosted by Ms Stacey Bolton and Mr James Henshaw. I am always amazed at how much the music students learn in a year and how much their performance skills improve during that time. Congratulations to the students on performing so beautifully at the concert and to Stacey and James for their hard work and dedication. I look forward to hearing about another highly successful year of instrumental music in 2017.

We are holding our end of year Christmas Concert next Wednesday, at the front of school. Each class from Prep through to Year 6 will be performing, along with the choirs. The students have been practising their songs in readiness for the concert and will ensure we all have an enjoyable evening. As a final fundraiser, the P&C have organised a Lucky Draw for the occasion, with lucky tickets being sold on the night. Please refer to their section in this newsletter to see the impressive list of prizes up for grabs. Good luck everyone! We encourage you to arrive around 5.30pm, in readiness for the first performance at 6.00pm. This evening will also be an opportunity for me to say goodbye to all of my much loved Oxenford families. I hope you can join us, even if you only stay for a short time.

Yesterday we hosted a special morning tea to publicly acknowledge and thank our team of dedicated volunteers. We are so fortunate to have such a large number of parents and grandparents helping in our many classrooms, the tuck-shop, uniform shop and at special school events. On behalf of the entire school community I thank all of our volunteers for their generosity of spirit and genuine interest they show in the education your children receive at Oxenford State School. We couldn’t do it without them!
This week our Year 5 students have been involved in our 2017 Leadership process in preparation for next year. These students were given an opportunity to nominate for leadership positions and were then shortlisted to present speeches in front of their peers, parents and teachers on Tuesday. All Year 4 and 5 students were required to vote for those students who they thought were worthy candidates for School Captain and Vice Captain, Elliott, Fraser and Bradman House Captains and a Music Captain. We look forward to introducing our 2017 Leaders to everyone at our whole school assembly Wednesday in Week 10. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the Year 5 students who participated in this process and remind them that with or without a badge, they are all leaders!

In closing, as I prepare to leave Oxenford SS I have had an opportunity to self-reflect on the 7 years I have been at the school. My core values have always been, and continue to be, showing compassion, love and support for all students, their families and staff. Obviously, the learning achievements of all students is at the core of what we all do and I am proud to say I have seen some outstanding improvements and achievements for many students. As many of you know, I also believe music should be at the heart and soul of a good school and I am delighted that we now have a very strong music program throughout the school, there are junior and senior choirs and stronger than ever Instrumental Music and Strings programs. We have a more extensive support system for our students with the introduction of a chaplaincy service, a HOSES (Head of Special Educational Services), HOC (Head of Curriculum) and a Master Teacher. These are all positions that have evolved in the 7 years. We now also have a permanent Deputy Principal and Business Services Manager and many permanent and temporary teacher aides supporting us with everything we do.

There are also the more visible changes that I am proud to mention: the C&K Kindy, Helping Hands (Before & After School Care), the senior Adventure Playground, the ANZAC Statues and Memorial Garden, a new bike cage at the back gate and a bus shelter at the front gate. All teaching blocks and amenities have been re-painted to match the BER projects and the gardens and grounds look the best they’ve ever been. Whilst I may have had the vision to instigate all of these things, none of it would have been possible without the help of the dedicated and capable staff and P&C. We have all worked together as a strong team, ensuring the good work that has been done will continue even once I’ve left Oxenford. I trust I have served you well as your principal for the past 7 years.

Warm regards

Vicki Marchmont
Deputy’s Desk

ATTENDANCE – Please keep in touch

As we near the end of the school year, it is important to note that school attendance is just as important as ever. Teachers are busy completing assessment and writing reports and learning continues throughout this process. If an absence is required due to illness or other emergency please contact the school office on 5585 7666.

PREP 2017

We have recently had some special visitors in the prep rooms, with our 2017 preppies coming to visit “Big School”. C&K Oxenford and Goodstart Early Learning Centres have been visiting in the afternoons to familiarise the children with formal schooling. If you have a child starting school next year there are a few tips to help make it a little easier.

Simple tips:

* be ready to support your child
* listen to your child's thoughts about starting school
* make time to talk, read, play and relax with your child
* share your positive feelings about school
* practise new routines
* encourage your child to know how to get help
* meet new children and families before the first day
* celebrate starting school.

We have now completed our prep interviews for this year and are in the process of reading all about our newest students and their wonderful personalities, skills and families. We are finalising the class lists for Prep and will have this information available to you in the near future.

PBL NEWS

Students are continuing to complete more “Owl” cards by demonstrating behaviours which reflect the school expectations of “Being Safe”, “Being Respectful”, and “Being a Learner”. We will have a few more Principal’s Parties to cater for all the children receiving a gold certificate. We have also added a personalised pen as a reward to children receiving 15 Owl cards.

Signage will be up by the beginning of the 2017 school year which will really make the Positive Behaviour for Learning visible for the whole Oxenford School community. Additional rewards and recognition will be added in 2017 to continue to acknowledge students choosing the behaviour. Additional support will continue to be made available for students requiring extra support with more challenging behaviours as well as continuing with our fortnightly focus and continued journey with PBL.

Dani Radley
Deputy Principal

The North Gold Coast Early Years Centre is a one-stop-shop for families with children aged between 0 and 8 years of age. They aim to support families to give their child the best start in life.

Services include, but are not limited to:

* Child Health Nurse
* Child Care Centre consultation
* Playgroups
* Child and Parenting groups
* Infant massage
* Literacy groups for children
* Indigenous family support
* Toy Library
* Home visiting family support
* Drug and alcohol support for parents
* Access to kindy
* Parenting programs

All of their services are free of charge. Some groups require booking, so please call to register your interest or for a referral to a Family Support worker. Our service covers the Northern Gold Coast from Robina to Beenleigh.

Looking for some holiday fun for older children?

Wesley Mission fund some fantastic school holiday programs. Oxenford State School has a great relationship with WM, who run our Rock & Rhythm Groups every Friday! Check out their flyers and see if there is something your child might be interested in!
# Coomera Youth

## School Holiday Program 12 - 16 December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am - 10am</td>
<td>Dodgeball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am - 12pm</td>
<td>Drumming, Come and get drumming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm - 1pm</td>
<td>Bring your lunch and lets eat together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm - 2pm</td>
<td>Cat tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm - 4pm</td>
<td>Christmas craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4pm - 5pm</td>
<td>Chocolate game</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Friday 16th December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am - 10am</td>
<td>Christmas decorations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am - 11am</td>
<td>Infatuation games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am - 12pm</td>
<td>Lunch, Bring your lunch and lets eat together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm - 1pm</td>
<td>Infatuation games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm - 3pm</td>
<td>Movie time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## School Holiday Program 19 - 23 December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am - 10am</td>
<td>Dodgeball</td>
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<td>12pm - 1pm</td>
<td>Lunch, Bring your lunch and lets eat together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm - 2pm</td>
<td>Infatuation games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm - 4pm</td>
<td>Movie time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Friday 23rd December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am - 10am</td>
<td>Chocolate game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am - 11am</td>
<td>Lunch, Bring your lunch and lets eat together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am - 12pm</td>
<td>Infatuation games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm - 1pm</td>
<td>Christmas party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm - 2pm</td>
<td>Movie time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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All activities are free and designed for youth aged from 12 to 17 years of age. Join us on any day by simply coming through the front door of Wesley Mission Coomera. 37 Fernleigh Way, and Coomera. Coomera Youth is located at the Gold Coast Community Centre, 12 J Fernleigh Way. All activities are free! For information, email ladorna@wes.org.au or call 0408 75 34 671.
Parents Count Too

Helping your P-2 child with – Calculating: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Through everyday activities and play situations children will naturally use numbers. Young children are very capable of sharing out things such as lollies so that each person has a fair share or adding a friends’ collection to his or her own and finding the total. We need to help children discover quick and easy ways of using numbers

How do children learn to use numbers?

When first learning to use numbers, children will need to have the objects with them in order to add, subtract, multiply or share equally (divide). They will go through a process of needing to see and count each thing, one at a time.

We need to help children learn to start counting from a larger number and add or subtract a second number. We also need to help children build mental images of a group or quantity so they do not always have to rely on seeing the objects. Helping children to mentally “see” groups of things will also help them with understanding multiplication and division before they learn the “tables”.

What can you do at home?

• Play board games such as Snakes and Ladders with two dice and encourage your child to add the two numbers rolled. Show them how to count from the larger number.

• Play card games such as 21 or bust. In this game, two cards are dealt to each player who adds the numbers together. Each player may ask for more cards from the “kitty” with the aim of being the person with the highest score that does not go over 21.

• Share fruit such as mandarins with your child and add the number of pips you both have.

• Ask your child to help you work out how many more items are needed when you are shopping. I have six apples here, how many more will I get to make ten?

Look at house numbers when going for a walk. Ask your child to guess what the next number will be.

• Set the table for one person and ask your child to put out enough plates for everyone. Ask them how many more were needed.

• Count the number of eggs in a carton, and again after some have been removed. Ask your child, “How many were taken away?”

• Read a book to your child that has a contents page. Look for a story or chapter on a certain page and work out how many pages until the next story.

Use empty toilet rolls or empty plastic bottles and a ball to make a game of skittles. Encourage your child to tell you how many were knocked down and how many are still standing after bowling. Keep a score of how many are knocked down to see who is the winner.

• Sing songs that include numbers. Ask your child to tell you the next number in the song before you sing the next verse.

• Go for a drive and point out the signs that indicate the distance to the next town. In the country the numbers on the kilometre signs go down by 5. Ask your child to work out what number will be on the next sign.

• Have your child help share out food to the family. How many slices will I need to cut the pizza into so that everyone has two slices?

• Ask your child to have items fairly with others.

• Count the number of things in a collection such as shells in a bag or a large jar of buttons. Ask your child if there is a quick and easy way of counting, say counting by fives.

• Decorate patty cakes with sultanas or smarties. Place the same number of sultanas or smarties on each cake and ask your child to find out how many you will need altogether.

• Count the number of ice cubes in a tray. If your child counts by ones suggest counting by the number in each row of the tray. (This will usually be counting by twos.)

Ruth Hester
Head of Curriculum
**Music News**

It was to thunderous applause that the instrumental music students performed together for the final time in 2016. I’m sure all who attended the Showcase on Monday afternoon would agree that we have some very talented musicians here at Oxenford. Thank you to all the families and staff who have supported our Music Program throughout the year, it would not have been possible without you. A very special thanks also to Mr James Henshaw and Ms Stacey Bolton for their dedication and passion that shines through every week in lessons and rehearsals.

As we wrap up for 2016, can you please ensure that all school hire instruments have been returned to the Music Room.

Thanks again for supporting the Oxenford Music Program.

Jacinta Morris
Music Teacher

**Library News**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It’s hard to believe, I know, but it really is almost the end of this school year with only two more weeks to go! The little Prep children are growing up with many now losing their milk teeth while many of the Year 6 students are definitely taller than I am! A whole new chapter awaits them next year as they embark on a secondary education with many different expectations and experiences ahead.

Borrowing from the library has now finished for the year so that means ALL library books need to be returned by Friday of this week. Remember that the local Council libraries are open during the Christmas school holidays and you will find free activities to help fill in those long summer days. Please make sure that your children have returned their library books. I shall be contacting families whose children still have overdue books and a proforma letter detailing the cost of the book will be sent home.

I would like to thank all the parents, carers and other family members who read to their children frequently over the year and encouraged the children to read, share and enjoy as many books as possible from the school library, the Scholastic Book Fair or from their own library collection at home.

I wish all families of the Oxenford State School community a very happy and safe Christmas and hope that the long summer break is filled with enjoyable activities and family occasions.

Best wishes.

Zan Bond
(Teacher-librarian)
Swimming Carnival

What: Oxenford State School Inter-House Swimming Carnival

Who: Students in Year 4-6 who have participated in the school-based swimming lessons

When: Tuesday 29 November (Week 9, Term 4) 9am – 3pm

Where: Coomera Anglican College Aquatic Centre (Days Rd, Upper Coomera)

Cost: NIL

Transport: Sainty’s Bus Services

What to wear: Full school uniform with enclosed shoes and hats (as per normal school day)

Coloured house shirts are preferred

What to bring: Swimming bag with swimmers (no two-piece swimmers please girls), towels, goggles, swimming caps, swim shirts, thongs (to be worn at the pool only), water bottles and asthma puffers if required.

Food: Students are to bring a morning tea and lunch that will support their physical activities for the day.

Sunsmart clothing must be worn on the day (i.e. hat, collared shirt, sunscreen, sunglasses). House colours may be worn however dyed hair and zinc cream is inappropriate as students will be swimming. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the day. Students are required to bring their morning tea and lunch, along with a water bottle.

If medical conditions from Swimming Lessons have changed please advise the office in writing.

Parents and family members are most welcome to attend so it would be fantastic to see you all there on the day.

Please ensure that the swimming consent form is returned to the office by Friday 25 November 2016.

Swimming Lessons

I’d really like to thank each and every family who supported our Swimming Program for 2016. It is such an amazing skill to learn and to improve on, and what better way to do it than with your classmates. I hope all participants have renewed confidence in the water from the lessons and will remain safe throughout the summer months in and around the water. Thanks again to all of our families for your support.

Yours in Sport,

Mr Tim Stark
Lost Property
Please stop into the office and have a look through the lost property bins to see if any of the items belong to your child. All lost property remaining at the end of this Term will be donated to good will.

Student Absences and Same Day Notification
The Department of Education and Training’s highest priority is students’ safety and wellbeing. It is the parent’s responsibility to advise of a student’s absence by 9am on the day of their absence.
At Oxenford State School you may advise of an absence via the following methods:
1. Contacting us via phone on 5585 7666
2. Emailing the office at: admin@oxenfordss.eq.edu.au
3. Advising administration staff at the school office of your child/children’s absence in person.

(Please ensure to provide your child’s full name, class and reason for the absence, so it can be recorded accordingly)

From the beginning of 2017, state schools will be required to notify parents of any unexplained absence in the morning of that occurring.

To ensure text messages are received and can be responded to immediately, it is essential that all parent / carers details are up to date with the school office and that we have received the SMS consent form.

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

Tuckshop volunteers needed: Mondays and Tuesdays

The tuckshop has been very busy this term on Mondays and Tuesdays. If you can spare an hour or so on one of these days, please pop in and help out.

Volunteering - Everyone is welcome!

In March next year the P&C Annual General Meeting will be held. All positions on the P&C become vacant and nominations for the following twelve months taken. I encourage everyone to consider volunteering in a role, it is a wonderful way to assist the school, and a great addition to your resume, plus a good example to your children and their friends on ways to help the community.

More information about the roles can be found on the P&C Queensland website, and you are more than welcome to chat to me about the roles as well.

At this stage the current President, Treasurer, Vice President and Fundraising Coordinator are not re-standing. After eight years of various and multiple roles, I can highly recommend the fun, friendships and experience that comes from assisting the school in this way.

Thank You & Farewell

The P&C would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Principal, Vicki, for her dedication, compassion and commitment to our school, families and community over the last seven years.

As those who have been here over that time would know, there has been continual additions and upgrades to facilities, an open door and compassionate ear for anyone who needs a chat.

We wish Vicki well in all her future endeavors.

Tanya Harris
President


Follow us on Facebook
Oxenford State School P&C

Uniform Shop
8:15-9:00 Mondays
3:00—3:30 Wednesdays
MunchMonitor is the easiest way to order anytime
Login: oxenford
Password: munch4210
www.munchmonitor.com.au

Book Club!
The last Book Club for the year has now closed. Orders should arrive and be distributed by the end of next week.
Thank you to Natalie for running the Book Club this year!

LUCKY DRAW!
The P&C will be running a lucky draw at the Christmas Concert next Wednesday.
Fantastic Gift Hampers and Voucher Trees to be won!
Tickets will be:
$2.00 for 1
$5.00 for 3
$10.00 for 7

Last day for School Banking is Thursday 1st Dec
Thank you to the ladies who have volunteered in this area this year.
Students Of The Week

For consistently Doing your Best

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep G</th>
<th>Corey N</th>
<th>Prep B</th>
<th>Teddy D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Madison B</td>
<td>Prep R</td>
<td>Zach S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1O</td>
<td>Mackenzie A</td>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Oceane J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Zane W</td>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Gracie V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Zechariah H</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Kobi W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2N</td>
<td>Kian S</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Marlie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Brooke B</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Brock M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Finn T</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Well done!
Prep O Excursion to David Fleay’s Wildlife Park
Wednesday 2nd November

At Fleay's I saw three crocodiles. It was asleep. We found a cassowary.
Charlotte S

My favourite part was the crocodile. I felt happy and excited.
Navaya T

My favourite part was seeing a crocodile, it was sleeping in the water. It made me feel happy.
Olivia G

This term Prep O went to Fleay’s. I liked when the bird danced at the bird show. It was good.
Luke J

This term Prep O went to Fleay’s, it was fun! I felt happy! My friends felt happy too.
We saw crocodiles.
Kaleah B
On our trip to Fleay's my favourite part was when I saw a green tree frog. It was fun. They can jump very high.
Lachlan W

At Fleay's the platypus had sharp nails. It was my favourite. It was so fun and exciting.
Hannah F

At Fleay's my favourite animal was the crocodile, it was in the water. It was an exciting day with Miss Osborne.
Anah C

It was an exciting day at Fleay's. I liked the kooka. They are able to climb and they look cute.
Alex T

This term Prep O went to Fleay's. I saw lots of animals. My favourite animal was the crocodile. It was scary but I liked it.
Lexie L
This term I went to Currumbin. It made me feel happy. My favourite thing was the slide.
Eli S

Fun at Currumbin
At Currumbin I saw a Koala. It was my favourite because the baby koalas were cute and I was excited.
Amelia R

Currumbin
At Currumbin my favourite animal was next to the crocodile, it was a kangaroo. We can pat the kangaroo. I felt happy.
Toby D

My Fun Day
This term I went to Currumbin. We saw an eagle at the bird show. She flew above our heads. We had lots of fun.
Hayley R
Rahmi H

My favourite animal is the eagle and it was at the bird show and I felt excited.

My favourite part was the bird show. There was a wedge-tailed eagle, she was amazing. I felt excited, it was the best. The birds were talented, after they got treats.

Ruby Q

Cumulmib

I liked when the eagle swooped down from one side to another, I saw that at the bird show. I felt scared.

Peyton S

My Amazing School Day

This term I went to Cumulmib. My favourite part was when I patted the python snake. I felt happy.

Tia K

My favourite part of Cumulmib was seeing Ranger Stacey and going on TV. I felt so confident, it was cool, I had an amazing day.
Position Vacant

Oxenford State School

Cleaner – 10 hours per week (permanent)

Oxenford State School is seeking a motivated person to work 2 hours per day, 5 days per week. ADO’s (Accumulated Days Off) will be worked in addition to these hours. A probationary period of 3 months may apply.

Application packages are available to collect from the Administration Office.

Applications are due by 9.00am on Wednesday 7th December, 2016 and must meet the deadline and address the “How you will be assessed”, which can be found on the Role Description.

Please address applications to: Cheryl Lowe, Business Services Manager – clowe34@eq.edu.au