### Coming up...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3 September</td>
<td>Writers in the Environment Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4 September</td>
<td>Zone Field Events Carnival</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fathers' Day Stall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Assembly 1/2G 2pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>After School Sport 3-6 3.15-4.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 5 September</td>
<td>PSSA Grand Final</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Environment Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 7 September</td>
<td>Fathers' Day Bunnings Cake Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 8 September</td>
<td>Swim School commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9 September</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting in the hall 7.30pm</td>
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</table>

**Celebrating the Arts Concert**

Last night Mrs Stanton and I attended the 'Celebrating the Arts Festival' at Riverside Theatre. We were both most impressed by our Senior Dance Group and School Choir. All performances were of a very high standard and it was great to see Oatlands students involved in such a high quality, professional performance. As always our students were exceptional representatives of our school. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sells and Mrs Kocagil for their hard work, both last night and leading up to the performance.

**Fathers' Day Stall and Raffle**

A very happy Fathers' Day for Sunday to all of our wonderful dads! A reminder that the P&C will be running a Father's Day Stall this Thursday 4 September 2014 where students will be able to purchase a small gift. Please send your child to school with some money on this day. Parent helpers are required so if you are able to help please meet in the COLA straight after morning assembly. The P&C are also holding a Fathers' Day Raffle to win hampers which will be drawn on Friday 12 September. Raffle tickets were sent home today.

**P&C Cake Stall**

This Sunday 7 September the P&C will be holding a Cake Stall at North Parramatta Bunnings to raise funds for the school. Please complete the slip on the note sent home in Week 6 and indicate if you are able to donate goods and/or help on the day. Alternatively you can write your name down on the roster set up in the office foyer.

**Cyber Safety**

As you may be aware, issues involving students accessing inappropriate content via the internet have become more prevalent in recent years. Next Monday 8 September we will be holding a parent workshop on cyber safety in the computer room which will be conducted by Constable Rachel Edgar-Moore from Rosehill Police Command. Parents will leave the session with valuable information to help keep their child/ren safe. I encourage all parents to attend this important session. Please complete the slip attached to the note sent home last week and return it to school by Friday 5 September 2014. This note can also be found on our website.

**Movie Night**

Exciting news, you are invited to the first Oatlands Public School outdoor movie night to be held on Thursday 18 September 2014 here at school. The movie we will be showing is called Despicable Me 2. Your family and friends are also invited to attend. Gates open at 5.30pm and the movie begins at 6.20pm. Before the movie, our students become stars as we display photos and film that showcase just some of the skills and talent displayed during the year so far. Purchase your tickets now by filling out the slip attached to the note sent home last week. This note is also available on our website.
Outside of School Hours (OOSH) service at Oatlands Public School Update

Our OOSH service will be up and running at our school in the coming weeks. Once we receive the signed license agreement I will be in a position to announce the successful service provider and commence the enrolment process for our families. The OOSH staff are very keen to meet our school community and will be holding meet and greet sessions to present key information and answer any questions as soon as the lengthy administration process has been finalised.

Road Safety

Please ensure your child always uses the school crossing as this is the safest point of entry to the school. We are lucky to have a school crossing supervisor at our school. Pedestrians must wait on the footpath, at least one step back from the edge of the road, until the school crossing supervisor indicates that it is safe to cross.

Thank you to all parents who model safe driving practices at and around our school. If you see people driving in a dangerous way please let me know.

NAPLAN results

The 2014 NAPLAN student reports will be delivered to NSW schools this week. Parents of Year 3 and 5 Students will be receiving these reports by the end of this week. If you have any questions about your child’s results please don’t hesitate to see his/her teacher.

School Swimming and Water Safety Program 2014

Starting next Monday morning students from Years 2-6 will be travelling to Parramatta Pool for the Department of Education and Communities School Swimming Scheme. This most valuable program develops water confidence and provides students with crucial skills in water safety and survival. I am sure our students will get a lot out of these sessions.

P&C Meeting

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 September at 7.30pm in the hall. Please put this date on your calendar. I hope to see you there.

VIP Day – Friday 19 September 2014

Professor Maths Fun Day

A very busy and productive term is coming to an end. As is the custom of Oatlands Public School, we will be celebrating VIP Day on the last day of term, Friday 19 September 2014 as a reward for students who have demonstrated satisfactory behaviour. This term our VIP Day will be an exciting visit from the Professor Maths Travelling Road Show and a school-wide celebration of Mathematics. Professor Maths will bring a large range of fun activities for students to rotate their way through in small groups. All the activities will be stimulating and “hands on” and are designed to improve students’ attitudes towards Mathematics.

As part of the celebration students are also encouraged to come to school dressed up as something related to Mathematics. The cost is $5.00 per student. A note will be sent home with your child this Wednesday. Please complete the permission slip and return with payment to school in an envelope marked “Professor Maths” by Friday 12 September 2014.

Banish the “I’m bored” complaints these holidays

It’s hard to keep children occupied with anything other than a small screen. Here are some websites that have great tips for things your family can do these coming school holidays, whether you’re staying put or taking off on a holiday across the state:

Destination NSW  (http://bit.ly/1nJ7sl)
Winter school holidays in Sydney  (http://bit.ly/1nQsVC6)
School holidays in Newcastle  (http://bit.ly/1nJlpj)
Winter school holidays Central Coast  (http://bit.ly/1ncSwX)
Attractions for kids in regional NSW  (http://bit.ly/1fE6vMw)
Sydney Olympic Park – What’s On  (http://bit.ly/1XUJJ7Z)
Australian Museum  (http://bit.ly/1uEBlxD)
Kids Camps – NSW Sport and Recreation  (http://bit.ly/1hVxTra)
Keep brains ticking over these holidays

If your child is working on a personal project or a school assignment these school holidays (or you want to make use of the break for a little revision), don’t forget www.SchoolAtoZ.com.au has lots of information and fact sheets to help with homework.

For students polishing their spelling skills, the free Spelling Bee mobile app also allows them to record a list of their own words and then test themselves. You might even want to challenge them with a list you create. Here’s where you’ll find the free app to download: http://bit.ly/Q9eZ0G

History Week

History week will be celebrated between 6 - 14 September 2014. The Parramatta & District Historical Society plans to conduct a function for schools of the district at Hambledon Cottage Parramatta, on Wednesday 10 September, 2014. The theme for History Week this year is “Threads”. The function will be titled “Your History, My History, Our History in Parramatta”. Our school has been invited to send a few students to give a talk about the history of Oatlands. Congratulations to Daniel, Malindu, Parv and Mayra would have been selected to represent our school at this important event.

History of Oatlands

How much do you know about our suburb’s history? Oatlands is 23 kilometres north-west of the Sydney central business district in the City of Parramatta and The Hills Shire. The Oatlands area has a history reaching back to the very early days of settlement in Australia. The name originally comes from Oatlands House, which was one of the earliest homes in the Parramatta district, being built in the 1830s by Percy Simpson on a grant of ninety acres, made on 25th July, 1833. Oatlands House was originally all convict built and was a low sandstone cottage with flagstone verandahs and courtyards as they exist today. The original kitchen and servants quarters built separately from the main residence in case of fire still stand today. Simpson was well-known in his time and was born in 1789 in Canada. He became an army Lieutenant in 1812 as well as a judge-advocate and then governor of an island off the coast of Greece called Ionia Island of Paxos. On 1 October 1819 he married Hester Elizabeth McNeil in Ireland. The family migrated to New South Wales in November 1822.

While it has been suggested that the name Oatlands reflects the first sowing of oats in Australia, this can’t be confirmed. Instead the name appears to be taken from Oatlands Park in England, which was close to the lands of Lord Dundas, for whom the neighbouring suburb was named. In 1840 architect Ambrose Hallen built the two story additions between the two buildings and the land was sold to James Betlington, who used it for sheep farming. Oatlands House and property remained in the hands of the Betlington family until the property was acquired in December, 1926 by A.C Berk and his Son in Law, Victor Audette, who were involved in the distribution of Packard motor cars. In 1958, Oatlands House was purchased by the Donoghues. Oatlands House is now used as a function centre, with the surrounding land forming the Oatlands Golf Course, which was opened in 1931. Oatlands was officially defined as a new suburb in 1991. Prior to this, the area had been known as Dundas West.

The stables of Oatlands House, in which the present Professional’s Golf shop is housed were equipped in a grand manner. Angora rabbits were bred and grown for wool used for spinning and weaving on the property. When the first fairway was opened in 1933 the rabbit hutch were located along the present out-of-bounds fence. The Camellias on the southern side of Oatlands House were planted by Victor Audette to mark the birth of each of his children. His first daughter was Camelia.

Mr D’Amore
Principal
Happy Families Work Together
Managing family relationships so that everyone's most important needs get met can be hard work. All families have times when tempers get frayed, feelings get hurt and misunderstandings occur. Maintaining positive connections when these things happen requires good communication and creative management. Effective communication means that everyone has a say and is listened to. This can be a challenge in busy families. Pressure to get things done can mean there seems to be little 'quality time' for talking and listening to each other. Whether or not time is a problem, negative styles of communication often undermine relationships. This occurs, for example, when family members speak to each other disrespectfully or use put-downs. Building positive family relationships does not mean having no conflict. Dealing with conflicts positively, as well as making time to relax and do fun things together, help to strengthen family relationships.

Set the tone for positive communication
Research on communication in families shows the importance of parents and carers communicating warmth and caring and also setting clear expectations for children's behaviour. Making time for family members, communicating effectively and supporting each other are important ways of strengthening families and building positive relationships. Parents and carers can set a positive tone for communication through their own example. The way you listen, and the attention and importance you give to what family members say, is as important as what you say to them and how you say it. This may not always be easy, especially when you are tired or busy and have to deal with complaining or conflict. However, listening and acknowledging others’ feelings and wants helps to reduce conflict and improves communication.

Working together as a family
Discussing things as a family is often very helpful for dealing with concerns and negotiating solutions to conflicts before they get bigger.

• Talking together provides an opportunity to clarify roles and expectations.
• Be sure to talk about what is working well in family relationships and not just the difficulties.
• Build trust in family discussions by respecting and listening to everyone's views without judging or putting them down.
• Encourage children as well as adults to hear and understand each other's views and needs.
PBL
This fortnight we are encouraging students to be good learners in the library. This includes bringing a library bag to library each week, looking after our library books and being respectful to everybody in the library. Please talk to your child about these behaviours at home.

Miss Gould

Peer Support
Last week in Peer Support the students learnt about the different qualities they have. The activities help them to be more positive and to choose to behave well. They also explored the concept of empathy — seeing something from someone else’s point of view. Please encourage your child to be aware of the thoughts and ideas of others and to practise being kind and thoughtful.

PSSA AFL
Due to the inclement weather, the semi-finals of the PSSA AFL competition will not be held. Instead the Grand Finals will go ahead this Friday 5 September. First in the competition will play second, and third will play fourth. Our Junior team will be playing Carlingford in the Grand Final and our senior team will also be playing Carlingford for third spot. Parents are encouraged to come and support the teams. We are playing at Doyle Ground from 9.30am on Friday 5 September.

Premier’s Spelling Bee
WOW! We have some terrific, motivated and inspiring spellers at Oatlands! Congratulations to all students who participated in the Premier’s Spelling Bee. The regional final will be held at Carlingford West Public School on Tuesday 9 September. Representing Oatlands are Daniel K, Merujen C, Sebastian P and Sean L. A HUGE congratulations goes to Ellie L who won the Stage 2 Competition and to Daniel K who won the Stage 3 Competition. We wish them all the luck and success at the regional level of the competition.
**Writer's in the Environment Camp**

Writer's in the Environment camp is a yearly event held at Brawongle Environmental Education Centre. This week selected gifted and talented writers from Year 6 will spend three days immersed in activities to inspire and improve their writing. Students will participate in writing workshops conducted by guest authors/writers whilst being immersed within the natural environment. We are hoping that this will be an annual event and form part of our Gifted and Talented Writing program.

**Writing Focus Aims:-**
- to engage talented and motivated students in workshops run by popular children’s authors
- to enable experimentation with a variety of genres and enhancement of students’ writing skills e.g. characterisation, planning, setting the scene, developing a plot and different story endings
- to immerse students within the beauty and serenity of the natural forest environment in order to stimulate inspiration to create new ideas

**Overnight Camp Aims:-**
- to meet and socialise with students from other schools with similar writing talents and interests
- to provide opportunities for students to participate in activities such as bush walk to local historical site beside the Hawkesbury River, night activities at the campfire/amphitheatre area, wildlife presentation, solo diary writing, a storytelling workshop with an Aboriginal educator

Students will have the opportunity to work with the following experienced literacy teachers and renowned children’s authors:

**Simon French** – “Where in the World”, “Change the Locks”, “Cannily Cannily”, “Other Brother”


**Debra Abella** – “Max Remy Superspy”, “Jasper Zammit (Soccer Legend)”, “Ghost Club”

**James Roy** – “Captain Mack”, “Voyage to Verdada”, “Town”

**Zone Athletics**

I was lucky enough to attend the Zone Athletics Carnival on Monday 25 August which was held at Sydney Athletics Centre Homebush. All students represented Oatlands Public School proudly and responsibly. Parents attending the carnival commented on how well the students were behaved and I was also impressed with their sportsmanship. A special mention to Shriya who was extremely helpful and wore her hat all day, also to Evan, who showed great sportsmanship shaking the hands of other competitors at the end of his race.

Kristina did especially well coming first in the 200m, second in the 100m and 800m. A huge effort also from George who ran 4th in the 100m final and Patrick who came third in the 100m final. Extraordinarily Marcel and Gabriel ran the exact same time in their different heats to qualify for the 100m final. A goal for next year is to improve our baton changes in the relays. Congratulations and well done to all athletes who competed and represented Oatlands Public School so well!

**Mind Quest 2014**

On Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 November 2014, the seventy-fourth Mind Quest program will be held for gifted and talented primary school students from Years 1-6 at Glenwood High School. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over 36 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, lego robotics, mathematics, writing, art and drawing and much more. Please contact our school office for a brochure.

Ms Dayhew
Afternoon Snack Attack

How many times have you opened the lunch box at the end of the day to find uneaten sandwiches? Many kids find eating lunch at school a chore when they are keen to join their friends and play. Tempt kids with the following snack ideas after school:

- Wholemeal or wholegrain toast with a variety of toppings.
- Try pikelets/ crumpets/ muffins.
- Breakfast cereals can be used as a snack.
- Fruit (fresh, dried, tinned or frozen sections), use alone or in a fruit smoothie
- small cans of spaghetti, baked beans or sweetcorn make great snacks
- Vegetable platters with a low fat savoury dip
- Milkshakes or smoothies.

Serve vegies as snacks.

1/2 Gymnastics students love numeracy!
# Oatlands Awards

**Oatlands Awards Week 6 – “Creating, Imagining and Innovating”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Award Winners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K Swimming</td>
<td>Savion, Joshua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1 Hockey</td>
<td>Alexander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Gymnastics</td>
<td>Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 Triathlon</td>
<td>Sharon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Marathon</td>
<td>Demi</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5 Athletics</td>
<td>Mayra</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 Heptathlon</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
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**Class Awards:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Award Winners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K Swimming</td>
<td>Sofia, Lachlan, Angelica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1 Hockey</td>
<td>Maddi, Tye, Sophia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2 Gymnastics</td>
<td>Giovanni, Jack, Eugenia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 Triathlon</td>
<td>Ellie, Sarah, Veena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Marathon</td>
<td>Charleen, Curtis, Marcel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5 Athletics</td>
<td>Estelle, Patrick, Chris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Heptathlon</td>
<td>Johannes, Kathy, Isaac</td>
</tr>
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*Bear Award Winner: Natasha*
Red foxes.

Red foxes have bushy tails.

They have orange and white fur.

The red fox hunts for food in the dark.

They live in a den.

Foxes are important because they are nocturnal animals.

How original! I love this report.

NICE Great
This is a Red fox.

Red foxes have big, black noses.

It has pointy, long ears.

Red foxes have black bulging eyes.

It has long, big whiskers.

It eats small ting mice.

Red foxes hunt for yummy animals.

It can eat animals by grabbing.

A Red fox is a very important nocturnal animal.

Well done Erica, you remembered all the parts of your information report!