Overport Newsflash

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From Julie's desk.

Last Day of 2024.

On Thursday **19th of December**, there will be a Christmas concert held in the morning session provided the weather is fine. Each year level will perform and students are encouraged to dress up in Christmas clothing for the day. Parents are very welcome to join us.

Don't forget...Friday 20th of December is the last day of the year and we will finish at 1.30 pm prior to lunchtime.

School Leaders Badge Presentation

On Monday we held a special assembly for this year's leaders to present badges to next year's recipients. All of our year 6 students will be leaders next year however, 28 of them hold a specific role and badge and will be the leaders of the year 6 cohort supporting them through their final year of primary school. I am proud to announce the student leaders for next year. School Captains: **Jules H & Layla B;** House Captains: Kurboroo (green): **Isla M & Daniel J;** Topiram (gold): **Zoe M &Tess M;** Wargil (blue): **Molly H & Hunter T;** Bernonneit (red); **Serenity L & Felix E.** Visual Arts Captains: **Ruby S, Zahli N & Amber J.** Music Captains: **Jacinta C & Reece B.** Student Health Leader: **Anna P.** Student Health Ambassadors: **Ellen W, Vivienne G & Adam H.** Library leaders: **Sara H, Evelyn S, Heath S & Anwita A.** STEM Leaders: **Archie N & Willow P.** Environmental leaders: **Blake D and Oscar G.** Japanese Leaders: **Risindi M & Lincoln F.** Congratulations to them all.

Year 6 Graduation

Next Wednesday we will bid our year 6 students farewell at their graduation ceremony as they transition from Primary School to Secondary School. I would like to wish them all a successful future as they move to their next learning journey. We will certainly miss them and their cheeky smiles and precious stories. I hope that they will pop back from time to time for a visit! They take with them hopes, dreams and wishes for what is sure to be bright futures.

Congratulations Year 6s—2024.

State-wide Transition Day—Tuesday 10th December.

On Tuesday our year 6 students attended their secondary school during the state-wide transition day. Students from foundation to year 5 excitedly did their final transition to the next year level to meet their teachers and classmates for 2025.

We welcome new classroom teachers, Lorraine Montgomery and Vanessa Norris, music teacher, Mal Grimmett and our new Business Manager, Peta Lee. We are pleased to advise that the following staff will be continuing with us in 2025: Darcy Johnson, Kelsey Barrett, Fiona Lucette, Simone Britt, Lindsay Barrett, Melinda Gledhill, Laura Hilli, Nicole Walsh and Bronte Willson.

CSEF for 2025

2025 CSEF payment for Pension Card or Health Care Card holders

If you are a holder of a Pension Card or Health Care Card, you may be entitled to apply for CSEF. CSEF is a payment of $150.00 per student per year to go towards Camps, Sports and Excursions. If you received a CSEF payment this year for your student and have a prep starting in 2025, please fill out a new application form to add your new prep student.

Please note, if you received CSEF in 2024, still hold an eligible card and do **NOT have a new student starting in 2025, it is not necessary to complete a new form.*

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Staffing for 2025.

Overport is fortunate to have very stable and outstanding staff. However, we do have some staff movement for 2025. We say farewell to Tania Cleary who is returning to Derinya PS and thank her for all the wonderful work she has done with the students in Art. Nikki Gilham has accepted a Leading Teacher position at Pakenham Consolidated Primary School. While we are delighted for her and know she will do an incredible job, we will miss her greatly. Our fabulous music teacher, Steven Davidson, is taking 12 months leave to explore options in the country. Our amazing Business Manager, Mandy Norton, is taking 12 months leave. Mandy will continue in her role until 27th January. We look forward to her return in 2026.

David Freeman will undertake 3 days in music with Mal Grimmett and 2 days with Ben Bryant in HPE. Wendy Kilpatrick will deliver a literacy intervention program 3 days a week for years 3 to 5 along with Felicity Batty who will continue to drive LEAP for the junior years. Sam Rodwell and Melissa Gleeson will undertake our STEM program along with Nicole Walsh. Sam will focus on the 'Digital Technology' element while Melissa and Nicole will focus on the 'Design Technology' components. This will ensure our students get both technology areas addressed. Sam's STEM program will run back-to-back with Japanese, run by Tomoko Yamashita, across the two semesters. Steph Johnston will join Lynne White in Art.

Our staffing for 2025 is below:
Prep team- 5 classes: Emma Sanders/Jacqui Goodier, Katie Forbes, Kirstin Watson, Amy Griffiths, Lindsay Barrett & Melinda Gledhill.
Year 1 team- 4 classes: Hannah Williams, Selin Hull, Christie Holman/Andrea Santospirito & Lorraine Montgomery.
Year 2 team- 4 classes: Kate Chandler/Bronte Wilson, Darcy Johnson, Aidan Hudson/Annie Hall & Amber Ellery.
Year 3 team- 4 classes: Jack Butler, Kirstin Watson, Fiona Lucette & Simone Britt.
Year 4 team- 4 classes: Grade 3/4 Guy Marsden/Nicole Walsh, Lyndal Robinson, Alison Cumberlidge Vanessa Norris, & Thane Francis.
Year 5 team– 4 classes: Miranda Tring, Matt Leyden & Laura Hilli.
Year 6 team, 5 classes: Grade 5/6, Laura Andreadis/Bronte Wilson, Kelsey Barrett, Jane Lacey/ Cathy Houston, Chelle Gray & Nikki Cook.
Performing Arts: David Freeman/Mal Grimmett.
Visual Arts: Lynne White/Steph Johnston
HPE: Ben Bryant/David Freeman
STEM (Science, Technology Engineering & Design): Melissa Gleeson/Nicole Walsh & Sam Rodwell.
Japanese: Tomoko Yamashita; semester 1, years prep-2.& **STEM:** Sam Rodwell, yrs 3-6.
Intervention: LEAP: Felicity Batty—junior students; Wendy Kilpatrick, years 3 to 5.
Phonological Awareness: Kamla Chinnathumby.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our extraordinary staff. Our Teaching staff, Education Support staff, Administration staff, Library Technician and all who support your children at our school. We are extremely fortunate to have such competent and passionate staff.

PFC Fundraising Results– 2024.

This year the Parents and Friends Club (PFC) have done another amazing job raising a significant amount through all the wonderful fundraising activities they have initiated. We had or Colour Run, Trivia Night, Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day stalls, Bunnings BBQ, Halloween Disco and Market. Altogether they raised a total of $58458.00 which is outstanding.
So far they have enabled the purchase of Chairs and Tables for Hall $772.90, Soundfields for Classrooms P-2 $29749.50 and the Basketball Court Resurfacing $11800.00. There are funds to be carried forward for 2025. The purchase of more Soundfields and sports uniforms to be used during interschool sports are on their list. School Council will discuss this early next year.

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Our PFC are also saying farewell to two of their members whose children are going to high school. Our president, Kia Peterson and Market and Trivia Night organiser, Kate O'Sullivan. They have handed the baton onto other members to continue next year. I would also like to express our sincere thanks for all of their hard work.

Garden Helpers.

Thank you to the year 4 students who eagerly assisted one of our maintenance staff, Mr David, to add new bark to the Japanese Garden and to an area near the portables to avoid possible tripping. They were very keen to help and Mr David said they showed great leadership. We greatly appreciated the help from them as the planned working bee had to be postponed due to lack of helpers which of course is quite understandable at this time of year. We will look at a working bee early next year and hope that many of you can join us.

Ground Work to Date.

We are still looking at a finish date for the Soccer Pitch, running track and area around the rebound wall of Monday, 16th December. The new asphalt drive and guttering will be completed over the school holidays. The area is really looking amazing. I spoke with some of our students in year 4 and 5 to let them know that they will have access next week. To avoid everyone being there at once, we will roll out access over the first few days to a level at a time. However, once the new school year starts this will be open to everyone. I am sure many families and children will come in over the holidays and have a look, enjoy the soccer pitch area and certainly run around the track. These aerial shots were taken by drone a week ago and have progresses further since!

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Chess Club

Article by Ryan 5C.

"Here at Overport Primary school, we have a chess club. We play at lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays. At this chess club you play with a random player. If you win you get 2 points, a draw would be 1 and if you get a loss then you get nothing. There are strict rules.

1. If you agree to come in you must or have a good reason. You must sign up beforehand.
2. When the games are over, give a handshake to your competitor.
3. No forced draws or purposely slow play to get a draw.
4. The 21 move rule applies from the time a player has only a king left on the board. That is, the player who still has pieces other than the king will have 21 moves to checkmate the king or else it's a draw.

In first place, we have Ryan with 115 points. In second place, we have Daniel with 95 points. In third, we have Darel with 93 points. There's a total of 30 players in the chess club, 21 male, 9 female. Next year we're planning on having a senior competition and a junior competition. Sadly, the competition has ended for this year but we'll be back next year with even more competitors and chess clocks! So make sure you come to the chess club next year!

Here's some commentary from the 1st place holder. Ryan says "This has been a good year. Full of people ready to try out chess for the first time. Some even have become really good at chess!" Daniel and Darel both agreed that the chess club was a good idea and fun! If you're wondering who had the idea of the chess club it was Ryan and Neil. On the 5th of December 2024 we had a presentation where Mrs Gleason gave out certificates and trophies! Overall this has been an amazing year for all people participating in the chess club. If you're interested, ask Neil about chess club for more info.

By Ryan Gilbert, 5C.

Thank you to Education Support staff member, Neil Myhre for introducing this club to the students who absolutely love it. I am going to have to hone my skills if I am to beat these first rate players!

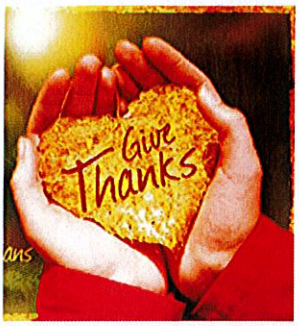
Regards

Julie Gleeson

Principal.

"Santa Claus is coming, Santa Claus is coming, he's not very far away..."

Twelve more sleeps...



BE THANKFUL!

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something

For it gives you the opportunity to learn

Be thankful for the difficult times

During those times you grow

Be thankful for your limitations

Because they give you opportunity for improvement

Be thankful for each new challenge

Because it will build strength and character

Be thankful for your mistakes

They will teach you valuable lessons

Be thankful when you're tired and weary

Because it means you're made a difference

It is easy to be thankful for the good things

A life of rich fulfilment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks

GRATITUDE can turn a negative into a positive

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles and they become your blessings.

Author unknown.

May Christmas bring you peace and many opportunities to be thankful!

Best wishes from

Julie Gleeson

Principal.