Every Child Matters Every Day
At Officer Primary School we hold the following values – the four “R’s” for all members of the school community.

- RESPONSIBILITY
- RESPECT
- RESILIENCE
- RELATIONSHIPS

As a staff, we make a commitment in 2016 to make these core values part of our explicit teaching on a routine basis.

We invite parents as well to engage in teaching and living by these values.

Date: Friday 28th October, 2016

Notices due back:
Dinosaur Excursion for Grade Prep.1 and 2: 31st October
Grade 3 & T20 Cricket: 9th November

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
Dear Parents and Friends of OPS;

PLANNING FOR 2017
At this time of the year staff, students and parents begin to look ahead to the approaching school year and questions are raised about plans for next year. A common concern for parents is what the grade structure will be for next year and which class will their child be placed in.
In all schools a great deal of careful thought and planning goes into organising the cohorts of students into a workable grade structure and placement of individual students into classes. In deciding on a grade structure many factors come in to play, with a starting point being the determination of how many classes are viable. To a large degree this is dictated by the budget available for staffing and classroom spaces. All schools are provided with teaching spaces on the basis of one teaching space to 25 students, with an expectation that efforts will be made to keep the junior classes around 22 students per class and senior classes around 28 students per class (an average across the school of 25). In schools where the numbers at the different year levels do not divide neatly into groups of the desired size, or the population is top or bottom heavy, the task can become very complex.

Our starting point is to consider how many classes we are be able to operate. With an expected enrolment of 230 students we will opt for 10 classes, therefore utilising all available teaching spaces. The next priority is to achieve balance across the school in terms of numbers, student needs and workable groups to facilitate effective curriculum planning and delivery. As a school in a growth area we also need to consider that we have options to absorb new students moving into our area without overloading particular year levels.

When taking this all into account it is most likely that we will come up with a structure that has a blend of straight and composite classes. In the coming weeks I will keep you informed of our plans with regard to grade structure and staffing. If you have any questions or concerns about this process please come and have a chat with me.
130 YEAR CELEBRATION
Thank you to families who braved the terrible weather conditions to support our celebrations of 130 years of school at Officer Primary School. The PFA did a great job of coming up with an indoor plan for activities that were operated by our dedicated staff and volunteers. The children enjoyed participating in the range of activities on offer and the formalities of the evening, which included singing Happy Birthday to OPS and a sharing a delicious birthday cake.
It was great to meet some past students who had very fond memories of their days at OPS and were willing to share their wonderful stories of their school days. Many of these people were from families who have had multiple generations grow up in the area and have a strong interest in the future of our school.

CONGRATULATIONS
On Tuesday evening our School Captains Libby and Mia participated in the Rotary Speaking Competition. Both students represented our school proudly and did a great job of delivering their speeches in front of a large audience. This is a great achievement and one that will prepare them well for the future. Libby was awarded the Presidents prize for her speech which focused on Oscar’s Law. I know that you will join me in congratulating both girls for their achievements.

STUDENT SAFETY
Recently I have had a number of staff members raise concerns about parents utilising the staff carpark for drop off and pick up of students. Space in our carpark is very limited and it is an out of bounds area for our students at all times. Whilst I understand that it may be convenient, particularly for parents dropping off or picking up students for OSHC I would ask that you refrain from using this space. We have had some near misses with cars entering and leaving the carpark when staff are arriving in the morning or leaving in the afternoon. We have also had some scary moments with students who have run across the carpark ahead of their parents and behind vehicles when they are backing out of spaces. While some of us do have reversing cameras, others do not and it would be our worst nightmare to have a serious accident in our carpark. It is much safe, and much better role modelling to take the extra steps and use the pedestrian access gates on Tivendale Road. Please help us to keep your children safe!

Remember our Survivor Challenge is on next Friday (9:00 to 11:00am). Parents are welcome to come along to observe and lend a hand. Please pray for fine weather!

Regards
Lynne Brenner
Principal

YAKKERBOO SCULPTURE

Officer Primary School has been lucky to be chosen as one of ten schools in the local area to contribute to the new Yakkerboo sculpture that will be erected in the main street of Pakenham. Today we had artist Julie Squires working with a group of students to make plaster impressions that will be cast in bronze and attached to the sculpture. Look out for photos in next weeks newsletter!
Remembrance Day Poppies
Available from the office. Bag Tags $4.00, Wristbands $3.00 and Poppy badges $1.00 and $2.00

SUBWAY LUNCHES
Our next subway lunch is Wednesday 9th November 2016. Please remember to have orders into the office by 9.00am

Christmas is almost here!
We need your help!
Do you run your own business or know someone that does?

We are seeking donations to make our Christmas Raffle bigger and better than ever and in return we’d like to support You and the Children of Officer Primary School.

If you can help us out please see Melissa Holden for more details.
What’s On

YK and AW

Hi All. What a fabulous week we have had. On Thursday a group of our 3/4 students participated in the Regional Hoop Time competition. They did extremely well and are now off to play in the state competition. Congratulations to Chelsea, Jack, Blayden, Molly, Ella, Rylan and Kade on their fabulous performance. We also had the Rotary Public Speaking competition where Mia and Libby both represented our school. Both girls wrote fabulous speeches and spoke very well. Congratulations to Libby who won the Presidents Award for her speech on Oscars Law— Congratulations.

Next Friday is our Survivor challenge and the students prepared this week by selecting their tribe name and making their headbands. Next weeks Maths topic is looking at units of time; using AM and PM notations and solving time problems. In Literacy the students will be focusing on writing persuasive texts and learning how to engage their reader.

NP and B/C

Hi everyone. This week we finished our focus on division in maths. Next week we will be starting maths groups and our topic will be pattern and algebra. The two grades will be split into four groups and each groups’ aim will be the areas they specifically need to work on. Maths groups will run twice a week until the end of the year. Both grades are working through Fountas and Pinnell running records—these give us more detailed information about the children’s comprehension that we will use when writing reports. These do take quite a bit of time but we will return to our regular running records as soon as possible. For those going away, have a wonderful long weekend and for everyone else enjoy Cup Day on Tuesday!

Have a great week!

Reminders

Zooper Doopers: Zooper Doopers are for sale on a Tuesday and Thursday to raise money for Grade 6 Graduation. They are 50 cents each (one per student) and will be sold each week during term 4.

Breakfast Club— Breakfast club is Tuesday and Thursday, the booking sheet can be found in the foyer of the office. All are welcome.

Survivor Challenge—the survivor challenge is being held next Friday
What's On

LITERACY
In reading, we are focusing on the accuracy of what we are reading with Flippy the Dolphin (flipping the sounds). Using a louder reading voice and using a dictionary to help us find word meanings. The grade Preps have been looking at comprehending what we are reading by retelling the story.

In writing this week, the students are writing recounts about their weekends and are working on proper letter formations and making sure that we are writing on the lines as well as using capital letters at the appropriate times. We will also be looking beginning to write a response.

MATHS
Our focus now in the grade ½’s moves onto estimating and ordering time. The preps are looking at where to place a number on a number line.

INQUIRY
Our inquiry topic is Dinosaurs. We have been very excited to share all our knowledge about dinosaurs that we already have and are looking forward to learning all about Carnivores, Omnivores and Herbivores over the next few weeks.

Dinosaur Park Excursion
We have been looking at different dinosaurs and are very excited to be going on an excursion to the Dinosaur park in Somerville next week. We also have the option of having a sausage for lunch! YUM!

The students will have a great time digging for bones and looking at the huge dinosaur models there.

Weekly Timetable

Prep RA
Art - Monday
P.E. - Wednesday
ICT - Tuesday
Signing - Tuesday

1 J/2
Art - Friday
P.E. - Monday
ICT - Tuesday
Signing - Friday

Prep KS
Art - Monday
P.E. - Monday
ICT - Tuesday
Signing - Tuesday

1 L/H
Art - Friday
P.E. - Monday
ICT - Monday
Signing - Wednesday

1/2 J/D
Art - Thursday
P.E. - Friday
ICT - Wednesday
Signing - Tuesday

Reminders

Zooper Doopers - Zooper Doopers are being sold by the grade 6’s on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term for 50c

Breakfast Club
Tuesday and Thursday - Booking folder is located in the office

Melbourne Cup Holiday
Don't forget there is no school Tuesday 1st November for the Melbourne Cup holiday!
Survivor A-thon

Just a reminder our Survivor Challenge is on next Friday 4th November from 9am to 11am (weather permitting). There will be some great challenges for the children to compete in as tribes and we would love to have parents come and cheer them on. If anybody would like to help out at the event, please see Julie in the office.

Thank you to all the families that braved the wet weather and stayed to celebrate our very special 130th Birthday. Thank you also to all the volunteers that helped out on the night. Without you we wouldn’t have been able to go ahead with our activities.

On page 31 of this week’s Pakenham Gazette there is an article on the birthday celebrations.

Proud to always support the Officer Primary School.

Craig Currie

0417135075

A Local Family – Your Local Agent.

OBrien Real Estate
Congratulations
Students of the week

Prep KS

Tyler W: For being such a good learner and sharing your ideas and thoughts with the grade. Keep it up.

Prep RA

Connor: For helping with the new preps and showing them outstanding behaviour. Awesome job Connor!

1 JDZ

Tiana: For showing wonderful persistence by approaching challenging tasks with a “You Can Do It” attitude.

1 LH

Stuart: For outstanding results when learning your Oxford spelling words.

1/2 JD

Jakob: For showing great improvement in his writing, both in neatness and content!!
1/2 DM
Owen: Great effort and attitude towards work this week.

2/3 NP
Ella: For always giving 100% and being a phenomenal classmate and friend.

3/4 BC
Hayden: A big concentrated diligent effort for getting handwriting impeccably jotted! Well done!

4/5 AW
Rebekah: For being so persistent with your work in class and being such a helpful and friendly member of our class.

5/6 YK
Yusuf: For using interesting and engaging language when writing his autobiography – Great work!
Want to earn your School a free iPad?

Nicola Parreira at Barry Plant Pakenham has created a special offer for Officer Primary School families. If you mention this add and List & Sell your home with Nicola Parreira she will generously donate an iPad to our School.

Nicola Parreira
Sales Consultant
M 0407 221 822 T 03 5941 1977 F 03 5941 6377
E parreira@barryplant.com.au W barryplant.com.au/pakenham
16-18 Station Street, Pakenham 3810
# OSHClub News
## Before School / After School Care Program

**24th - 28th October 2016**

A big thank you to all the families who visited our OSHClub room! We really enjoyed having new faces come into our room and experiencing some of the activities we have to offer. We hope you all enjoyed it too.

We are excited to announce that our Assessment and Rating visit is taking place from Wednesday 2nd to Thursday 3rd of November, and will be running for 2 sessions. Day 1 will be during After School Care on Wednesday 2nd of November and Day 2 will be during Before School Care on Thursday 3rd of November. We would appreciate all your feedback and comments, and the support of all our parents and families is always welcomed.

All of our grass heads are now happily growing, and are beginning to show some really cool hair! This week we have been celebrating Halloween by making scary paper plate ghosts, monster cups, and enjoying some sensory activities such as Jelly Baff, Slime & Gooey.

![Images of children engaging in Halloween activities.]

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<td>Cricket</td>
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## Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0438 566 988  
Coordinator: Susana Tapia  
Assistants: Ellen Fisher & Amy Dunlop  
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free! Please create an account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au). All bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.