**Oatley Public School**

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**OATLEY ORGANISER Term 2 Week beginning 29 APRIL.**

Dear Parents and Carers

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Term 1 ends Friday 12 April – enjoy the holiday break and keep safe.**

Term 2 resumes for teachers Monday 29 April and is a Staff Development Day and office is open.

**Staff Development day – focus is on New Curriculum Reform Monday 29 April 2024.**

**Term 2 resumes for students Tuesday 30 April**

**Student/Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in Term 2: Week beginning Monday 6th May - Friday 10th May (inclusive).**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2023 and SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2021 - 2025**

Now published onto school website and available to read

**ANZAC DAY Celebration**

Unfortunately OPS is unable to participate in the RSL ANZAC DAY service as they are holding this service in the middle weekend of the school holidays and students told us many would be away. However, the school will hold our own service for all our students on our return next term on the Wednesday 1 MAY.

**Calendar events for Term 2**

* Peer Support K-6
* K-6 Art Program with Georgia Freebody
* Introducing Character Strengths to all students
* St George Performing Arts auditions.
* EXTERNAL VALIDATION – 2 JULY 2024 - held at Oatley Public School 9.30am – 12pm

The School Excellence cycle is underpinned by the School Excellence Framework (SEF) and supports all NSW public schools in the pursuit of excellence. The SEF provides a clear description of effective practice across the key educational domains of learning, teaching and leading, and informs and guides decision making by principals. While improvement efforts are designed, driven and assessed on an ongoing basis by each school, an external process is important for providing an assurance to the school and the system that the progress being made aligns with the expectations articulated in the SEF. External validation is an integral and deliberate element of school planning and supports effective self-assessment to inform high impact strategic directions. External validation is not an inspection. It provides an opportunity for schools to discuss their judgements about the school’s practice, and the evidence that underpins them, with a panel of peers.

The external validation process supports excellence in NSW public schools. School improvement is grounded in rigorous self-assessment and analysis of the school’s current situation with respect to student outcomes and teaching and leadership practices. Schools regularly collect, analyse and evaluate a range of quantitative and qualitative data and evidence as part of ongoing self-assessment practices.

* Semester 1 REPORTS end of Term 2

Enjoy the two week holiday break from all the staff at Oatley PS. Thank you too for your support this term.

**SCHOOL BUDGET APPROACH**

Impact for Term 2 – presented at P&C last meeting.

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| Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning Prue Car and Secretary Murat Dizdar. |
| * After multiple years with falling student enrolments, we need to ensure we are prioritising our teachers delivering quality teaching and learning to our students across all schools.
* While overall funding remains at record levels, to reflect the reduction in enrolments, address teacher shortages and better manage above centrally funded positions (ACIPs) across the state, flexible funding for most schools will be reduced this year.
* Additional budget measures will include reducing funding for primary executive additional curriculum release time (for first Deputy Principal position) to achieve parity with secondary executives, as well as phasing out disaster supplementation funding from Term 2.
* This year, significant changes have already been made to Education support divisions (head office) in the department.
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We are working with principals to ensure funding is being directed carefully towards student need, and in particular to addressing classroom teacher vacancies. We are working hard to win back enrolment share. Key to that is prioritising quality teaching and learning in every classroom, every lesson, every day.

To right-size our budget for the organisation as it currently exists, and to ensure we are acting on our long-standing staffing challenges, the department will reduce the School Budget Allocation Report (SBAR) by 1.25% for this calendar year, excluding small schools, schools for specific purposes (SSPs) and Intensive English Centres (IECs). Record funding will be maintained across our system.

Presently this new funding will be available early in Term 2. I will be working to implement these changes in coming weeks.

I encourage you to prioritise spending on teachers in class and delivering teaching and learning to our students and continuing to fund critical education programs aligned to your Strategic Improvement Plan and Our Plan for NSW Public Education.

Regards

Debbie Hunter

Principal