



Newsletter

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2023 | VOL.33



Deputy's Desk

YOOIE CHOI



Vision 2024

Over the last few weeks, I have been collaborating with staff regarding our School's strategic directions for 2024 and beyond. The school has been on a journey the last few terms with various presentations, surveys, meetings, and lots of post-it note activities! Overwhelmingly, 95% of our staff were enthusiastic about the key directions the school was undertaking. Our Executive team worked on refining our staff ideas into 7 key areas.

One such area is "Building on our Christian foundations." Inspired by the passage (Matthew 7:24) to put Jesus' words into practice so we can be like a wise man who builds his house on a rock, the school likewise needs to build on firm foundations. The Christian foundations of the school need to be celebrated and made clear to our school community, as it is the very essence of who we are and why we do the things we do.

After I update staff for further feedback, I will provide some details to our school community, so I can seek your input, ideas and feedback. I encourage our school community to take the opportunity to engage in this process as you are very much a key part of the school's growth, development and success.

Prayer and Praise

Let us thank God for:

- The volunteer hours that our Board generously give for the benefit of our school.
- The freedom that we have in Australia to explore the Bible and educate our children in a Christian School.
- The opportunities that we all have every day, to exhibit and cultivate the fruits of the spirit - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Please pray for:

- Our kindergarten 2024 students who have started their orientation to Big School!
- Our secondary students who are sitting exams. May they approach them with good preparation and positive perspective.
- The preparations being made for the upcoming Senior Secondary Rite of Passage at Ridgecrest. Pray for the 2024 Year 11 and Year 12 students to bond well as a great cohort.

SAVE THE DATE

OCS Thanksgiving Services

Primary (Prep-6)
13 December, 5:30pm

Secondary (7-12)
14 December, 5:30pm

Ngalgarra Hall, 500 Cecil Rd.



For your Calendar...

Coming Up at OCS

- Year 7-10 Exams - **3rd + 6-7th Nov**
- Year 10 Celebration - **8th Nov**
- Rite of Passage Camp - **9th + 10th Oct**
- Year 7 Orientation - **15th Nov**
- Year 12 Graduation - **16th Nov**
- Jump Rope for Heart - **17th Nov**
- K-4 Water Fun Day - **8th Dec**
- Year 6 Celebration - **8th Dec**

Regulars

- STAR - **M-Th 3:15-5pm**
- After School Care - **M-F 3:15 - 5:30pm**
- SQUAD - **M + T 3:15 - 4:30pm**
- Primary Assemblies - **Friday fortnightly 9:30am**
- Secondary Assemblies - **Friday fortnightly 10:50am**

More information on





Staff movements + vacancies in 2024

With almost 80 members of staff, it is inevitable that every year we say farewell to some who are moving on from our school to other places, and we welcome newcomers.

We encourage you to pray at this time for those going out and coming in, as well as for God's provision for the vacancies yet to be filled - that each person will be placed where they can best carry out the purpose God has for them

Moving on at end of 2023

Mr Bill Hetherington, Mrs Vicki George, Mrs Belinda Elliott, Mr Ken Greenwood, Mrs Karen Huntly, Miss Elise Reilly

On Maternity leave during 2024

Mrs Amanda Sims, Mrs Sabrina McKern, Mrs Genna Pade

New staff for 2024

Mr S Price (DP-Students/Foundations), Mrs N Johnston (DP-Staff/Operations), Mr Dean Johnston (Science/Maths), Mrs Felicity Dobbs (English)

Vacancies to be filled

2 Primary teachers, 1 Secondary Maths teacher, 1 ICT Systems Administrator. Teacher's aides. See [here](#) for more information on our vacancies for 2024

Primary School

CATH BUCHANAN



We had a very successful Kindergarten Orientation last week, with lots of very happy and excited little children. We warmly welcome our existing Prep families into 'big school' in 2024. It is also very exciting to see the number of new families who will be joining our school community from next year.

Congratulations also to our Stage 3 Debating Team for your wonderful

efforts in the second friendly match against the Kinross team. We hosted the debate, with each school scoring one win each. New friendships were formed, new skills were learnt, and we are looking forward to building on this valuable co-curricular experience next year.

Secondary School

MEL COLLINS



At our last Assembly, it was wonderful to celebrate the successes of many of our students who received awards for participating in a range of sporting and academic competitions throughout Term 2.

A special mention goes to Jaimee Tandang in Year 10 who achieved a High Distinction in the Big Science competition. She was also awarded a Credit in the Australian Science Olympiad examinations.

Another mention to Nancy Elliott in Year 7 who was awarded first place in the Junior Secondary section of the Hilarie Lindsay Short Story Competition. Congratulations to both girls.

I would also like to congratulate Tully Godfrey, who competed at the Australian National Mountain Biking Championships in October. Awesome work Tully!



Tully



Charlotte, Emily, Jaimee



Nancy



SPORTS AWARDS



Sport includes lots of travel to and from events. My tip for travel is be prepared - bring food from home to eat along the journey.
-Charlotte

From the Academic Growth Centre

CINDY HALES



Daily our Teacher Aides and Learning Support teachers minister to our students in a very special way. The Trampoline Program, the MLIT and MACQLIT sessions are enjoyed by small groups of students. Often individual boys and girls can be seen out in the school gardens or in the HUB, reading or working on a task with a Teacher Aide. AGC staff members provide in-class support for small groups of students or individuals, clarifying lesson content, assignments and helping with exam preparation.

Several HSC students received Special Provisions during their exams. These provisions will also be provided for our year 7-10 students who have a School Care Plan. A team of twelve amazing volunteers will be aiding our students as readers and writers during the Yearly Exams. A HUGE thank you to them all. Anyone who has a Working with Children Check who would like to join this team and help a student as a reader/writer during exams, will be welcomed with open arms!

From the Sporting Field

CAT BUCKERFIELD



The Talented Athlete Program (TAP at OCS) nominations will be available this week. If your child is in Year 5 or above and is interested, please get them to come and see Mrs Pyle or Mrs Buckerfield in the G block staffroom for a nomination form. The TAP program allows students of OCS who excel in sport and dance to be part of a weekly program across the year that brings the athletes together for an hour one morning a week to train together and commune for breakfast.

TAP students participate in excursions that aim to provide growth and development as an athlete. If you have any further questions, please contact the sports team at ocs@ocs.nsw.edu.au. Congratulations to those students who received sports awards at Friday's assembly.

Photo Gallery

