



Newsletter

MARCH 18TH, 2024 | VOL.01

From the Principal

YOOIE CHOI



Greetings to our school community. At our recent Dedication Service, the school community came together to dedicate the school year to the Lord. It was a wonderful time together, and a good reminder to trust God in all that we do. I thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship we shared, and I know the staff appreciated the prayers on behalf of the community, for the year ahead.

I want to thank the Sports Coordinator, Mrs Buckerfield (and her team) for holding all the major carnivals this term. It is a great opportunity for our students to get behind their House, cheer on their friends and participate and enjoy the physical gifts that God has endowed. We look forward to the Primary Athletics Carnival in Week 10.

Last week, I had the opportunity to meet with other Principal's at the Christian Educational National (CEN) conference. There was great fellowship, unity and purpose in our discussions. In particular, the theme of educating the whole child, was prominent. Whilst academic (intellectual) pursuits are important, we also want our children to be compassionate and kind.

As we draw near to Easter, I encourage all of us to take some time in 'lent' and reflect upon the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, who died for our sins so that we may live with Him forever.

Prayer and Praise

Let us thank God for:

- The amazing start that we have had at Orange Christian School and the various opportunities that students have already experienced.
- Our new students, staff and families who have joined our OCS Community. Please pray that they will settle quickly and make positive friendships.

Let us pray for:

- Our parent/teacher interviews. May they be a great time for teachers and parents to connect and partner to assist each child to thrive in the year ahead.
- Wisdom for our School Board and our School Executive as they make decisions for the future of our school.

COMING Soon



Have you been missing the newsletter this year? Scroll down to find out where it's been, and what's next!

For your Calendar...

Coming Up at OCS

- Stage 2 Sleepover - **21st - 22nd March**
- Parent Teacher Interviews - **25th + 27th March**
- Prep and Kinder Easter Hat Parade - **27th March**
- Easter Long Weekend - **29th March - 1st April**
- Primary Athletics Carnival - **5th April**
- Year 10 Trade Readiness Program - **11th April**
- Stage 6 Retreat - **10th-12th April**
- Last Day of Term 1 - **12th April**
- First Day of Term 2 - **29th April**

Regulars

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

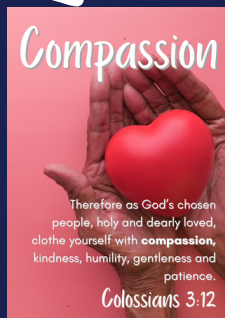
More information on





School Values

A change of leadership can bring about reviews and adjustments in many different aspects of a school. One of the adjustments we have made in 2024 is to shift from focusing on the value of 'Creativity' - where we learned that we are made in the image of a creative God, and that each and every person is creative whether they realise it or not; to a focus on 'Compassion' - teaching our students to see others and themselves through a lens of compassion and empathy, reflecting the way that God interacts with us with grace and love.



Spotto!

SPOTTO! You're awesome, and I noticed! The Secondary SLT have introduced an amazing new initiative this year for our secondary school - a student led acknowledgement of our Kindness Culture focus. Slips are filled in by students only - no teachers allowed! There is a prize draw at each assembly, and all Spotto nominations are being recorded for additional acknowledgements later in the year. From helping out at carnivals and setting up the hall, to encouraging others and working hard in classes, the nominations have been fantastic already!

Congrats to our Week 3 recipients:

- Josiah Hutchins for helping pack up after the Inquisitive Minds workshop
- Eleanor Buchanan for helping set up assembly
- Tilly Pyle for helping set up assembly, Inquisitive Minds and being an all-day helper at the Swimming Carnival.

Congrats to our Week 5 recipients:

- Avi Sadykova for encouraging people during Cross Country
- Abraham Ejiofor for being a help during classes

Primary School

CATH BUCHANAN



There are several upcoming events that the Primary School students are looking forward to. Stage 1 are off to the theatre to see the entertaining production of Dogman the Musical. The Stage 2 sleepover at school will be held at the end of this week. This event is a very valuable experience for the students, and we are very grateful for the support of all our Stage 2 parents

who make this event possible. The Prep and Kindergarten Easter Hat parade is next Wednesday and is always a highlight of the term. Friday 5th April will be the inaugural Primary School Athletics Carnival. We would love you to come and cheer on the students. Keep an eye on the school app for further details.

Secondary School

MEL COLLINS



Parent Teacher Interviews will be coming up next week. This is an important opportunity to connect with class teachers and discuss your child's progress. I look forward to seeing you there!

Please wish all the students competing at the CSSA State Swimming all the best as they head to Sydney next Tuesday.

We also wish our ISTEM and Year 9 and 10 students well as they compete against the other local schools at the Science and Engineering Challenge on Wednesday. I'm sure they will all do OCS proud.

From the Deputy

STEPHEN PRICE



One of the things that has stood out to me since starting at OCS is the sense of belonging at the school amongst the students. This plays out in simple ways and is observed in such things as students keeping the school neat and tidy. This was pointed out to me by the staff at the Orange Aquatic Centre following our Year 3-12 Swimming Carnival, who stated, "Your students have left this centre cleaner than any other school".

I shared this comment with great pride at the assemblies to affirm the students in their care for others and representing the school so well in public. I encouraged the students to continue to "leave a place better than they found it", to be a blessing to others. These small acts of humility go a long way in building a culture in our school that we can be proud of.



What's Changed?



Where has the newsletter been? We've been working on an exciting new format for our newsletter that will be interactive and informative all at once!

What are the changes? The newsletter will be moving to a fortnightly edition, and have lots of value-adding interactive content, dates for your calendar, photos galore and more! It will still be accessible via our website or the Schoolstream app.

When will the new newsletter start? Friday the 5th of April will be our launch date, standby....!

Feedback welcome! What do YOU want to see in your school newsletter? Email suggestions to ocs@ocs.nsw.edu.au



Can you tie your laces? Kindy and Stage 1 can!

