Issue 133 Term 4, Nov 12, 2021

PIN OAK

Remembrance Day

3. Head of College's Report

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Student voice and agency

One of my greatest joys as an educator is to hear the voices of our students and see them not only be able to talk about a passion or area of interest, but also to want to take action. Over the past week Mrs Cunich and I have been listening to the 'pitches' from our Year 8 & 9 Global Thinkers group. They presented ideas of the things they saw as important to learn or do in the future of an education at Oxley and how they could action their projects. The student's ideas were diverse and innovative, and they showed a deep understanding of where the future of education is heading. Ideas included Digital Badges (Digi Cred) for resumes, a six lesson course in spoken word, the value of outdoor learning spaces, improving spaces with biodiversity, VYbYÙrg cZ DYfZcfa]b['5fhgž gYfj]b['ch\Yfg'h\fci [\']a dfcj]b['c\W' 6fYU_ZUgh 7'i Vgž]bhYfbUh]cbU 'WbbYVMJcbgž dfcÙ]b['h\Y' Pipe Band, sporting opportunities and a walk a day programme. The opportunity for student agency with their learning is very important and as part of our Year 9 & 10 programmes, students have been working on their Personal Interest/ Ethical projects in a wide range of areas of interest. These programmes allow our students to develop their passions and

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Remembrance Day Service

K Y'\Y'X'ci f'Ùfgh'[Uh\Yf]b['Ug'U'gWcc''Zcf'a Ubma cbh\g'cb' Thursday, for our annual Remembrance Day Service on Elvo Lawn. This year, three of our Year 10 students spoke about aspects of this important annual commemoration. Leah Halstead spoke poetically about the origins of Remembrance Day as the armistice that brought the First World War to an end, and, appropriately on the 100th anniversary of the use of the poppy as a symbol, explained the link between the poppy and Flanders Field. Patrick Muldoon spoke about the ['cVU']a dUMicZWbUjMicb'5i gffU']Uz'h\Y'X]gcWhjcb'cZdYcd'Yg'

Weekly Awards

Learning Journey
K: Ruby Rogerson
Yr 1: Harry Adams
Yr 2: Angus Sheer
Yr 3B: Lili Giro
Yr 3R: Ian Phillips
Yr 4A: Will Carioti
Yr 4W: Hadley Morgan
Yr 5C: Harry Keats
Yr 5N: Will Coram
Yr 6H: Hayden Zupp
Yr 6S: Phoebe Mooney

Oxley Values
K: Scarlett Druery
Yr 1: Fearne Pearce
Yr 2: Xavier Halstead
Yr 3B: Sophie Henderson
Yr 3R: Oliver Coram
Yr 4A: Sapphire Sparke
Yr 4W: Hamish Aston
Yr 5C: Charlotte Gordon
Yr 5N: Summer Johns
Yr 6H: Holly Bentham

Excellence in Art Hugh Pratten Chase Holmes

Yr 6S: Asher Smith

Excellence in STEM Hudson Ahern

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BIG ISSUE

At some stage in childhood, we are all asked the age-old question: what would you like to be when you grow up? Without fail, the answer is always "older". Old enough to be a doctor or a scuba diver, old enough to be a princess or an architect. Throughout the years, what we want when we grow up changes, but that desperation to just be a little bit older never seems to go away. Until of course, you realise that "older" has become now.

With the class of 2021 leaving the college, it suddenly struck me that I'm not a kid anymore. Or at least not in all the cool ways: I can't skip down main street in a princess dress, or loudly proclaim that I need to go the bathroom. My days of just showing up to school to learn addition and subtraction are long since over, and the chances of me being able to justify hoarding my little pony dolls are slim to none. Instead, I'm always tired, stressed and wondering what we have next period.

For some people, it takes a long while to realise h\Uhíc`XYfi`\Ug'VYWtaY'lbckî"'GcaYhjaYg'mci 'UbX' U Ùj Y!nYUf!c`X`dcbXYf]b['h\Y`]bYj]hUV]`]hmcZ XYUh\` UbX ch\Yfg nci 'ÙbX nci fgY`Z `cc_]b['cb \cffcf Ug' MYUf %&g UthYa dh hc a U_Y U Ùj Y!a Ub d][[mVUVV] ride. It begs the question, is there a proper time to fYU`]qY`h\Uh`mci £7Y`c V\U``mc`XYf3'

Society seems to have deemed Year 12 as the time you become an adult, you're taking the HSC, Xf]b_]b[k Um hcc a i VN Vt YY fi bb]b[cb U gc]X three hours of sleep: prime adult living. But then again, if you were to take a walk-through Oxley you would also see year 7's drowning themselves]b]W!Wt YYg UbX HU_]b[UVci h h\Y]f 7cfbYfghcbY assessment task as though it was the end of the world. So, it seems sleep deprivation and maturity VVIb Vvta Y k]h\ U Y X] YfYbh U[Ygž dYf\Udg VY]b["older" means you've gained wisdom.

So, I did some research and asked students at Oxley for their wisdom, here are the results:

"Don't go vegan for a month. You're just depriving yourself of joy. There's a lot of joy in the world." -Isla Terry

"Don't stop when you get it right. Stop when you can't get it wrong" -Katie Ayling

"Horses and Trees don't mix. I learnt that the hard way yesterday." -Nicola Gardener

"It's better to be short then to be tall, because you can get the free kid's meals at restaurants"- Chiara Shannon

"Younger siblings are a gift. You can get those colouring in sheets at restaurants without looking stupid" -Abi Hunt

"It doesn't matter what's on the outside, what matters is what lies within" -Ellie Law

No matter who I asked, at the idea of giving wisdom or advice a huge smile came 506thetheir .7 1 (came)

The Happiest Man on Earth tells the true and inspiring story of the late Eddie Jaku a Holocaust survivor, motivational speaker and volunteer at the Australian Jewish Museum. Eddie was born in Leipzig Germany born on the 14th of April 1920. Eddie grew up in a small town with his family and they got by through his dad's small business. Eddie had a very good education, even going to College under a fake name due to his religion. One day, Eddie came home from his College to surprise his parents for their anniversary and realised that his house has been abandoned and his parents had gone into hiding due to Kristallnacht. Eddie stayed the night at his house and is found out by German authorities who take Eddie to \jg'\Y``cb`\$

We Were Liars is a book by E. Lockhart about a girl, Cady, and her cousins and friend Gat, Mirren, and Johnny. It is set on their private island,]b h Y Zci f X] YfYbh \ci gYg on the island. Mirren and Johnny are Cady's cousins, and Gat is Johnny's friend from school. They become really close over the years, spending every summer they can with each other. They call themselves 'The Liars'. In the Summer of 15, Cady got in an accident, causing a head injury. She has constant headaches and migraines, and on top of that, she has lost her memory of the whole of Summer 15. "Nothing. I lie there and wait, and remind myself over and over that it doesn't last forever. That there will be another day and after that, yet another day." - Cady Sinclair. In this book you will experience Cady and her journey of recovering her memory and secrets of Summer 15. I strongly recommend this book, especially to those who enjoy mystery and drama.

By Mollie Nash, Year 7

OLD OXLEYAM

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I guess 'making something of yourself' depends on your own personal interpretation or standard, but I think I'm able to say that I have worked hard Ybci [\'UbX'XYjY`cdYX'gi VJWbh'g_]`g'hc'VY'UV'Y' to do the things I enjoy for work. I have always been passionate about music and the piano, and so after several years of practice and study, I have been able to perform around the world, in Israel, Italy, China, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Canada, the USA, and given several world premiere performances. I also teach, accompany, examine for the Australian Music Examination Board, work at h\Y`\YUX`c WY`cZ?UkU]`d]UbcgžUbX`a mZUa]`mUbX` I import a particular harp from Germany for people in Australia (called the 'Veeh Harp' - look it up)!

VFKRRO"

I was fortunate enough to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York in 2017, which for me is one of the pinnacles of a classical musician. Three months later I also performed to many thousands of people at the Burning Man festival in the Nevada desert two polar opposite performing experiences!

:HUH WKHVH WKLQJV WKDW GXVUHLOQIJ KLJK VFKRRO \RX H[SHFWHG \RX ZRXOG HQG XS GRLQJ"

Yes and no. I always felt that I cared more about what I loved doing than what I should do in terms of a career. I knew that music would be a q][b]UVVIbhdUfhcZamZhifYžVihh\Y`qdYVI)UVq`\UjY` materialised along the way. I knew I would always play the piano, but never thought at Carnegie Hall.

I absolutely loved my years at Oxley. I literally couldn't have spent my high school years at a better place. It wasn't always easy, or fun, but neither is life. At Oxley I endeavoured to be part of many groups, juggle many activities/sports, and give everything a go. This prepared me for j jb[U dcfhzc c]Z' k \YfY = Xc gYj YfU X] YfYbh hmdYg cZk cf_ž UbX [Uj Y a Y h\Y WcbUXYbW hc hU_Y (calculated) risks. Oxley nurtured my sense of adventure, my work ethic, and my passions.

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Honestly, there are too many people to mention. There were countless teachers who went above and beyond to help me learn, grow, and succeed. H\Y`ghU `Uh`CI`YmUfY`gdYV\\U`!`h\Ym[Ybi]bY`m\V\\fY` :KDW LV \RXU ELJJHVW DFKLHYamloPll-hoQvbWmaynLyoQal5pb+ynmketnotnikesgettingtoknow them (particularly in my senior years).

> :KDW ZRXOG \RX VD\ \RX PLVV EHLQJ DW VFKRRO"

8YÙb]hY`mh\Y``UW<u>V</u>`cZ`fYgdcbg]V]`]hmUbX`h\Y`Ua ci bh` of school holidays.

:KDW ZRXOG \RX VD\ WR \RXU ilW H

VIRTUAL GALLERY

Which one is Frida Kahlo's *Self Portrait*, 1940? Maddy Bragg (Year 10 VAO) has honoured Frida's self-portrait oil painting, with great attention to detail.

She persuaded her model and gathered and incorporated found objects for this photograph.

Meanwhile, Celeste Walker (Year 10 VAX) YI dYfnmUbX XY`]WIHY`md`UWg`UbY dcfW`Ulb` dinnerware for her dog! "Sit" and "Stay" The original was an oil painting, Barber's Marco on the Breakfast Table, 1893

CALENDAR

November/December

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Yr 5 & 6 Amazing Me for families via Zoom, 6.00pm	P & F AGM, 5.30pm via Zoom. All welcome.		Inc: Yr 5 & 6 Amazing Me via Zoom		Highlands Cup - Oxley vs Chev	
Year 9 & 10 Examinations Year 11 Assessments Year 8 Diagnostic Testing	Year 9 & 10 Examinations Year 11 Assessments Yr 3,5,7,9 online NAPLAN readiness testing	Year 9 & 10 Examinations Year 11 Assessments	Senior School House Festival	Senior School House Festival Exc: Year 6 Jamberoo	Highlands Cup - Oxley vs Chev	
Year 10 Festival of Ideas	Year 10 Festival of Ideas	Final HSC exam Year 9 Spark Day Year 12 Graduation Evening, 6.00pm	Orientation Day Junior School, 9.30am Senior School, 12.30pm Year 6 Celebration Dinner, 6.00pm	Speech Day, 9.30am Last day of Term 4	DofE Silver Hikes Silver and Gold	DofE Silver Hikes Silver and Gold
Pin Oak Issue 134 pub. DofE Silver Hikes Silver and Gold						



With less than a month of the school year remaining, I would like to say thank you to those parents who have kept the P&F 'friend raising' machine humming along this year. Our Year Reps have really done a great job organising gcVJU' VUHVK' i dg' JbWi XJb['Wt YY' a cfb]b[gž' Xf]b_g' UbX' family picnics. Thanks to all the Year Reps for embracing the role and to Ann Marie Greenop and Rebecca Morse for coordinating activities this year.

Fortunately both our Junior and Senior Schools got to enjoy a Trivia Night, with a wild array of dress ups and plenty of enthusiasm from participants! Thank you to those school families who donated items for these events and to our clever, helpful families who wrote the questions, judged and moderated the evenings.

Our wonderful Equestrian Team put together another great Oxley Equestrian Day at the beginning of Term 2. Thank you to all involved for your organisation, to our Year 11 students who were fabulous volunteers on the day and to all the parents who BBQ'd and donated baked goods to sell. We were delighted to make a donation of \$2,000 to K ca VUh7UfY'6i bXUbccbž/Zfca 'hY'dfcWYXg'cZci f'fU Y" With the P&F AGM coming up next Tuesday via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83864827229?pwd=S3VQTjJoUDdla1BXbWNZUEZwMDBadz09, we are farewelling our Treasurer, Sandra Talman and our Secretary, Lynda Smith.

H\Ym\Uj Y'Vch\ 'VYYb']bWfYX]V'mY VfWbh]b'h\Y]f'fc`Yg'UbX' we have been lucky to have them as part of our P & F Executive team. Thank you Lynda and Sandra!

5g a mXUi [\hYf \b]g\Yg\Yf g\Wcc`]b[fbb`mZci f Yl Ua g hc go at the time of writing this!), I feel so grateful for the friendship and support of other Year 12 parents I have met along this six year journey. This support network has been invaluable throughout this year and this is what I believe the P&F at Oxley is all about – providing opportunities for connection amongst families.

Next year, I can say with greater optimism, that we will have more parent events on the calendar and we will be gearing up for a big celebration in 2023 when Oxley College celebrates 40 years.

Wishing you and your families a restful, safe holiday.

By Megan Moore, P&F President

SEMOR GALLERY

