OGPS

Week 10 Term 1 2021

WHAT'S HAPPENING ...

2021 Term 2 Dates

20th April – First Day back to school for students

11th May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

17th May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

18th May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

19th May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

20th May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

21st May – NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Students

9th, 10th & 11th June – Year 5 & 6 Camp

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs Helen Morgani

It's been a wonderful start to Term 1 with little impact due to COVID-19. All classes settled really well and we welcomed new Preschool and Kindergarten students. Teaching and learning programs are in full operation and I am pleased to say, it has been a smooth and successful term.

Our 2021-2024 Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) has been approved and is published on our school website. I'd like to thank students, staff and parents for their input and the Executive team for their leadership. The Executive team and I have been working hard since Term 3 last year, and we look forward to leading the learning across the school so that collectively we can raise student learning outcomes.

At OGPS student leadership opportunities are important because we build tomorrow's leaders today. Our new Student Representative Council (SRC) members and Sports House Leaders have been selected and we look forward to seeing them develop. Thank you to Ms Le, Mr Burns, Ms Phelan and Mr Frankson for their coordination of these two vital groups.

The P&C holds a vital role in our school. They work tirelessly throughout the year to run our canteen and to raise money through numerous fundraising events. This year, the P&C donated $20,000 towards our undercover walkway. This money was collected over a few years and is a significant contribution. I thank members past and present for their commitment and support. Please join me in congratulating our newly appointed 2021 Executive; Ms Itaoui (President), Ms Habib (Vice President), Ms Ali (Treasurer), Ms Appel (Secretary). We would like to see new parents joining this year as COVID restrictions ease.

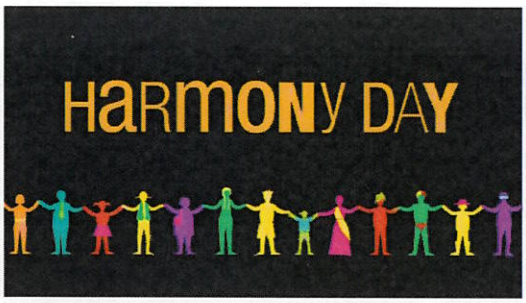
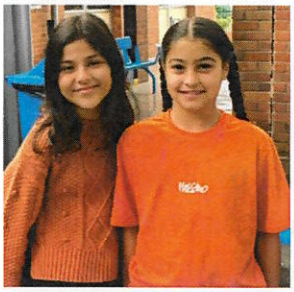
This year Eid falls during the NAPLAN testing period. Our school is one of hundreds who has been granted a NESA amended timeline that goes over two weeks. This timetable will be followed by all students and will not clash with Eid celebrations. A huge thanks to Ms Massey who has worked hard as our coordinator and Mr Backes, who coordinates the ICT side. Over the last few weeks students have done trial tests and feedback from this will be used to ensure we are ready for the real test in May.

Our school has decided not to run the ICAS test this year. Only a small handful of students participate and we cannot justify the significant time it takes to organise and run the test. All students will still be assessed via NAPLAN and the Department's online Check-in. In addition, teachers assess students regularly and in Term 2 you will be invited to attend a Parent-Teacher interview to discuss your child's Semester 1 report. Teachers are always happy to talk to you about how your child is going at school. Please contact them via See-saw if you even want to book an interview outside of the school reporting period.

Our students thrive on the many extra-curricular opportunities we offer. PSSA netball and soccer teams have been selected and they participate in the Lansdowne Zone PSSA competition each Friday. Our school clubs have also commenced with selected students participating in debating, choir, dance, recorder, homework club, coding and robotics, yoga, crochet, soccer, Oz-tag and 3D printing. A huge thanks to our compassionate and skilled teachers for their time and commitment. More clubs will be established next term.

Teachers at our school attended a School Development Day on Saturday 27 March in lieu of attending school on Friday 17 December. This decision was supported by the P&C and means that students and teachers will end the 2021 school year on Thursday 16 December.

As a proud KidsMatter school, whole school wellbeing is important to us so events like Harmony Day are extra special in our community. At OGPS, we value diversity, respect and inclusion because at our school, everyone belongs. It was great to see a sea of orange while students participated in class-based activities. A huge thanks to the Harmony Day Committee for their coordination.

I look forward to a productive year and I wish you a safe and happy holiday. Happy Easter and Ramadan Kareem to all families.

Mrs Morgani