

PIN OAK

ISSUE 75: TERM 3, AUGUST 31, 2018
OXLEY COLLEGE



BOOK
WEEK

NAIDOC

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HEADMASTER'S REPORT

Netball

Many congratulations are in order to our Netball squad this year. Four of the five teams made the finals. Even better, three of the four teams won their finals! It was certainly a big day for Oxley at the Geneva Netball Stadium up at Homebush.

We started the day with the Junior Bs. This team had pulled together quickly as a group of young people who had never played together before and came from a variety of different schools. There was a lot of tenacity and willingness to defend. The accurate shooting from Goal Attack and Goal Keeper helped us pull away from Chevalier to win 28 – 22. Congratulations to all of the excellent girls on the team and to Ms Bernadette Norton their coach.

At 11:30am there were two games - the Firsts and the Seconds. Unfortunately we went down in the Firsts, against a team (Central Coast Grammar) who had beaten us by twenty points earlier in the season and beaten everyone else in the competition as well. Nonetheless we were able to get to within one point of being level with them and were ultimately defeated by a handful of points 40 - 44. It was better news two courts down where the Seconds defeated Barker in a closely fought nail biter. We ultimately won by one point 33 - 32. We were seven ahead at the beginning of the fourth quarter, and it seemed for a while that the momentum was really going the other way. However, the team dug in, defended strongly and managed to hold on.

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You may have seen those photos of nude farmers dancing with delight for the small amount of rain we've had in recent weeks, but much of the country still lies in drought. This is one of the hardest hitting dry spells we've had in many years and with it, one idea has been doing the rounds on social media sites: no more foreign aid until we help our farmers!

In some ways, the call seems sensible. Why would we send Australian money overseas when our own people do it tough in the agricultural industry?

Like many ideas, this is one that requires a bit of deeper investigation.

First, if a wealthy country like Australia were to decide to look after itself first every time things got tough domestically, it would be our own farmers who would be among the first to suffer. That's because the decision to cut foreign aid would not only reduce the capacity of our neighbours to trade with us, it would trash our international reputation. And that is very bad for business. Agriculture is one of the sectors most exposed to international trade – a fact recognised by the farming community itself. David Littleproud, Agriculture Minister who represents a huge farming community in QLD, recently put it this way: "We're a nation of 25million people. We produce enough food for 75 million. Let me tell you that if we don't trade with the world, if we don't engage the world, then I don't have communities like mine."

Second, Foreign Aid is not simply about being 'nice.' The Australian Government is quite open about the fact that our Aid is strategically designed to help our neighbours overcome poverty, develop education, fight extremism, combat contagious diseases, prevent natural disasters and foster good leadership. Most of the aid we give goes directly to the Pacific and Asia – countries close to Australia. Why? Because as a nation, Australia wants to help create stability in this region. We don't live in a bubble. Withdrawing aid would leave Australia open to war, the spread of disease, terrorism and increased refugee flow.

Third, when people suggest targeting the Foreign

Aid budget as a source of cash to help out farmers, they're assuming that it's a major money pot – a budget black hole into which hundreds of billions of dollars are poured annually by the government. Study after study of Australians shows that most people have no idea what Australia actually gives to people overseas through foreign aid, believing it to be 10 to 12 times as much as it is. The real amount of aid we give is tiny at less than 1% of our Gross Domestic Product (everything we earn as a nation). That amounts to a little more than \$4 billion. Compare that to what we spend on Defence - \$36 billion – or Welfare at \$175billion.

While the Aid budget might be tiny, the good it does for people living in absolutely desperate situations – where children die simply because they drink dirty water – is incredible. Australia should be proud of the fact that we've been part of a global movement to halve the number of

On Sunday the 12th, I got the opportunity to see Pink live on her 'Beautiful Trauma' Tour. This is one of her many tours to Australia but on this particular tour, she got ill with a gastric virus. She cancelled 4 of her Sydney shows. Many fans gave her so much hate on social media about how mad they were about the cancellation of the show and how the timing and notice for the cancelled concerts were outrageous.

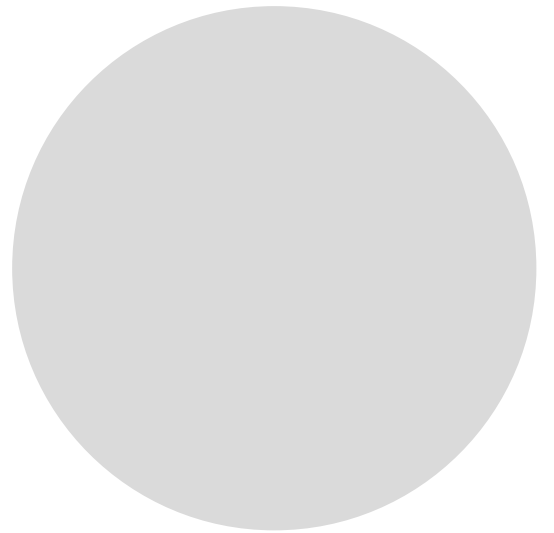
Pink was very disappointed because of her absence and wanted so much to be on stage and performing to the Sydney crowds but she knew her health was more important and had to get better before she could perform.

"On Monday, we were absolutely planning on going ahead with the show, and about 20 minutes before I left for soundcheck, I was rushed to the hospital, in excruciating pain.," Pink explained to her disappointed fans.

After her recovery, many anxious fans waited for the news to see if the concert they had booked would be on or not. Luckily for me, the concert I booked was after her recovery when she was feeling much better.

Her concert was amazing she sang songs from her new album 'Beautiful Trauma' and some of her old but gold - all-time favorites. Some of





Extract from Julia Parker's speech: Who is Oodgeroo?

We need to be open to the fact that reading texts from another culture is awkward. Be open to the fact that we might get it wrong. Be open to the fact that we might not understand the writing the first, second or even third time. Be open to the fact that some people may even be angry about our ignorance.

Tough as it may be, I feel that any of those options is better than just stopping. Because the ultimate failure is to stop trying.

The theme for NAIDOC week this year is 'because of her, we can!' We can what? What does Oodgeroo let us do? You can put your own word there, whatever you feel is fitting. But, I will share my words with you.

I think 'because of her, we can see': see the suffering of the indigenous people; see the importance of her home people and land; see her passion for the education of Aboriginal children; see her longing for the conservation of land and culture.

Also, I think 'because of her, we can talk.' I hope that, on the long mission to understand each other's cultures, we will remember women like Oodgeroo, who showed us the power of dialogue. Her poetry invites us to talk to each other, to have a cultural dialogue.

Extract from Bodhi Mathews' speech: Gundungurra History

I hope that each of you can come away from this assembly feeling as if you have a better understanding of Aboriginal culture, specifically the Gundungurra people's culture, on whose land we meet today. Moving forward I ask that each of you to reflect on history of this land and if are so inclined, learn more about the traditions and stories of the southern highlands.

The history and culture of Aboriginal people is the history and culture of all Australians, no matter of ethnicity.

Feedback from various groups.

Members of the local Aboriginal community:

I have attended many NAIDOC events over my life and Oxley College event I thought was excellent. It had a good balance of young and old, I especially enjoyed the...



Student Reflections

- The NAIDOC assembly, I felt like the school really made an effort to connect with the aspects of Aboriginal culture, and it did so. I also loved how they brought in an Aboriginal rapper to mix with the culture today. From Anonymous, Year 8
- I have struggled with personal identity for years. The question of who I am has haunted me, but my heritage has helped me find out more about myself and my family. My great grandmother was an aboriginal woman, who I unfortunately have never had the pleasure of meeting, all I know about her is that she came from somewhere along the south-western region of western Australia. I was especially proud to be a part of Oxley's first NAIDOC week, the celebration of Indigenous culture is so vital in our society, recognising those that have been cast aside in our society for so long is imperative. Although I still have many questions about who I am, I find solace in the fact that I am part of an extraordinary culture. I am proud of my heritage and I hope to continue to learn more about Indigenous culture, I still have much to discover but I believe that the future will hold more answers as to who I am. Georgia Hutson, Year 11
- The local indigenous community, including Aunty Trish, set the assembly mood perfectly using the traditional didgeridoo music, smoke cleansing and ochre. I learnt a lot about the history and who Oodgeroo was through Julia, who I felt spoke passionately and beautifully. I now have a new perspective on the words 'brave', 'strong' and 'true' and the school song. – Breanna Billet, Year 7
- I learned that you can be whoever you want to. I felt like I was listening to music. I wondered if I could be a Gundangarra person. Ella Wallace Year 2.
- I thought the NAIDOC assembly was awesome! This assembly opened my eyes to the rich Aboriginal culture and the need for our generation to continue to learn more and more about this amazing culture. After attending NAIDOC, I have a growing desire to learn more about Aboriginal culture and to play my part in ensuring the stories and legacy are kept alive. The NAIDOC assembly was very inspiring and should be continued in the future. Anonymous also liked
- I liked learning the Gundangarra words in the school song because we got to learn new words. Dobby's speech and songs. Grace, Year 2.
- I liked it when we got ochre on our heads. I loved Charlotte G's speech, I liked Dobby the rapper! I wish we could do a dance. Anna, Year 2.
- Oxley's NAIDOC assembly was extremely special. I thought there was a perfect balance of student and guest input. The atmosphere during Dobby's performance was incredible. The way the Gundungarra words were incorporated into our school song was especially significant as it gave a sense of connection.
- I think the inclusion and connection between Oxley College and NAIDOC week was good and important. It provided the students with information and an interesting learning experience of the house Oodgeroo, Kath Walker (Oodgeroo), and her background and culture.
- The NAIDOC assembly brought the often overlooked traditions of the Aboriginal community to the forefront of my attention. It made me realise how rich and deep this over 50,000-year-old culture is and how we should honour its traditions in our everyday lives.
- I love being exposed to Aboriginal traditions and stories because every time, I am learning something new about the culture - not only the life of Aboriginals in 1788, but their life

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SPORTS COACHES REQUIRED

Due to the increased

WHAT'S HAPPENING? IN THE WORLD...

Scott Morrison - who?



The South Korean president, Moon Jae-in, has called for the creation of road and rail links between his country and North Korea by the end of the year. Moon Jae-in proposed creating a "Northeast Asian rail road community" between the two Koreas and several other including Russia, China, Japan and Mongolia. However, this proposition is complicated due to the economic sanctions placed upon North Korea to punish them for the development and continuation of their nuclear weapons project.

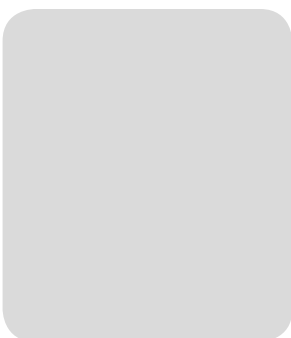
Moon had said, "Even though a political unification may be a long way from here, establishing peace between the South and the North and freely visiting each other, and forming a joint economic community is true liberation to us".

Moon is anticipated to have a third meeting with Kim Jong-un this year as South Korea increases its pursuance of better diplomatic relations as the U.S.A has stalled its attempts.

By Brad Worthington (Year 11)



GALLERY



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

	Mon 3 Junior School Parent Interviews	Mon 10 2019 HSC Informat on Session	Mon 17
	Tue 4 Junior School Parent Interviews	Tue 11 Oxley Shop closed	Tue 18
	Wed 5 Junior School Parent Interviews	Wed 12 Oxley Shop closed	Wed 19
	Thu 6	Thu 13 Oxley Shop closed	Thu 20 Supper Club: David Wright in Conversat on with Michael Parker
Fri 31 Father's Day	Fri 7 Junior School Assembly Senior School Assembly DoE Bronze Hike	Fri 14 DoE Bronze Hike	Fri 21 Year 3 – 12 Headmasters Assembly HSC D&T Major Work Exhibit on
Sat 1	Sat 8 DoE Bronze Hike	Sat 15 DoE Bronze Hike	Sat 22 "Made in 1983" - 35 Year Anniversary Celebrat on
Sun 2	Sun 9 DoE Bronze Hike	Sun 16 DoE Bronze Hike	Sun 23

P & F NEWS

Thank you to Megan Moore and an army of (familiar) and dedicated parents and staf , who made this year's Hungry Ox another great success.

Funds this year will be directed to the new air conditioning system being installed in the school canteen.

On the last day of the Hungry Ox, Mark Case and Megan Moore co-ordinated a cake stall to raise money for 'Buy a Bale'. Thanks to those who donated cakes, slices and biscuits. This donation was made last week and \$1080 was transferred to this very worthwhile cause.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time this year, to help with this P&F initiative.



NEWSFLASH

