From the Principal

And school has started for 2013! It was great to see all of the students back “bright eyed and bushy tailed”, talking to their friends, comparing holiday experiences and the colour of their shoes with which it is a pity they aren’t all black! The last four days has seen a significant number of new enrolments come to our school, it seems Mrs Munro and I have spent most of our time interviewing new students and parents. As indicated numerous times towards the end of last year our numbers were very close to the formation of another class and that commencing classes were not final, that is now the case and we will be forming another class which will mean some students will be moving. We hope to have this finalised before the end of the week and parents of students involved will receive a note indicating this. After this has occurred and classes have settled in to their routines we will hold parent information evenings as we have in the past.

It is always interesting to watch the new kindergarten children arrive at school for the commencement of their educational journey. At this stage we have 79 students in Kindergarten! It is very rare these days to see a child commencing school in tears, probably because so many students have been in preschool/day care compared to years ago. They are so excited, confident, bewildered, ready and interested. Their emotions change from one minute to the next as they settle in. With the Best Start assessment now being held any of these children who go on to Year 12 will start their educational life with an assessment and finish with one, the HSC. I spoke to one new child’s teacher we are only too pleased to discuss a “bigger” issue compared to years ago. They are so excited, confident, bewildered, ready and interested. Their emotions change from one minute to the next as they settle in. With the Best Start assessment now being held any of these children who go on to Year 12 will start their educational life with an assessment and finish with one, the HSC. I spoke to one new kindy this week and asked her about her assessment. She told me it was easy and that when she was asked if she could spell her name she told the teacher she couldn’t, even though she could, because she didn’t want them to know everything. Talk about confidence!

Our canteen is running again this year but is only just breaking even. This will necessitate price rises as well as a review of the menu. The P & C meeting to be held at 7.00pm tonight in the staffroom will be looking at this. Feel free to come along. Helpers are desperately needed to ensure the viability of the canteen. If you are able to give some time please see Sherry in the canteen.

Many thanks to Mandy Bourke, and her helpers, for doing such a great job in our school uniform shop. Mandy is a volunteer who has given a lot of hours to ensure that you as parents have had the opportunity to source uniforms for your children.

Please remember this, she is a volunteer and I expect common courtesy in any dealings with anyone associated with the school.

I will be asking the Police to monitor the back car park. Parents are to park and escort their children in to school, not just drop them off and let them find their own way in the gate. This is definitely not safe, not sensible and is asking for an accident to occur which we obviously do not wish to see.

This year will see more changes occur in our schools than has ever happened in the history of public education. As these are announced and implemented I will let you know. The first one is the national curriculum. In 2013 we are to plan for the implementation of the national English syllabus in 2014 then next year plan for implementing Mathematics, and Science and Technology, in 2015. Lots happening in our department!

I hope everyone has a great year and I look forward to catching up at the many events we hold. Craig Renneberg

Kindergarten News

This week 79 Kinders began their first year at school. We welcome them and their parents to our community.

Please remember to check bags every Tuesday for the school newsletter as most information is in it. If your need to see your child’s teacher we are only too pleased to chat. If you have to discuss a “bigger” issue, then a suitable interview time will need to be arranged.

We hope to see you throughout the year.
Thank you, Early Stage One Teachers (ES1)

Year One & Year Two Home Reading

All Year One and Two classes will commence home reading over the coming weeks. The teachers of these classes welcome the assistance of parents to help with the borrowing of readers. If you are able to offer some of your time please see the class teacher or send a note to school with your child.
Thank you, Stage One Teachers.

Mathletics

This excellent online numeracy program will run in the school this year for all students. Your child will bring home a note today with details if the $10 is owing to the school. Thanks
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<td>2 Jan / Feb</td>
<td>4 2.30 – 3.30pm Uniform Shop</td>
<td>5 8am Exec Mtg</td>
<td>6 2.30 – 3.30pm Uniform Shop</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8 2.05pm 3-6 Assembly &amp; House Captain Induction</td>
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<td>11 8am Exec Mtg 10.30am SRC Induction</td>
<td>12 8am Exec Mtg</td>
<td>13 2.30 – 3.30pm Uniform Shop</td>
<td>14 9-3pm Swim Carnival 12.30 K-2 Assembly</td>
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<td>10 April</td>
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**P&C NEWS**

**First Meeting for 2013**
The first P&C meeting will be held **TONIGHT Tuesday 5th February at 7pm in the staff room**. All new and interested people are very welcome. If you would like to know more about the meeting, directions on where to go and how it all works please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary - Deanne Davis on paul@ravos.net.au or call on 0407 418 511.

**Uniform Shop** - Due to an unprecedented demand some items are currently in production with our supplier. We are taking orders and will deliver them to your child’s class as soon as they are available. This includes size 4 and 8 polos, bucket hats and medium size surf hats. We are expecting this stock in Weeks 2 and 3. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your patience.

**Trading Hours – Term 1, 2013** - The shop will be open on **Mondays and Wednesdays from 2.30pm until 3.30pm** (until further notice). We encourage you to use the current uniform order form (which can be found on our website, or obtained from the front office or the uniform shop). Orders are filled and delivered to your child’s class (pending stock availability at the moment). Please note, we only accept payment by cash or cheque (payable to Orana Heights Public School P&C). WE DO NOT HAVE EFTPOS FACILITIES.

**School Canteen** - For those who may not be aware the School Canteen is run by the P&C. This means that the P&C are responsible for the overall operations of the Canteen and employ Sherry and Debbie as our Canteen Supervisors. During 2012 there were some concerns over the financial situation and the P&C made a decision to reduce the hours of our Canteen Supervisors for an hour each day from Monday – Thursday starting from 2013. The P&C are very committed to ensuring the Canteen continues to run as best as possible whilst also ensuring it is financially viable. The P&C plan to run a survey early this term seeking your ideas and thoughts about the Canteen and some ways in which people may be able to contribute or help. If you have any ideas that you would like to share you are more than welcome to contact the Canteen Sub-Committee Convenor – Deanne Davis via email on paul@ravos.net.au or via leaving your contact details with the school office.

The **School Canteen is also looking for volunteers** – if you are able to volunteer in some way please contact the school office. Volunteering could be time spent helping serve and prepare in the Canteen or you may have some other ideas on how you may be able to help – please let us know.

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**Sport News**

**Swimming Carnival**
The Orana Heights swimming carnival will be a **DAY carnival in 2013**.

**DATE:** Friday 22nd February  
**TIME:** 9am – 3pm  
**VENUE:** Dubbo Aquatic Centre

This year we see the reintroduction of the swimming carnival as a day carnival. This carnival incudes all students in Years 3-6 including Year 2 students who are turning 8 years old this year.

Once again we need parent helpers to help run events to assist in the smooth running of this carnival. A note seeking your commitment with this will be sent home next week. Preparations for this carnival are well under way including House meetings timetabled to elect 2013 House Captains and take nominations for the swimming events.

As the carnival is being held during school hours student attendance is compulsory. Students who do not attend will require an absence note form their parent / caregiver.

**Swimming Carnival Entries**
Can you please discuss with your child/ren what events they would like to participate in at the swimming carnival. Students are to nominate for the events at school NOT on the day. All entries are on a computer program. Please think carefully about your child/rens ability.

**House captains & vice captains**
Voting for House Captains & Vice Captains for the 4 sporting houses will take place on Friday. If your child is in Yr 6 and would like to stand for this position they will need to present a one minute speech at house meetings.

Students elected into these positions will be presented with their hat & badge at an assembly on Friday 15th February at 2.05pm.

**Sporting Houses**
We have 4 sporting houses at Orana Heights. Bradman (RED), Cuthbert (ORANGE), Laver (BLUE), & Spears (GREEN). New students from Yr 2 to Yr 6 will be informed of their sporting house before Friday’s house meetings. **Mrs Hall**
Circus West

Circus West offers a CIRCUS ARTS CLASS to all Dubbo school students in YEARS 5 - 12

This class runs at Delroy Campus of Dubbo College on Thursday afternoons, from 4:00 to 5:30pm and is conducted by the Circus West Director, Paul Woodhead, with the assistance of experienced Circus trainers.

The first class for 2013 will be on Thursday 14th February and students may register on their first training day. Clothes suitable for sport or PE are acceptable. Places are limited to ensure a safe class size is maintained!

A fee of $20.00 per term ($2.00/class) is charged to maintain equipment and programs. All trainers are volunteers.

Students may choose to train in a number of areas, including:
- Manipulation – juggling, diabolo, devil sticks, poi, hoop and staff
- Balance – stilts, unicycle, rolla bolla, globe, acrobatics and adagio
- Aerials – static trapeze, Chinese pole
- Clown

For more information, see Paul Woodhead on Thursday afternoons, or call the school on 6882 7955.

Paul Woodhead, Director Circus West

Oakey Dokey Award Winners

**Honour**
- Nate Parkes x2
- Hunter Hurst
- Bailey Callaghan
- River Christy
- Emilee Alvos
- Nicholas
- Adkins
- Mikaela Perese
- Bailey Callaghan
- River Christy
- Emilee Alvos
- Nicholas
- Adkins
- Mikaela Perese
- Bali Callaghan
- River Christy
- Emilee Alvos
- Nicholas
- Adkins
- Mikaela Perese
- Bali Callaghan
- River Christy
- Emilee Alvos
- Nicholas
- Adkins
- Mikaela Perese

**Distinction**
- Mackenzie Roworth
- Megan Taylor
- Taekiijah Pamout
- Connor
- Jared Watters
- Richards

Congratulations to our Award Winners

We would like to welcome new families to our school.

Our school newsletter in distributed each Tuesday.

Our newsletter can always be accessed at

www.oranahts-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au