Issue 108

Term 3, Jul 31, 2020

# PIN OAK



BIG ISSUES Politics, Lockdowns and Power of Words ATHLETICS CARNIVALS DRAMA An Inspector Calls

this term, we celebrate new beginnings and pioneering ways of working and learning with the celebration of the vast range of Personal Interest Projects. These projects have been done by our Year 9 & 10 students in Semester

1. They have embraced the opportunity for student agency and to dive deeply into their learning in a particular area of interest. The energy and excitement amongst the students has been palpable and we have been so impressed by the range of big ideas and topics explored. They are now onto their second project and we are excited about the possibilities At Oxley we love to be future-focused, looking ahead, dreaming dreams and seeing what we can do within the boundaries of set school curriculum so that our students are best prepared for the world that awaits beyond our doors.

Those parents who have been with us in recent years, know that part of our academic growth has been through the conscious addition of courses that are distinctive in

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## *DEPUTY HEAD OF PASTORAL*

In these unprecedented times it has been hard to stay motivated in all aspects of life, especially

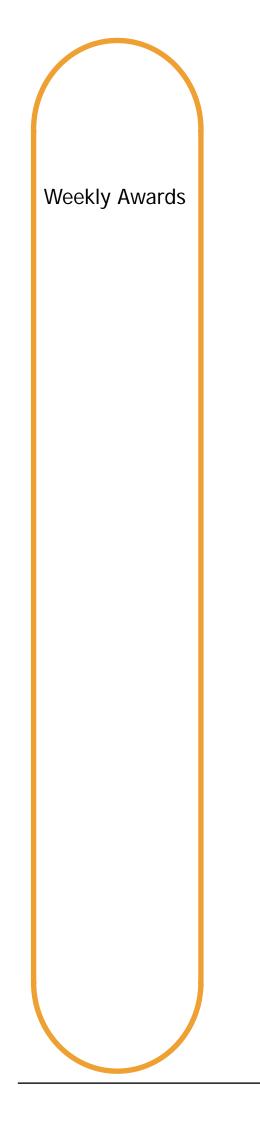
- many familiar faces discussing their struggles navigating life out of high school during COVID-19. These former leaders of the College shared their stories and advice, reassuring us that we are
   not alone in this time of confusion – a fact that has the tendency to be forgotten. The key point
- that these talks centred around was patience in goal setting. Now more than ever goal setting is vital in maintaining a sustainable lifestyle, but with the cancellation of a myriad of co-curricular
- and activities, our objectives can have the ability to become too ambitious. Here are the main takeaways that I found from this presentation.
- "It's good to keep the big picture in mind but it's really the baby steps ... it's the inches that get you the mile." – Cooper Barker (2019 Monash House Captain)
- As high school students, I'm sure we've all found ourselves in a position where we have spent
- goal. It is hard to remain motivated when your "big picture" goals are so far into the distance
   that they seem unachievable. This piece of advice really helped in reminding me that every step
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#### smaller goals.

- "I have gone through a whole range of emotions. This has resulted in me being frustrated, major FOMO and missing all the friends I had made in Sydney, and especially facing the fact that this is actually real and it's nat just a nightmare that I'll wake up from tomercur". Bethany Crise
- is actually real and it's not just a nightmare that I'll wake up from tomorrow." Bethany Grice (2019 School Prefect)
- denial that we would ever transfer our learning online. Being stuck at home for weeks on end was not the best for many of us socially, feeling completely disconnected from friends that we typically see on a day-to-day basis. The FOMO felt was overwhelming, and for some it was
- positive aspects of technology enabling us to remain in contact and remove some of the stress
  and frustration that comes along with being self-isolated.
- "I think the issue with that is that I was trying to plan and hold on to certainty." Jemima Taylor (2019 Head Girl)
- This remark really resonated with me on a number of levels. All our lives we have been conditioned to rely on certainty from a young age we are asked of our dreams and aspirations
- and are expected to devote all our time and energy into achieving them. When COVID hit, there
- to 'accommodate' this disease. Year 12 probably had it the hardest missing out on countless
- at the beginning of the year setting goals to achieve by the end of the preliminary course. They

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  - "It's important at a time like this to realise that although you may not be able to go exactly where you want to go or achieve exactly what you want to achieve, you don't have to put everything on hold. You can realign your goals and get a bit more realistic about your expectations and still
  - push forwards." Zac Moran (2015 Head Boy)
- When everything began shutting down due to COVID, many of us felt our lives being put on

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At Oxley Junior School, playfulness together with discipline undergirds Music, Art, Drama, and Creative Writing as well as

tapping into their natural developmental strengths to grow and nurture a true love of learning.

Teachers in the Junior School are highly skilled practitioners, dedicated to approaches that incorporate these child-centred learning approaches that harness a sense of playfulness together with discipline in high-achieving classrooms.

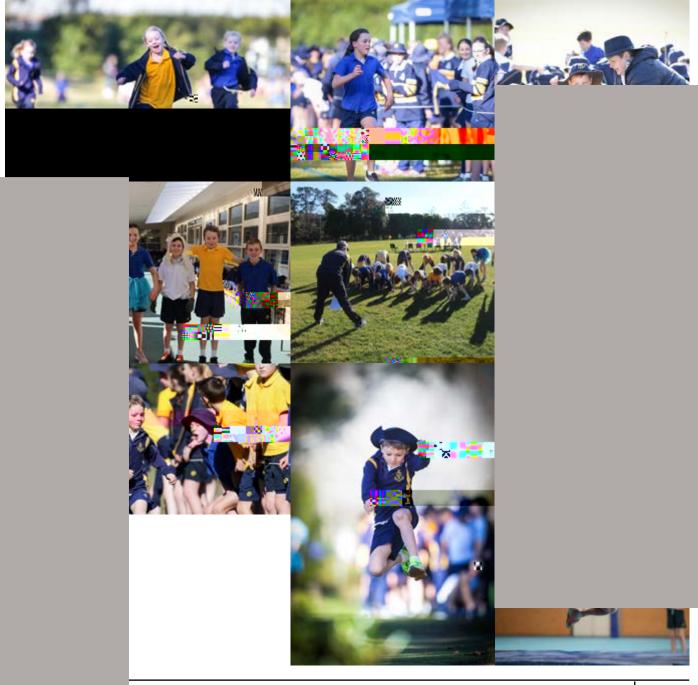
#### Primary School Professional Learning: 4Cs Education

We spent a Monday afternoon recently listening to Professor Michael Anderson who works to transform schools across Australia using the framework of the 4Cs: Critical thinking, Creativity, Collaboration and Communication.

These four skills as fundamental but overlooked. They are critical to the future and most sought after in the workforce, but not always emphasised in schools.

be challenged and inspired for the term, and will keep 4C framework in mind throughout the term to support classrooms that continue to be inquiring, creative places.

By Katherine Halcrow, Head of Junior School



We've all heard of Kanye West and how he claimed to be running for President in 2015. Now he's back again with the same plan for the 2020 election. This may sound like it's a funny joke, but could he run for President? And what does this mean for the U.S.A if Kanye gets the votes? As we reach almost three weeks since Covid-19 restrictions were reintroduced to Melbourne and metropolitan areas in Victoria, the state recorded 627 new cases in the past 24 hours. This is the second highest single-day tally of

## BIG ISSUE

When I was younger, I remember being constantly taught that, "Sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me." Up until recently, I entirely believed in this message, one which I used quite frequently yet now totally dissociate myself from. This is due to the phrases problematic stance in which I believe takes the side of the oppressor through its employing of complicity. This message disregards the impact and power words have on individuals, one of which they believe is wrongfully 'inferior' to the impacts of physical



## VIRTUAL GALLERY

### The Blue Dress

Lara Fischer

This is my entry for the Art Head blue square art competition where we had to incorporate blue into our art using any medium. My entry is a graphite pencil drawing of my little sister, Sasha, and for the blue element I decided to make her dress blue using chalk pastels. Pencil and other monochrome mediums like charcoal are very familiar and enjoyable for me so using chalk pastel was hard as I am not as used to drawing with colour.



## UNSOLICITED TRAVEL ADVICE

If there's one thing I don't like it's unsolicited advice; even worse when it holds no relevance! I mean great, you think hot chocolate tastes better when made with just water... but this is a bank. With "normal" amounts of air travel not predicted to return until 2023, this seems like a perfect time to deal out some unsolicited travel advice!

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for people's behaviour or beliefs to conform to those of the group to which they belong". It is frighteningly relevant because 95% of

