Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with a sense of sadness but also excitement that I write our final newsletter for 2014. As you are all aware, this will be my last day here at Osborne as I hand over the reins to our incoming Acting Principal Troy Patti. As Mrs D so eloquently put it, ‘without change there can be no butterflies’ and our school has certainly developed into a beautiful butterfly. Over the past 2.5 years, we have worked hard as a community to build our school into the amazing place it is now. We have achieved much – improving our children’s academic results through a sustained focus on literacy and reading, piloted the S4 Science program which has now grown from 2 to 12 schools, grown our children socially through the introduction of the ‘You Can Do It’ program and built our community through our Playgroup, Prep Open days and inviting guests into our school amongst many, many other things.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the staff of Osborne State School – Tracie Duthie, Joanna Marchioni, Dale Sartori, Margaret Nielsen and Denis Thomas - for all of their hard work and dedication to improving our school. To the volunteers who have helped us this year – Jackie Samwell, Robyn Laidlow and Keeley Laidlow, your assistance is invaluable. To my ever patient PnC – Sandra Nagle, Andrew Nagle, Leeanne Palmer, Teresa Watson and all of the members who have helped at various events this year, your work is very much appreciated. And finally to the students – Ty, Tim, Clinton, Dylan C, Lachlan, Austin, Jahmal, Dylan M, Ryland, Maddie, Jahlique, Blaize, Riley and Daniel – thank you for being the vibrant, dynamic, exciting young people that you are. The future holds great things for each and every one of you – find your dream and catch it!

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year. Please stay safe if you are travelling and have a wonderful and relaxing break, best wishes for 2015.

**P&C Meeting**

Our next P&C meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3 February 2015 at 5:30pm** in the staffroom. Active P&C membership is vitally important to the success of our school so I would encourage you all to come along to our meetings and see how you can help. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend. Our **annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday 4 March 2015**.

**Student Resource Scheme 2014**

During 2015, we will be continuing with the school Resource Scheme. In this system the family pays a fixed amount which is subsidised by the school and the school purchases all of the materials / equipment required for school less tax and supplies them to the children. All covering and naming of books etc will be taken care of by the school. The current levy is **$60 per child per year**. This levy will cover ALL stationery items for the 2015 school year. Items that are not covered under this levy are: school bags, hats, lunch boxes, lunches and school excursions. If you choose not to participate in the Resource Scheme, you will be required to provide all of your child’s stationary and books throughout the school year. If you wish to participate in the Resource Scheme, please return the attached agreement to the school. **Full payment will be required by Week 5, Term 1, 2015.**
Playgroup
We would like to say a huge thankyou to our Playgroup co-ordinators Belinda McConville and Leeanne Palmer – you have done a fabulous job this year! Playgroup is now finished for 2014 and will resume on Thursday 5 February 2015.

Term Dates 2015
Our school will open again on Wednesday 21 January for staff only. Mrs Sartori will be in the office on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 January for people to make payments and purchase uniforms if needed. Classes will resume for students on Tuesday 27 January.

Term 1 – Monday 27 January – Thursday 2 April
Term 2 – Monday 20 April – Friday 26 June
Term 3 – Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September
Term 4 - Tuesday 6 October - Friday 11 December

Keep a watch on our school these holidays
With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please remember to call the School Watch number — 13 17 88.

The School Watch Program is a partnership between the Department of Education, Training and Employment, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools. If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local Police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Keep the number handy — 13 17 88 — and let’s work together to help create a safer school community. If you would like to know more about the School Watch Program, please call the Department’s Emergency and Security Management Unit on (07) 3034 6013.

Yours in Education

Hayley Laidlow
Principal
Wonderful Work from Osborne this week…

Graduation and End of Year Celebration Night

On Wednesday night, we held our graduation evening and end of year celebration. We planted 4 trees to commemorate the centenary of our school and create a lasting memorial to the students, staff and families of 2014. We said farewell to our Year 6 and 7 students who are leaving us to make the move to high school. We will miss them all, but are very proud of their achievements and wish them all the very best in their journey into high school. We also celebrated our best and brightest students with our end of year awards. Tim Nagle was the recipient of the PnC Association Citizenship Award and also received the inaugural Charlie Bates Solar Astronomy Project Science Award. Lachlan Nagle received the Attendance award as he has not missed a single day throughout 2014. The students shared poems and a Christmas carol with their families and we shared a meal together. Thank you to all of the families who came along, it was great to have you all there to celebrate what has been a fantastic year.