Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of a short week following our annual ANZAC commemorations, it leads me to reflect on the Anzac spirit and how fortunate we are to live in Australia, having the privilege of living in a free, democratic country. I believe that the history of the Anzacs and their importance to the Australian ethos is as vital to us now as it ever has been.

Historians examining the importance of Anzac to Australia coined the phrase “Anzac legend”. This refers to the representation of Australians in war, how they think, speak, and write of their war experience (which is not always the same thing as how they experienced it). Though aspects of the legend have been criticised, there is general consensus on what is regarded as the Anzac spirit. Anzac came to stand for the qualities which Australians have seen their forces show in war. These qualities collectively make up the Anzac spirit and include endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humour, and mateship.

Perhaps the best reflection of the meaning of Anzac is to be found in Charles Bean’s one-volume history of Australia in the Great War, Anzac to Amiens. In describing the evacuation of the Anzac area, Bean wrote:

“By dawn on December 20th Anzac had faded into a dim blue line lost amid other hills on the horizon as the ships took their human freight to Imbros, Lemnos and Egypt. But Anzac stood, and still stands, for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship, and endurance that will never own defeat.”

More recently, Arthur Bourke OAM pointed out that the spirit of Anzac is not confined to the battlefield, nor is it something that can be seen. He described the spirit of Anzac as:

a powerful driving sensation that can only be felt. It is a feeling that burns in the heart of every Australian and New Zealand countryman. A warm, tender, fiery, even melancholy ideal that nurtures intense patriotism in the innermost soul of everybody.

The Returned and Services League of Australia (WA Branch) suggests that the spirit of Anzac is still seen today in times of crisis or hardship. During cyclones, floods, and bushfires, Australians come together “to rescue one another, to ease suffering, to provide food and shelter, to look after one another, and to let the victims of these disasters know they are not alone”.

As I sat with our students at last week’s ANZAC commemorations, I reflected on the sacrifices made by those before us to secure our freedom today. I was proud to watch our children marching with purpose to remember the sacrifices of those brave men and women and I was also proud to watch the respectfulness shown through their great behaviour and participation in the march and ceremony.

Lest we forget.

Hayley Laidlow


Principal

**Save the Date**

2 May – Labour Day Holiday
3 May – P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
8 May – Mother’s Day
10-12 May – NAPLAN
12 May – Band 5/6 Principals’ Meeting (Osborne), QSR Team Meeting, 3:15pm
16-20 May – School Camp, Paluma (Yr 3-6 only), Prep – 2 to attend Maidavale SS for the week
2 June – QSR Team Meeting, 3:15pm
7 June – P&C Meeting
8 June – Aleesah Darlison, Author Workshop
9 June – Band 5/6 Forum, Hayley away, Tracie in charge
10 June – QASSP State Council – Hayley away, Tracie in charge
13-14 June – Peer Review training – Hayley away, Tracie in charge
16 June – QSR Verification Meeting, 9-11am
17 June – Fancy Dress Ball
23 June – Combined Small Schools Activity Day (previously JOKSS) – Osborne State School - Science

**P&C News**

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 next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3 May at 6:30pm** in the staffroom.

**NAPLAN**

From **Tuesday 10 to Thursday 12 May**, our Year 3 and 5 students will participate in NAPLAN – National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy. Every year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in these national tests that examine their abilities in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. It’s important to remember that these tests are just one form of assessment of a child’s abilities in literacy and numeracy. The results should be considered along with other school report information.

If you would like more information about the NAPLAN tests and reports, the website [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au) has a range of resources available to parents, including video overviews of the NAPLAN report process, the Student Report and an explanation of the NAPLAN common assessment scale.

A range of parent fact sheets, resources and activities are also available on the Department of Education and Training website at [www.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.education.qld.gov.au) to help your child with reading, writing and maths. Participation in this testing is not compulsory and if parents have concerns about their children participating in this testing they are encouraged to speak with Miss Laidlow.

**Homework**

Over the last couple of weeks we have noticed that many children are not completing all of their homework tasks. Each Monday, the children work with Mrs Samwell to set up their homework and go through each activity to ensure that they understand how to do them. Children should be able to complete their homework with minimal adult assistance. In future, any homework tasks which are not completed by Friday will be completed by the children during first break. If students are having difficulty with an activity, they should talk with a teacher prior to Friday to seek assistance.

**District Cross Country**

On Wednesday, we participated in the Small Schools Cross Country event held at Maidavale State School. All our children participated well and had a great morning. As a result of this race, Ryland Palmer has been selected to participate in the District Cross Country which will be held next Friday 6 May at the Old Race Course in Ayr. Good luck Ryland!
**Eggs**

Our chickens are very happy and are laying well. We are currently getting approximately 3 eggs per day. If you would like a dozen eggs, please let Miss Laidlow know. All we ask is that you make a small donation to our ‘feed fund’ and return your egg carton to school.

**Vegetable Garden**

Plans for our vegetable gardens are going full steam ahead and we have had some very generous help from the local community. Austral Masonry in Ayr have very kindly donated 120 cinder blocks which will be used to construct our garden beds and Mr Josh Samwell donated his time and the use of his trailer to collect the blocks for us. Mr Jim Nuttall from Plants Plus Nursery in Ayr has offered to donate seedlings and seeds to get our garden started. Mr Kevin Mann kindly donated his time to rotary hoe the ground where the garden beds will be located, making our job much easier. A huge thank you to all these businesses and individuals for their very generous help. We can’t wait to get started on growing our veggies and share our produce with the community.

**Student Banking**

Don’t forget, **Student Banking day is Wednesday**. Student Banking is a great way to teach kids about how to save money and it also benefits our school as we receive financial benefits for each student who has an account which is registered with our school banking account. If your child does not have a student account and you would like to open one, please let us know and we give you a copy of the required forms.

**Ten Pin Bowling**

Our Wednesday afternoon bowling trips are going very well and the students are having lots of fun learning how to bowl. Don’t forget, **bowling costs $2 per child, per week, a total cost of $10 per child**. This money can be paid weekly or as a lump sum to the office – thanks to those parents who have paid their money already. The low cost is thanks to the fact that our Adopt-a-Cop Snr Constable Greg Langford is personally subsidising the cost, along with school funding from our RREAP budget. Parents are welcome to come along and help with supervision if they would like to. Transport will be provided by Miss Laidlow and Mrs Marchioni.

**Uniforms**

We have a new batch of school uniforms available at the school office. All sizes from 4 – 16 are available. Shirts are $26.40 each. Please endeavour to have the correct change when purchasing shirts, any cheques should be made out to ‘Osborne State School P&C’.

**Paluma Science Camp**

From Monday 16 – Friday 20 May, our Year 3-4 students will be attending camp at the Paluma Environmental Education Centre. This camp is run as part of the S4 – Supporting Small School Science program and will see the children interacting with students from schools as far flung as Camooweel! Please return all camp notes to school as soon as possible. **Camp payments must be finalised by Friday 13 May**. While the Year 3-4s are on camp, the Prep-2 students will be attending Maidavale State School. Transport will be organised daily and they will be accompanied by a teacher aide to and from the school. There will be no cost for these days. This is a great opportunity for our younger students to meet and interact with students from another small school in the district.

**Burdekin Under 12 Touch Football Trials**

Burdekin Under 12s Touch Football trials will be held on Friday 13th May and Friday 20th May from 3:30-5:00pm at the Burdekin Touch fields in Ayr. These trials are open to boys and girls born in 2004, 2005 and 2006. If you child is interested in participating, please contact Miss Laidlow for more information and a permission form. Parents will be responsible for all costs and transport for this activity.
Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...
We have had a fantastic week participating the ANZAC march, competing in the Small Schools Cross Country, visiting the nursery and going bowling!
Does Your Child Have a Chance of Being Successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but......

| If your child misses.... | That equals.... | Which is..... | and over 13 years of schooling that’s... | Which means the best your child might perform is...
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<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
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<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
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<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
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<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing at grade 4</td>
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Osborne State School
For all students to have opportunities to obtain a quality education and develop life-long learning skills

Quality Behaviour ......
Quality Teaching & learning ......
Quality Relationships ......
Quality Outcomes

At Osborne State School
Every Child Matters, Everyday

Ask us about help with getting your children to school everyday!!!