Principal’s Report

Yesterday we commenced our celebration of NAIDOC Week with an award ceremony and assembly at the Orange Function Centre. We were originally organised to participate in the annual NAIDOC march but the weather had other ideas, so we quickly re-convened at the Function Centre. NAIDOC week is a chance to focus on the rich history, culture and achievements of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It is our chance to honour the first Australians and their special place in our broader society. We have certainly become a very multicultural society and our cultural face has continued to grow and change with each decade. But there remains an important imperative to remember the long and positive impact our first Australians have had on this island continent over the 50,000 years of inhabitation. It is with pride and honour that we celebrate our very own Aboriginal students at Orange East and I enjoyed being with them to celebrate their achievements yesterday at the assembly. In particular I would like to make mention of our two award recipients – Tia Pallier and Max Boney. Tia received her award for: “being a self-directed and highly motivated learner”; whilst Max received his award for: “Having a positive attitude towards his studies and for being an outstanding role model for his peers”. Both Tia and Max richly deserved their awards and I would like to congratulate both students on behalf of a very proud group of teachers and fellow students.

NAIDOC this year has, as its primary theme, the celebration and special recognition of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served in the Australian Armed Forces during the various conflicts over the course of the 20th and 21st century. Their contributions have been outstanding and we honour those who fought and died. It is noteworthy that our first Australians were only granted the right to vote in 1967 – so all of the WWI and WWII Aboriginal soldiers did so willingly, but without having the right to vote in a democracy they fought – and sometimes died – to defend. I would like to pay tribute to those Aboriginal soldiers and nurses who suffered the indignities and sufferance of war. Their role in defeating tyranny will always be remembered and their sacrifices honoured.

Today our Year 5/6 students were invited to participate in the Girri Girri games at the PCYC. They participated in a number of sports and had a fantastic day. They enjoyed a free BBQ lunch which I hear was tasty and delicious! It was terrific to hear all about the successes of the day and the sportsmanship that existed between the members of the various teams. Well done Years 5 and 6. Many thanks to the Canobolas RTHS for their work and preparation in organising this event.

Tomorrow our Stage 2 students will be travelling to the Orange Function Centre to participate in the NAIROC entertainment event. Our students will be performing a dance to the music, “Rock this Party”, for a large audience of students from a
cross section of Orange schools. I sure hope that they have a brilliant time and enjoy the thrills of performing yet again on stage. My thanks to Di McKay, Adam Neal, Wendee Corby, Jo Neighbour and Kylie Bennett for their assistance. The timetable for the performance is as follows: 

11:10 Bus leaves for Function Centre, 11:15 –1:20 At NAIROC, 1:30 Return from NAIROC to school.

On Thursday we will be having a whole school assembly to celebrate NAIDOC week. We are lucky indeed to have booked two dance performances from each of our two local public high schools. The boys aboriginal dance group from Orange High and the girls Aboriginal dance group from Canobolas High will be performing for us at the assembly. I would like to make a special thank you to Leanne Leahey who has been instrumental in helping to organise these two dance performances and to Gavin Bell and Tamise Blowes – the teachers from the two schools for their leadership in organising the two dance groups. James Williams, a local Aboriginal Elder, has kindly agreed to do the Welcome to Country. Prior to the assembly at 2pm, Kylee Wright will be in the school’s kitchen with Mr Meares class, cooking up a storm! On the menu, which hasn’t been completely finalised, will be a variety of local delicacies including emu and kangaroo. Kylee will be offering tastes to any parents, teachers and kids who would like to try! It is all very exciting indeed!

This week is probably a good opportunity to let you know that we have agreed to support Canobolas RTHS new initiative, the Aboriginal Education Support School Based Traineeship program. The program essentially supports Aboriginal high school students with pathways to employment and higher education through placements in various businesses (in our case schools) to give students an opportunity of not only experiencing life in the workforce but also to assist them to complete a Certificate III Education Support TAFE program. An Aboriginal student, interested in teaching as a career option, will be assigned to our school next year and will attend this work place weekly for a set amount of time. I look forward to meeting our new student, and we will do an “interest piece” in the newsletter introducing this student upon their arrival at OEPS.

Speaking of cooking, the Pre2 Mini Masterchef cook off has been happening today at Canobolas Rural Technology High School. Our students Ella Barrett, Lachie Carpenter, Hope Webb and Chase Carmie have been participating and competing. It will be very interesting to hear the results at the end of the competition. We will be sure to publish these in next week’s newsletter. My gratitude to Glen Bourke and Jodie Hawke who have been the “behind-the-scenes” brains of this operation and have worked tirelessly to prepare and organise the event.

The Royal Far West (Manly Based, not for profit organisation) have a health and wellbeing program where they travel around the state delivering important information to country kids. The Royal Far West team have offered our school a visit, and they will be attending the school next Wednesday, during which time each class will have the opportunity to participate in one of their specially designed programs including: oral health, ear health, nutrition and exercise and health & emotional wellbeing. Their focus is on preventative education and the encouragement of healthy lifestyle decisions. Royal Far West has designed their programs around the needs of schools with a particular focus on the learning outcomes identified in Personal Health, Development and Physical Exercise Syllabus. There is no cost associated with this visit.

Our PBL focus for this week continues to have a focus on wearing the correct uniform – including the wearing of the correct “bucket” hat. The bucket hat is the correct uniform and must be worn. Caps, whilst affording some protection against UV rays, have limited coverage which is precisely the reason they are not part of the uniform. Granted, they are more fashionable than the bucket hat, (and more popular) but fashion is not our top priority – skin protection is however, and we ask that you support us in helping us to promote and wear the correct hat whilst the kids are at school. Many thanks for your assistance.

Our computer lab has had a major “make-over” this week. Mrs Press, our technology officer, has been busily auditing our whole school computer inventory. At the end of the process we have removed a number of older, very slow and aged computers – replacing these with the newer laptops that were purchased last year. A Smartboard and projector have been installed and is now set up and ready to use – making the computer room much more user friendly – especially from a teaching perspective. All the machines are fully up-dated and ready to use. A spring clean of the room has really freshened things up and I am looking forward to seeing some great IT based lessons using this terrific facility.
Our East Orange Market Day is this Sunday. The weather promises to improve with a minimum of 3 degrees overnight warming to a glorious 21 degrees as the day progresses—so things are looking spectacularly great for the markets. There has been the most enormous amount of work undertaken by the P&C Association to get these markets up and running. The “seamlessness” and “smooth running” of the event happens only because of the due diligence taken by the leadership of these markets. I want to publicly thank each and every one of the team for their remarkable commitment and efforts. Please come and support the markets. Going home today to each family is an invitation to attend. It is such a terrific fundraising opportunity and every cent is pumped straight back into the school – helping to improve the lot of every student in this school. As I have mentioned earlier – the fundraising focus for the next 24 months is aimed at re-developing the top playing oval – ensuring we have a soft, safe and enjoyable carpet of grass that is irrigated via an underground sprinkler system with water sourced from our own bore. Many thanks for your help with bringing in paper based waste to fill the “Money Tree” yellow lidded bins. As I mentioned last week, the school receives a financial benefit every time one of the Money Tree bins is emptied – which helps offset the cost of our waste removal and helps reduce our “carbon footprint”. All great for our environment too! Thanks for your help. Exterior lights have been installed at various vantage points around the school. These lights are LED and use little electricity. They have been connected to day/night sensors so that they switch on when the light falls at dusk and switch off as the sun rises. These lights ensure a safe working environment for our terrific cleaner and staff (especially during the winter months where the light fades early) and for added security in and around the school. My gratitude to Kevin Schurmer of the DEC for agreeing to pick up the costs. I would equally like to thank Kevin for agreeing to cover the costs of the newly erected fence, creating a safer environment for our students around the new sandpit area. We are coming to that time in the year when we start the ball rolling on the selection and voting for new student leaders. Tomorrow, any Year 5 students interested in seeking out a leadership role for 2015 will be given the opportunity of meeting with myself and Mrs McNamara to go through the expectations and agreements students will need to enter into in order to qualify to be accepted as a candidate for the forthcoming elections later in the term. If you have a child who would like the opportunity of becoming a school leader, please read through the agreement with your child and sign the form indicating agreement. It is a very exciting time of the year and I encourage all Year 5 students to seriously consider school leadership as a real opportunity to develop themselves. Even if your child is not successful following the vote – the opportunity to stand up and make a speech outlining their beliefs and goals is a terrific experience nonetheless.

Steve Wilkinson
Principal

School News
Term 3 PBL Award Winners ~ the winners of the $30.00 vouchers were: Zahra Barber, Tyler Tatnell, Phoebe Hamels and Amy Hampton.

Assembly ~ a whole school assembly will be held this week on THURSDAY from 2pm with two Aboriginal dance groups performing – boys from Orange High School and girls from Canobolas Rural Technology High. At this assembly, the Achievement Certificates will be presented together with the Principals Awards. Therefore, students will need to come to the office on Thursday morning to choose their stickers, instead of Friday. On Friday morning at the 9.05am assembly under the COLA, students will be presented with their Safe Respectful Learner awards, together with Home Reading Awards. The changes this week are due to final organisation and setting up for the East Orange Village Markets. All families are welcome to attend on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

Cupcakes ~ anyone interested in making cupcakes to be sold for Early Stage 1 fundraiser, please see Mr Cook or Ms Stokes by this Friday.

Year 6 Transition ~ a reminder that students will be taking part in a two week Home Economics program at The Canobolas Rural Technology High School. The program will take place on Wed 15th and Wed 22nd October. Students will be walking to and from TCRHS. There will be no cost involved for this program.

Stage 2 Dancers ~ a reminder that our Stage 2 dance group will be performing as part of NAIROC tomorrow. If your child has not returned their permission note and bus money, please do so first thing on Wednesday. Parents are welcome to attend the Function Centre. Entry is free. Our
group are scheduled to perform at 1pm and are very excited about this event.

**Bathurst Sheep & Cattledrome** ~ all students in K-2 have received a permission note today to go on this excursion on Friday 14th November.

**Tin Cans Needed** ~ as part of a combined pre2 SRC activity to raise money for the Orange Ronald McDonald House we are asking for donations of lidded tins eg: Milo tins. They will be decorated in class and used as collection tins this term.

**Learn to Swim** ~ places are still available, please return permission note and money if you wish your child to participate.

**Toy Fundraiser** ~ a reminder that these orders are due into the school office by this Friday 17th October.

**Assembly Awards** ~ congratulations to the following students who received a sticker on their award sheet ~ Felicity Hack and Kurtis Forrest. Congratulations also to Kyra Bennett who received her first sticker and Nevaeh Graham and Tanaya Knight for completing their 50 certificate. And, finally, to Lachlan Carpenter for completing his certificate 150.

**Principal Awards** ~ congratulations to Lilly Lear, Brandon Bouffler, Trixie Ward and Tanaya Knight who all received a Principals Award.

**Home Reading** ~ congratulations to Caiden Parkes, Willow Fisher and Evelyn Parkes for reaching Club 100 and to Lachlan Crossman and Mitchell Crossman for reaching Club 200.

**P & C News**

East Orange Village Markets ~ there are no more sites available for the market day on Sunday 19th October, 2014. Volunteers **urgently needed**. **PLEASE return the Volunteer Request Form** as soon as possible – even if you can only help for an hour or two.

**Clothing Pool** ~ Clothing pool will be open this Thurs from 8.55am – 9.15am and 2.55pm to 3.15pm. If you have any items of clothing that no longer fit your child, the clothing pool would be very grateful for the donation.

**Community News**

PCYC ~ are running a 5 a side indoor soccer comp on Friday nights from 4pm. Places available in teams u/10’s and u/11’s. Phone 6360 2249 for more info.

**Dates to Remember**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13th Oct - Fri 17th Oct</td>
<td>NAI DOC Week</td>
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<td>Wed 15th &amp; 22nd Oct</td>
<td>Year 6 Transition - TCRHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 19th Oct</td>
<td>East Orange Village Markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14th Nov</td>
<td>K-2 Bathurst Sheep &amp; Cattledrome</td>
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**Student Profile**

**Name** ~ Macey

**Class** – KS

**My best mates are** … Zahra, Luci, Tia, Kaylar

**My favourite food is** … Olives, I like the salty taste but I wouldn’t eat – pineapple if you paid me!

After school I really love to … sit down and watch my own veggie garden grow

If I was down to my last $5 I would buy … a barbie car

One thing I really can’t live without is … clothes When I grow up I want to … be an ice-cream maker

The best thing about being a grown up would be? …. Able to tell your kids what do do

How old is old?…. 30

One thing I would do if I was Prime Minister for a day … tell people to not start fires

A handy superpower would be … ice powers – turn someone into a frozen state