

2020

**ORAN PARK
HIGH SCHOOL**



Oran Park High School

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THE YEAR THAT WAS!

THE BEGINNING....

First Day 2020 or The Build.....

It is incredibly difficult to describe the year that is 2020 but as an English teacher I have been reminded of the words of Charles Dickens in his novel 'A Tale of Two Cities' when he said "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." The 'best' of times this year has been all about the establishment and opening of our wonderful new school in January. Many years of planning and construction resulted in the completion of a true 21st Century school, full of beautiful and innovative learning spaces and landscaped grounds. The 'worst' of times in 2020 was of course the arrival of the global Coronavirus pandemic during our first term of operation, which led to a period of remote learning for our staff and students. However, it was during these extremely challenging times that we saw the very best in our students, our staff and our school community. Together we have been able to work through these difficult times, all the while continuing to provide the highest quality of education to all of our learners. Our school has come through its 'baptism of fire' in 2020 with our school culture, our processes and relationships fully intact and in many ways, further strengthened by the experience. I am confident that Oran Park High School will move into the future and continue to live out its' motto as a true 'Partner in Learning' with our community.

Enjoy this celebration of our first year.

Brad Mitchell
Principal

MATHEMATICS

THIS YEAR IN MATHS

The Mathematics faculty would firstly like to congratulate all students on a very successful first year at Oran Park High School. Students have shown their dedication and resilience, whilst navigating unforeseen hurdles and challenges throughout the year and are to be congratulated on their successes.

We as a faculty, have ensured that all students felt valued and cared for as they transitioned into their new place of learning. We delivered lessons which instilled the importance of Mathematics into everyday lives, whilst making learning both fun and interesting.

The online learning platform 'Mathletics' was introduced to all students, who both consolidated and enriched their classroom learning through the completion of tasks and class challenges. For 2020, the inaugural winners of the Mathletics challenge for each year group were 7P and 8G.

Throughout both semesters of 2020, Year 7 and Year 8 students studied the strands – Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Whilst learning from home, students were introduced to Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams, engaging well with online tasks to ensure a continuation of learning through periods of isolation. The mathematics teachers were extremely impressed with the degree to which students connected with their learning and also connected with their class teacher, often emailing for advice and support as needed.

During the course of the year, students were assessed both formatively to direct future learning and summatively to assess student understanding. Exit slips were used regularly as a formative assessment tool, affording students the opportunity to demonstrate their competence and teachers the ability to redirect student learning as needed. At the end of each term, common assessment tasks were administered, whereby student proficiencies were assessed.

A special mention must go to the recipients of the Oran Park High School Mathematics awards for Class Achiever and Consistent Application. These students have applied themselves with diligence over the course of the year and are to be congratulated.

As Head Teacher of the Mathematics faculty, I would like to personally thank both Ms Liu and Miss Tran for their dedication in setting up the Mathematics faculty in this new school setting, not in the least the creation of Teaching and Learning programs which were well resourced and well delivered, providing students with an enriching and engaging first year of Mathematics at Oran Park High School. I look forward to continuing to work with these dedicated staff in 2021 and would like to welcome Mr Abdallah, who I am sure will be an asset to this amazing team.

Mr Jose Villanueva
Head Teacher Mathematics



ENGLISH

A YEAR IN REVIEW

This year in English, students have worked well and have risen to the challenges of settling into their environment, navigating social interactions with collaborative relationships, and (of course) COVID. We are proud of the efforts that our students have demonstrated, and of the progress they have made this year.

As a faculty, we have settled into our new school environment and learning spaces and have enjoyed getting to know all of our students. We have encouraged students to embrace the technology and facilities that we have are lucky to have available to us so that we make the most of the wonderful learning environment that we have here at Oran Park High School.

We have been working hard to incorporate ICT into the work that we do with our students in both Year 7 and Year 8 and have ensured that all of the units that we teach have this vital skill embedded into them. We are now using MS Teams across all of our classes as a way of assigning some of our assessment tasks, checking student work, and uploading important information and documents for students to access. We have seen students' skills and confidence in this area improve significantly and are looking forward to seeing the continued development in 2021.

Throughout this year, we have also taken advantage of a variety of learning spaces such as the 'maker spaces'; the 'lecture theatres'; the 'performance space', and the library so that students engaged with different environments and facilities. Students were very responsive to being able to work in various areas, and we were pleased how well they responded to working in these new areas.

In 2020 all of our programs have incorporated the Learning Modes. These modes are collaboration, discussion, reflection and feedback, explicit instruction, experiential learning, guided learning, demonstration, and individual learning. We have used these modes, as a way of ensuring that English caters for all students, and that there is diversity in the way that course material is delivered and accessed.

This year both our Year 7 and Year 8 cohorts have responded to an array of texts such as poetry, drama, film, non-fiction, media, and novels, and they have learned how to compose original creative and critical texts of their own. Each term this year, we have assessed our students across a range of outcomes and have been able to gain a solid understanding of our students' skills and knowledge in English.

2020 has been a very interesting, exciting, and rewarding year in English. We are feeling very fortunate as a faculty to be here at OPHS. We are loving every minute of this journey with our students and are looking forward to seeing further developments and progress made in 2021.



Students engaged in the "Roll a Story" writing activity using dice that displayed narrative components

HSIE

The HSIE faculty has made a great start for the foundation year of Oran Park High School. This year the faculty of HSIE has introduced students to the awe and wonder of History and Geography and the relevance of these subjects to their everyday lives.

History

In Stage 4 History, students have been learning about the Ancient to the Modern World

Year 7

- Overview + Investigating the Ancient Past
- The Mediterranean World: Egypt
- The Asian World: China

Year 8

- Western and Islamic World: Medieval Europe
- Expanding Contacts: The Spanish Conquest of the Americas
- The Asia-Pacific World: Japan under the Shoguns

Year 7 and Year 8 History have learned about the nature of history and archaeology and how they explain the past. Our students have participated in thinking critically and creatively through investigating the past including conducting their own archaeological digs and leading their own crime scene investigations. Students have enjoyed learning about major periods of historical time and understand the causes and effects of events and past societies. Our students have been engaged in learning about different civilisations, such as the Egyptians, the Aztecs and people of Medieval Europe. We are looking forward to introducing Year 9 History next year where students can gain an understanding of the making of the modern world from the Industrial Revolution to Australians at War.



HSIE *continued.....*

Geography

In Stage 4 Geography, students have been learning about:

Year 7

- Place and Liveability
- Landscapes and Landforms

Year 8

- Water in the World
- Interconnections

Year 7 and Year 8 Geography students have been immersed in learning about processes that influence the features and characteristics of places. We have strived to make Geography relevant to students lives and create geographical inquiries that focussed on the local area. During 2020, the HSIE faculty were fortunate enough to have completed Year 7 Geography fieldwork before the COVID-19 lockdown in March. This activity involved Year 7 students visiting the Oran Park Town Land and Sales Information Centre to discuss the liveability of Oran Park. Students were able to visualise the topography of Oran Park and predict what the suburb will look like when completed. Year 7 visited the large-scale 3D model of Oran Park, studied maps and futuristic imaging of the suburb to be able to independently assess the liveability of Oran Park.

Year 8 Geography students had a busy year getting up to speed on all things Geography! Many of our students in Year 7 were involved in a curriculum pattern where they were taught History for the duration of Year 7. This has meant that Year 8 have had a steep learning curve to learn about geographical inquiries, geography tools and skills whilst learning geographical content. Students were engaged with learning about Water in the World. This was an interesting topic to see the importance of water use and how we can manage this resource sustainably. We are fortunate to be located in a suburb that has initiated several sustainable water management strategies. This allowed for our students to still be involved in fieldwork whilst adhering to COVID-19 pandemic fieldwork restrictions.



Year 8 Field trip excursion

Year 8 visited Kolombo Creek in Oran Park to study how stormwater is managed and evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies. Students participated in fieldwork activities such as collecting water quality data and recording fieldwork measurements in the environment. We are looking forward to introducing Year 9 Geography next year where students will be learning about the different biomes around the world and how we can feed the world's population in a sustainable manner. Students will also learn about changing places where we discuss the historical trends of people moving towards cities. This will be a stimulating topic of discussion to determine how does the world move forward post-pandemic and what our cities will look like in the future.

Although 2020 has been a tumultuous year with all students starting a new school, pandemics, lockdowns and changes to school routine, we would like to congratulate our students' efforts to be resilient and bounce back in this year of significant change. Although 2020 has been a hard year for all, the HSIE faculty would not be what it is in its foundation year without the hard work and dedication of Ms Kirkman and Ms Dayoub. We have worked really hard as a team to ensure that teaching and learning was not disrupted during the most disrupted learning year on record.

We wish you a great and hopeful end to 2020 and look forward to a more settled 2021.

Mrs Farah
Head Teacher HSIE

Year 7 visiting Oran Park Town Land and Information Centre



DISABILITY SUPPORT UNIT

2020 proved to be both an exciting and challenging year for our staff and students in the Disability Support Unit. By forming strong partnerships in learning we were all able to rise to these challenges and emerge as stronger, resilient and collaborative learners. Our inaugural year saw the establishment of 3 specialist classes for students with autism and multi-categorical disability who work in small, discrete groups accessing specialist support as they navigate the school curriculum.

Emphasis in our specialist classes was on a practical application of knowledge and skills, working towards increasing independence and competent communication. Our staff worked hard to provide students with a highly personalised curriculum that catered to students' strengths, needs and goals. With a commitment to shared goals, we worked in collaboration with families and specialist health services including NDIS service providers, to facilitate a wholistic educational program for our students with disability.

Our new students, all of whom were in Year 7, joined us from a vast array of schools across South-West Sydney and they quickly formed a strong partnership as they made their transition to High School. With regular and authentic opportunities for our students to be included and integrated into whole school activities and events, students were able to be seen as both valued and visible school members.

Our students accessed a combination of both regular and specialist Life Skills curriculum, dependent on their individual needs. The highlights of our learning across the different key learning areas is summarised by our teachers below.

English

In English our students have been working very hard to improve their literacy skills. Our programs have encouraged the students to read an array of texts such as poetry, drama, film, non-fiction, media and novels. They have responded to narrative themes of identity and conflict. Students have also explored the features of engaging



stories and have learned to compose original and creative texts of their own. Core spelling, grammar and punctuation skills have been integrated across all of our programs and students have accessed additional assistive technology support and a specialist literacy program called Lexia.

Maths

In Maths we worked hard on developing our skills to use informal and formal mental and written strategies to solve mathematical problems. We covered the topics of patterns and algebra, properties of geometrical figures and angles, fractions, decimals, time, reading data and calculating area and volume. We used a range of concrete materials and ICT platforms including Mathletics, DESMOS and Prodigy Maths to complement our learning.

Science

In Science this year we learnt about the nature and practice of working scientifically. We explored a range of safety issues when working in science laboratories and when using science equipment. Then we explored the methodology used to successfully participate in scientific enquiry and experimentation. Students had opportunities to plan, analyse data and generate conclusions based on their predictions. We also explored the use of classification and keys to group animals based on features. Students, then used their knowledge of habitats, food chains and webs to develop and create their own model of a zoo. In the second semester we looked at how energy appears in different forms including movement, heat and potential energy and how it causes change within systems. Finally, students explored the many discoveries of recent scientific developments and the impacts this has had on our lives.

DISABILITY SUPPORT UNIT *continued.....*

PDHPE

Our students were introduced to PDHPE this year with the themes of change and transition. Key elements of self-management and personal social capability were studied to promote and strengthen our students for their first year of high school. As the year progressed they have studied what positive actions contribute to their health, safety, wellbeing and participation in physical activity. The students have enjoyed participating in whole school sport each week, building their social and communication skills with their peers. The students were very responsive and played well in these team sports.

HSIE

In Geography this year, students explored the features of environments that made them great places to live. We compared these features with that of our local area Oran Park and collectively decided Oran Park was a fantastic area in which to go to school! We also began to identify different landforms and features and described their impact on the environment. In History we learnt how to be historical detectives and used sources to investigate the Ancient Past. We recreated an Ancient Egyptian burial ritual by mummifying our own tomatoes and making a sarcophagus for them to spend eternity in. We then compared life in Ancient China and explored the differences between then and now, especially for women and children. We have had much fun and many hands-on learning experiences in our learning this year.

TAS

Students had a wide variety of experiences in Mandatory Technology this year as they were introduced to the concepts of design thinking. Students have had opportunities to experience using a range of materials, tools and equipment as they plan digital and non-digital design solutions. Examples of design projects completed by students this year include solar race cars, wooden storage boxes and hand-sewn tote bags.

CAPA

Students in CAPA explored the ways that ideas, beliefs and feelings can be shared through artworks. Students experimented with a variety of art forms that represented their personal identity and experiences including drawing and clay modelling. They explored the work of abstract artists such as Wassily Kandinsky using colour, shapes and patterns. Students also looked at the work of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders, using symbolism to represent identity. Students engaged in painting and drawing, discovering how artworks can be built up through layering images.

Mrs Andrews
Head Teacher Disability Support

Students in 7Ruby recreated some traditional Chinese recipes with the help of some modern technology



LANGUAGES

THIS YEAR IN KOREAN

In Stage 4 Korean, students have been learning about:

Year 8

- Hangeul
- About me
- Food
- Hobbies and leisure



Year 8 Korean students have developed a diverse range of linguistic skills in Korean and learned about South Korea's history and culture. We pride ourselves on developing students intercultural understanding and awareness through learning about South Korea's language and culture through the process of immersion. In 2020, students were given the opportunity to meet and converse with students from our sister school in South Korea and demonstrated both leadership and courage in the organisation, planning and execution of every video conference with our sister school. Students have developed their communication skills in a range of topics in Korean. We are look forward to seeing our students thrive with their newly acquired language skills and for us to be a part of the process every step of the way.

SCIENCE

THIS YEAR IN SCIENCE

Welcome to a year in review of Science

Our foundation faculty staff members include Mrs Raju, Ms Whittle, Mrs Silburn and myself Ms Colagiuri.

The philosophy behind our programming and the assessment tasks in Science is an experimenting to grasp ideas, hands-on approach. Whilst taking into consideration the different talents, passions and skills our students possess using as many different resources as possible to explore the world around us and understand how it all works.

Experimentation was evident with the variety of tasks students completed in both the online learning phase and in the classroom, which included, a Year 7 assessment task where students made and tested paper rockets, to see how far they could launch them, making ice cream without a freezer to recognize states of matter and the impact of salt on freezing point, dry ice demonstrations, microscope work, edible models of cells and the all-important Bunsen Burner licence. Year 8 have also led a hands-on experience in Science this year using ICT to understand the structure and function of the human body and made model lungs from materials at home. Experiments in the classroom such as, making models of the Earth to scale from playdoh, edible rocks, plaster cast fossils and chemical reactions. Year 8 also participated in an independent research project to investigate the impact of colour on temperature linking urban design to a fundamental principle of science.

During our online phase of learning this year we used ICT resources available to us and established a communications platform via MS Teams. Each cohort has a dedicated Science MS Team where whole year assessment tasks and information and work have been uploaded for students to access as well as submit tasks and receive feedback. MS Teams has been a powerful way to communicate with our students in Science and we will continue to use this platform in the future. We have also accessed an online learning program called STILE, which contains practicals, videos and simulations as an online learning experience, which was extremely beneficial during isolation and in the classroom.

A highlight this year was the Year 7 Design a Zoo Project. It showcased how talented, creative and inspiring the students are at OPHS. The task consisted of two components for students to complete, a research scaffold and a model of a zoo. Using the research portion of the task students then created a model of a zoo. They had the option of using digital media, or creating a 3D model or a poster of their zoo to showcase their talents and use materials or a medium that interested them. The final products were amazing, selecting the best models was very difficult. I cannot wait to see what next years cohort come up with.

2020 has been a roller coaster of a ride as our foundation year at Oran Park High School. The Science staff are honoured to be a part of developing this new and wonderful faculty. The facilities are outstanding and we appreciate working in the new laboratories and classrooms which we will use to their full potential to guide our students into being critical thinking, life-long learners.

Ms Colagiuri
Head Teacher Science



P D H P E

THIS YEAR IN PDHPE

The aim of the Oran Park High School PDHPE faculty is to educate and encourage our students to make informed decisions and lead an active lifestyle. All our Health programs are specifically designed to inspire students to make the best possible choices regarding their own health and lifestyle. Our programs are adjusted to meet the needs of our students and to cater to all student abilities. Within Physical Education classes we expose students to a variety of different physical activities and sports and challenge students to develop their fundamental skills, tactical knowledge, team work and communication skills, all the while emphasising student participation and enjoyment.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts" by Winston S Churchill. 2020 has been an unforgiving year, where our students have shown their resilience and pushed through all the challenges that this year has given, particularly in PDHPE. Physical Education programs have had to be modified due to no oval and not being able to play contact sports because of COVID-19. Students had to develop physical activity skills whilst learning from home by watching videos of Ms Scott and Mr Condon performing a variety of activities and then upload themselves performing these skills on Flipgrid.



The activities covered in Year 7 Physical Education were Fundamental Movement Skills, Invasion Games, Net Court Games, Target Games, Cultural Games and Modified Games. These were designed to assist our students in learning about strategy, spatial awareness and teamwork. Firstly, Year 7 Health lessons focused on helping students to make the transition into High School and explore the changes that occur in the transition to adolescence. The second half of the year was spent gaining a better understanding of how to be resilient and how to form respectful and inclusive relationships.

Year 8 Health lessons focused on issues around cyber safety and cyber bullying, as well as the benefits and importance of being physically active. These skills would help to equip students with the tools needed to navigate the challenges of growing up in modern society. In Physical Education lessons, Year 8 developed skills in communication, decision making and team work through covering activities such as Fitness, Dance, Initiative Games and Striking and Fielding Games.

We are looking forward to continuing this journey with our students in 2021.

Ms Scott
Head Teacher PDHPE



T A S

THIS YEAR IN T A S

2020 has been a very busy year in the Technology and Applied Studies faculty, and we are extremely proud of the effort that all students have put into their projects. The students have developed their skills in designing and producing and are showing this in the development of creative design solutions.

In Term 1, Year 7 students explored the design process in developing a product that would allow an egg to be dropped from the balcony without breaking. The students developed some very creative designs including parachutes and winged designs that allowed the egg to glide to a safe landing. Year 8 students started learning how to program Arduino microcontrollers and incorporate external components into their programmed circuits. The student's goal was to create an alarm system that could be incorporated into a timber storage box.

During the Covid lockdown, Year 7 students worked on a cross-curricular project with their Creative and Performing Arts subjects called "You're the Star". Students were challenged with designing and creating a musical item from basic materials and they produced amazing instruments including cardboard box guitars and even a tuneable timber piano. Year 8 students were sent a textiles pack and challenged with designing and creating a felt item using the materials and the skills taught through video lessons.

In Terms 3 and 4, students began their rotations through various Technology specialist areas. Year 7 students completed textiles and engineering units, while Year 8 completed timber, food and agriculture units.

In the Year 7 textiles unit, students have learnt hand sewing techniques and completed a small felt item before moving onto creating a reusable bag. The students added additional design elements to the bag such as pockets, labels or dyeing techniques to personalise their bag.

In the Year 7 engineering unit, students developed an understanding of a range of engineering principles including energy, forces and simple machines, and applied this knowledge to design and construct a rubber band powered racer. The students then used these skills to design and construct a solar powered race car. The students were all very proud of their achievements and raced their cars in the quad.

In the Year 8 timber unit, the students have developed their skills when using a range of woodwork tools and equipment to create a storage box or serving tray. The students were able to personalise the box by laser etching designs onto the lid.

The Year 8 food and agriculture unit has developed students knowledge and understanding of sustainable food practices and their food preparation skills. The classes have made delicious meals including lemonade scones, mother nature pasta and chicken sausage rolls.

As you can see it has been a busy and productive year in the Technology faculty. I would like to thank all of the students for the effort they have displayed and we are proud of your achievements this year.

Mr Symons, Ms Woolley, Mr Spasich, Ms Kariatlis and Ms Pellegrino



CAPA

THIS YEAR IN CAPA

It has been a wonderfully productive year in the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty. We are extremely pleased with how the students have demonstrated and developed their creativity and performing skills.

Visual Arts

Throughout the year, students have investigated the artworks of renowned artists including Leonardo DaVinci, Banksy, Wassily Kandinsky, Courtney Mattison and Thanakupi and used their artworks as inspiration in developing their own art projects. They have developed their skills when using a wide range of materials and created artworks using watercolour paints, ceramics and scratch boards. We are extremely proud of the works that have been produced by our students.

Music

Year 7

- Explored the question "What is Music?" through a group composition task inspired by the percussion group "Stomp" using everyday objects and instruments.
- Used the instruments they created in the "You're the star" cross-curricula unit to compose an arrangement of a popular song demonstrating pitch, duration and tone colour.
- Developed skills on the drumkit through rhythmic dictation and music notation activities.
- Learned the basics of how to play the keyboard with both hands fluently
- Learned how to read Tablature and play riffs and chords on the guitar.



Year 8

- Undertook a personal research task on a Disney movie of their choice and the way culture is portrayed through images and sounds.
- Developed an understanding of the importance of Music to various cultures, including an exploration of various tonal systems.
- Discussed the significance of what Rock'n'Roll meant to the teenagers of the 1950's and created recordings of their own songs to demonstrate this.
- Learned about music of more recent years through a study of music technology through the unit of RAP.
- Created their own raps, taking inspiration from their study of Shakespeare in English, sampled songs, poetic techniques and other languages.
- Competed in a class Rap battle.

We would like to thank all of the students for the effort and positive attitude that you have displayed in your CAPA classes this year.

Mr Symons, Ms Kariatlis, Ms Vaccaro, Ms Woolley, Ms Lean, Ms Hearfield and Ms Clowry



LEARNING FROM HOME



March - April 2020

SPORT REVIEW



Sport is an essential part of a student's physical, social and emotional development. Team work, confidence, leadership, and self-respect are some of the qualities developed through participation in sport.

In 2020, Oran Park HS held their inaugural Swimming Carnival at Camden War Memorial Pool. The students were extremely excited to display their House Spirit through participation in competitive swimming events as well as novelty events in and out of the pool. We endured many weather conditions – sunshine, wind, rain, a lightning storm and more sunshine. Despite these challenges, the enthusiasm and behaviour of the students and positive energy of the staff was outstanding. The boisterous chanting and singing of the house war cries was awesome.

Ngura were victorious and were awarded the Swimming House Champion and our first Swimming Age Champions were crowned.

Our swimming team competed at the Macarthur Zone Swimming carnival and we placed sixth out of the eight schools despite only having Year 7 and 8 students. Our 12-year-old boys 4 x 50m relay team qualified for the Sydney South West Championships and performed admirably.

And that is where competitive inter-school sport stopped unfortunately, due to COVID-19.

We look forward to a more 'normal' sporting year in 2021 where our students will hopefully have the opportunity to compete in swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals at school, zone, regional and state level as well as state-wide knockout competitions and gala days in a variety of sports.

Mr Condon
Sports Organiser

TERM 2 HANDBALL HOUSE CHALLENGE!



TERM 3 DODGEBALL HOUSE CHALLENGE!





OUR FIRST SWIMMING CARNIVAL

26 February



Luka C - 12 years Boys Swimming Age Champions
Thomas G - 13 years Boys Swimming Age Champions
Devesh S - 14 years Boys Swimming Age Champions
Haylee S - 12 years Girls Swimming Age Champions
Ella S - 13 years Girls Swimming Age Champions
Tianne S - 14 years Girls Swimming Age Champions

Winning House - NGURA!



2020

THE BEST YEARS
OF MY LIFE