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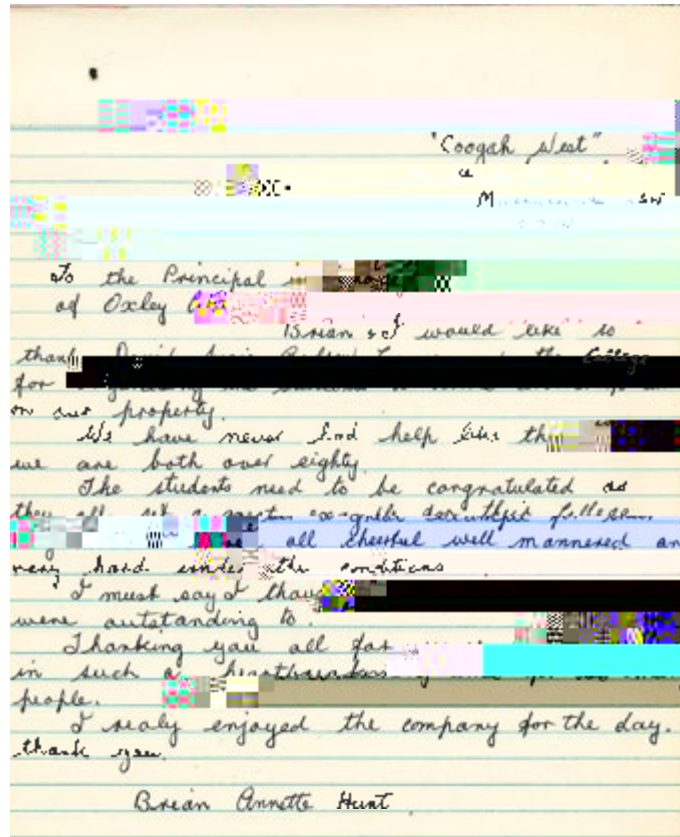
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## Pin Oak Team

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Dear Parents,

I am sure if you have visited the College in the last couple of weeks you will have seen some changes including new umbrellas providing shade and a seating area for students in the courtyard outside 'Of the Shelf' Coffee shop and of course the installation of the new playground for the Junior School. Whilst it has been a long time coming we are hopeful it will be completed over the next few weeks and the children will



Dear Halloween Haters,

If you object or disagree with Halloween on a religious basis or simply don't celebrate it; Great! You do you boo! This article isn't for you This article is out there for all the women who like to wax poetic on facebook about how disgraceful it is for her little Braxton, Paxton and Gwen to want to dress up one time a year (I mean there's already book week) and participate in a terrible, grossly Americanized holiday.

So take a deep breath Carol, because I'm going to blow your mind;

Dear Halloween haters,

Halloween is not American; It's Irish. Halloween originated in Celtic Ireland, initially called "The Festival of Samhain" were the Celts believed at the conclusion of Summer the barrier between the living world and the universe of ghosts and spirits weakened. The Celts would celebrate "The Festival of Samhain" with large parties in an attempt to "Scare

**LIZZO**

Music is incredibly powerful as it has the ability to inspire anyone from every walk of life. I believe Lizzo's recent 'Cuz I love you' album showcases this message in its entirety. She sings with a sort of passion and desire that is not easy to come by. The album takes the listener on quite the ride through energetic, vibrant and fierce lands where we are enchanted by the rapping and singing ability Lizzo

It seems the world is a buzz with the wonder of bees!  
We haven't yet included bees in the narratives of Oxley  
which we share to illustrate our distinctive culture and  
values, and yet suddenly they have converged upon us.

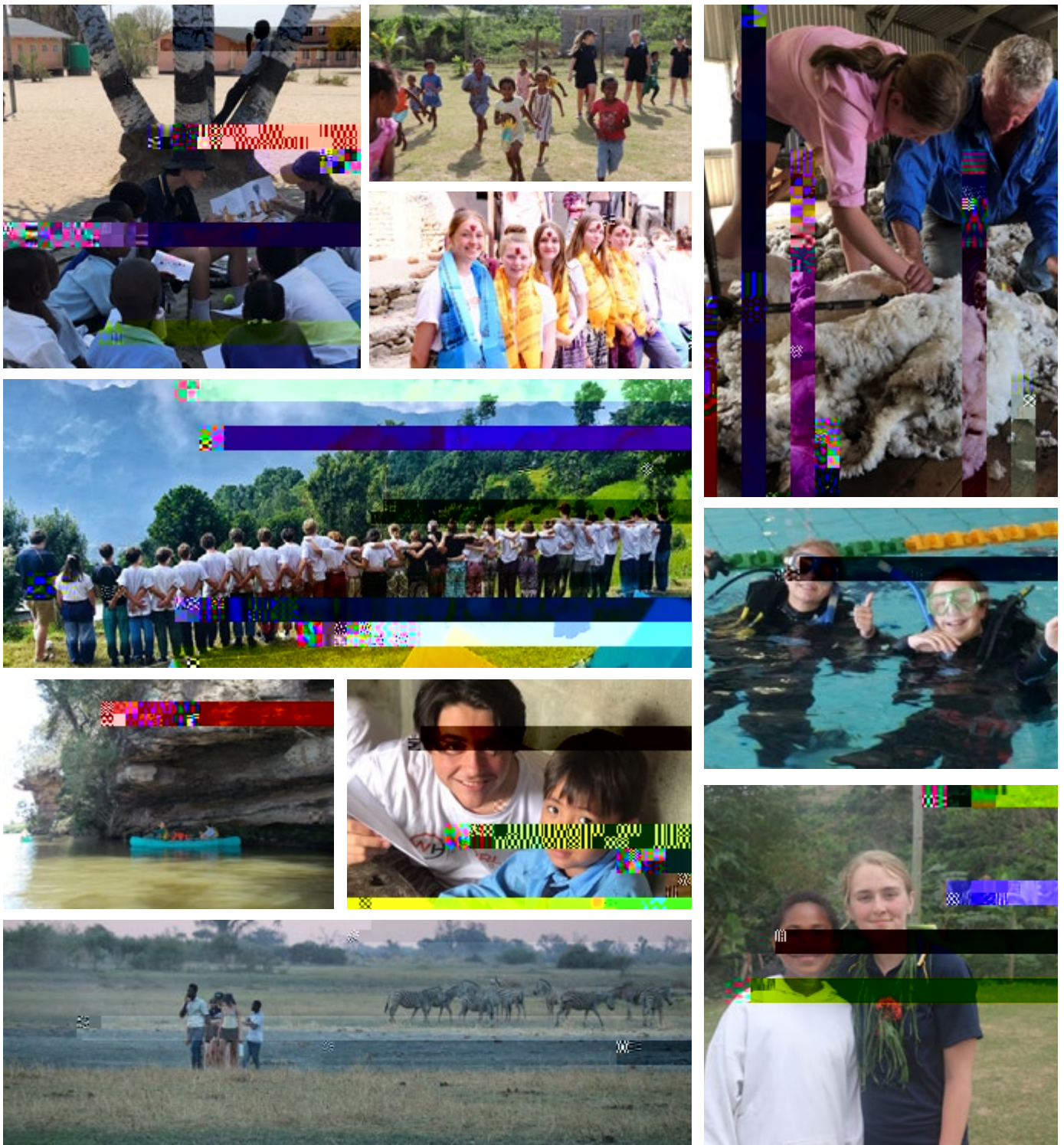
As part of OLE Week, our students in Kindergarten to  
Year 2 created a hive of activity (more puns to follow)  
in and around the Junior School playground. We base  
our endeavours on the philosophy and practice of the  
Reggio Emilia approach in Northern Italy. It is about the  
students transforming the playground to be a place of  
wonder that is child centred and reflective of their voice,  
choice and agency in constructing, creating, composing  
and converting spaces that provide joy to others in an  
ongoing manner.

This year was no exception as artistic and environmental  
initiatives thrived. One of the projects was to create  
Inspiration Totems to celebrate our aim to be 'A Place of  
Welcome, Wonder and Wisdom'. The students involved  
worked with local artist Heidi McGeoch to design symbols  
of the three ideas to decorate the three timber posts  
that now stand proudly beside the much loved 'wobbly  
bridge'. Their crowning glory will be three finials that  
Heidi will create out of steel to fly above each post. The



# OXLEY OTHER LEARNING EXPERIENCES

OLE! Week is a wonderful opportunity for Kindergarten to Year 11 Oxley students to immerse themselves in activities that will extend and enrich their lives beyond the classroom, with a strong focus on outdoor, service and cultural activities. It culminates in the Year 11 Outback trip to the centre of Australia which is now in its 32nd year. Over the past few years, OLE! has also expanded to include Service trips to Nepal, Botswana, Fiji and regional Australia. The OLE journey is unique to Oxley and we hope you enjoy these reports reflecting the huge variety of experiences offered to our students.









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## YEARS 3 & 4

“To construct, also together with the children, an educational environment for learning.... By setting up spaces, furnishings, materials, tools, projects, encounters, collaborative experiences, exchanging and comparing ideas.”

In Dialogue with Reggio Emilia – Listening, researching and learning, by Carla Rinaldi, Routledge Press (2006) p.99

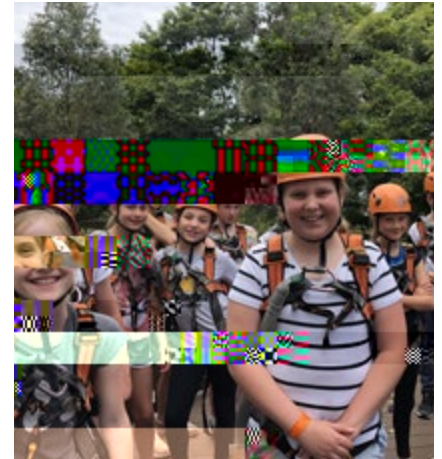
1.Woven Landscapes – our resident weaver, Kylie Fountain, worked with the students to dream, design and deliver a woven construction to provide an enchanting portal to our Junior School Playground.

2.

## PADDLING

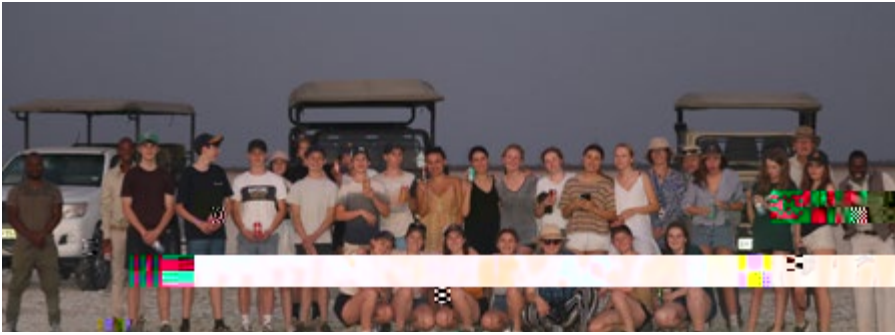
As one of the opportunities for Oxley college OLE, a group of Year 9 and 10 students paddled up the Hawkesbury river. A week filled with bursting blisters, sizzling sunburn and leg numbness, we paddled over sixty-five kilometres in just nineteen hours on the water. The week was filled with various exciting activities besides paddling down the scenic river. Some students chose to do the paddle as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's International Silver Award. As part of the award, learning new skills and activities was part of the criteria which added adventurous events and lessons to the week such as; navigation and orienteering and emergency canoe training. Throughout the week, we made some detours to try some different activities other than paddling including; hikes leading to views of the valleys, swims and cap-size drills in the river and even a stop at Australia's oldest-standing church; Ebenezer Church. The OLE canoe Hawkesbury trip is an excellent opportunity to get to know new people through a sport while learning useful skills. The trip is very useful for students undertaking their Duke Of Edinburgh's International award as the trip was a different experience to the hikes Oxley has done previous years.

By India O'Brien (Year 9)



YEAR 5 & 6





## BOTSWANA

## YEAR 7



Wow. It's dif cult to write about such an amazing experience when even words fail to do it justice, though I will attempt it.

From the ever so magical sunsets to the pulsing beats of African music and welcoming smiles, our souls were soon blessed with a trip that did not fail to impress. The first part consisted of safari like activities where we were introduced to the land, animals and culture of Botswana. We immersed ourselves into the culture whether it be by eating Mopane worms, dancing, singing or even by braiding our hair. On the game drives, we had the amazing opportunity of watching a lioness prepare for her attack on a nearby Impala, as we sat nervously watching in our jeeps only meters away. Seeing the wildlife so up close and personal felt as though we were living out David Attenborough's highlight reel! We soon learnt that there are issues threatening the African wildlife. Hence, it was such a great opportunity to meet ex-Oxley student Tempe Adams from Elephants Without Boarders to see what conservation is doing to help the poaching issues in the country. We also heard from Rhino, Lion and Cheetah conservationists. It was inspiring to hear from those whom are putting their words into actions and making a real dif erence in our world. Our time on the largest inland Delta in the world, was a time to never forget. Even though many stood with searing sunburn, on the last night we exchanged cultures with the polers whom stayed with us on the island. They shared their songs and dances and soon it was our turn. There was no other song to sing then the school song itself. We linked arms and began swaying as we sang and shared our little bit of home. We then visited the Sedie Secondary school and taught in the Mathiba primary school in Maun. It was so amazing to work with those little kids who were so incredibly happy to have these people from Australia. There is no doubt that there was a culture shock when we frst arrived yet we came to embrace it all so we could learn more about their culture.



Overall, it was such an awe inspiring and magical experience that I cannot recommend enough. I want to thank Mr and Mrs Marnoch, Mrs Calver as well as Mr Craig for all the hard work they put into making this trip so memorable. Also, on the behalf of my fellow students, thank you parents for working so hard to send us on what honestly was a trip of a lifetime.



I asked a few other students what they took most out of the trip, this is what they said:

"To bring joy into others' lives even if it's just for a day or two. The schools and culture were truly amazing." - Olivia Scott

"To see people who live there enjoying the small things in life was really eye opening." - Sienna Spagnol

"It's extremely important that we maintain the animal population because they're amazing" – James Wilson

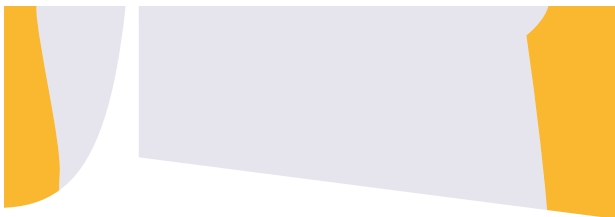


NEPAL

The beginning of Term 4 is always an exciting time of the



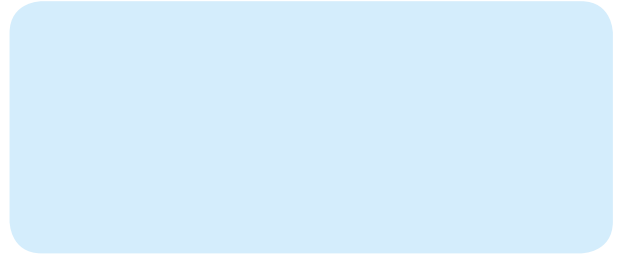
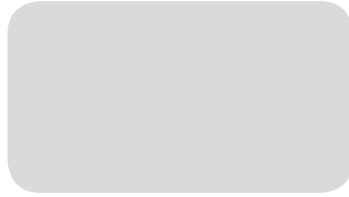
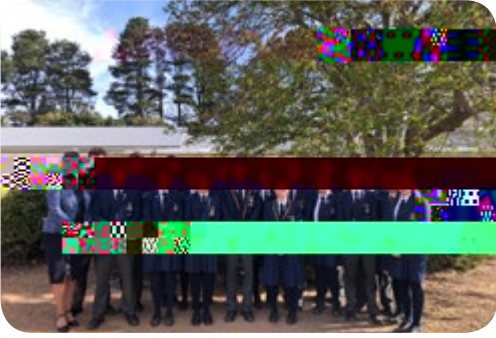
ART GALLERY





# CIS RESULTS

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# NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon
	Rememberance Assembly		
Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue
Junior School Musica Viva Incursion, PCC			
Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed
EXC: St Judes Lunchtime Concert, Bowral	EXC: Y5/6 Aquatic Safety Day,		
	Thu		Thu
Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri
	Term 4 Open Morning for Prospective Families		
Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat
ISA Sport Round 2	ISA Sport Summer - Round 3		
Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun

# NEWSFLASH

## PIPE BAND



Oxley Year 5 students, Emma- Georgie Marks, Summer Hagan and Imogen Gair were the Year 5-6 NSW Winners of the National History Challenge. The girls were presented with their awards at a ceremony at the Sydney Cricket Ground.