

OAKWOOD NEWS

♥ Learning with heart

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What a wonderful start to our 2025 Oakwood learning journey. Thank you to our Oakwood families who have embraced our Oakwood morning routines and family time. Our Oakwooders are showing great passion for learning and great resilience to get back in to the routine of school life, from Pre-primary all the way through to Year 6. The feeling around school really represents our FiSH! Philosophy, the atmosphere is so positive with an element of *PLAY!*

The last few weeks have been filled with lots of relationship building with teachers, peers and families, with valuable learning alongside. It is wonderful to go around the classes and see all the children engaging in their learning and telling us what they are learning about. We are so proud of all our students from Kindy to Year 6.

We welcome our new Oakwood families and our littlest Kindy Oakwooders who have settled well into Oakwood life. We hope you enjoy your time being part of the family.

Staffing News

We said goodbye to Chloe Denney, one of our wonderful teachers. She was successfully appointed a position at another school in the North. We will miss her cheery smile around Oakwood, but wish her every success with her new position.

We wish our wonderful Megan Russell and Natasha Price, who are off on maternity leave, the best of luck with their first bubs!

We can't wait to meet the newest Oakwooders!

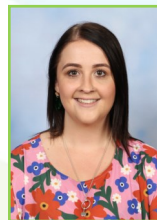


We would love to welcome our new staff to Oakwood and introduce them to our community. We are delighted to have such great practitioners join our Oakwood team to support, teach and nurture our Oakwooders to be the best they can be. We also have staff who are returning Oakwooders who have been on maternity and other leave.

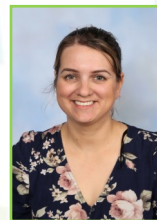
Returning Staff



Rachel James
Kindy Teacher



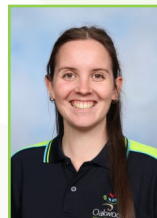
Vicky Kershaw
Kindy EA



Kristy Rankin
Kindy and Art Teacher



Sophie Bell
SN Education Assistant



Emily Small
Year 3 Teacher

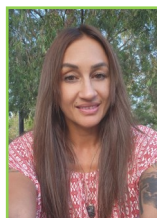


Denika Meehan
AIEO &
Student Wellbeing
Officer

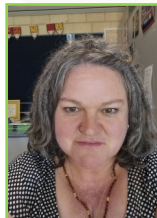
New Staff



Pattina Fulton
Administration



Joleen Meads
Administration



Nahdene Sealey
Kindy Teacher



Chrissie Hayter
Pre-primary Teacher



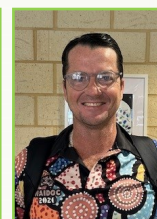
Tom Harford
Year 3 Teacher



Emily Shellam
Year 3 Teacher



Evan Clucas
Year 4 Teacher



Timothy Lees
Specialist Teacher



Jenna Stares
SN Education Assistant

Dates to Remember

Friday 21 February
GRIP Conference
Student Leaders

Senior Assembly 2pm

World Language Café
3:30pm-6pm
Spanish Students

Tuesday 25 February
School Board 6pm

Friday 28 February
RAP Meeting

Junior Assembly 2pm

Monday 3 March
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Labour Day

Friday 7 March
Senior Assembly 2pm

Twilight Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 12 March—
Friday 21 March
NAPLAN

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Merit Certificates

Merit certificates are presented in our Friday assemblies with Junior assembly being the even Fridays and Senior assembly being the odd Fridays. If your child is to receive a certificate in assembly your child's teacher will notify you before the Friday that they are to receive a certificate so you have an opportunity to come and watch them receive it.

Student Leaders

We were so impressed with our student leader speeches and how they presented themselves during the speeches, they spoke clearly and passionately about how they could support children in the playground, support the school following our FISH! Principles and our PBS values. Our student leaders are;

Cameron Smith
Tamaiva Pera
Lily Davis
Charlotte Savage
Jake Powell
Bella Harris
Winter Beets
Carter Strong (Term 1)
Zoe Berryman (Term 2)

Faction Captains

What a week we had with all our elections for Faction Captains, they all spoke amazingly, speaking about sportsmanship, their passion for their faction, the roles they will play in supporting their faction and the Oakwood Way!

Our Faction captains are;

Monarch Alyssa Hill Cole Mellowship	Quenda Flynn Summers Liam Sockett
Blue Wren Masina Faafete Ben Mendes	Osprey Mitchell Harris Halle Vuletic

FISH! Day

Wednesday 26 March 2025 we are celebrating our positive school culture day, FISH! DAY. This is a flagship day celebrating our school community and the wonderful families we have at Oakwood. The Fish Philosophy culture that we follow and the common language we use with the students are: Be there, Play, Make their day, and Choose your attitude. We would love for you to use this language with your children at home. We would like to make it a momentous day for the students with lots of activities linked to this Oakwood Way! This year we will be able to celebrate with our community by sharing a community breakfast and lunch, a letter will be emailed in regards to this.



Canteen

Our canteen, Kingston's Kitchen, has been delivering fantastic food to our students since the first day of school. Please follow their guidelines with ordering lunches for your children. Please use the Spriggy app to set up an account for your child/ren. Also, please ensure the correct classroom number is on your child's order.

School Board and P&C

School Board and P&C are very active within our school. The School Board meet once a term and discuss school priorities. Elections for parent positions on our school board will be held in March. We are keen for nominations from parents, please keep an eye out for the nomination forms in the coming weeks.

The P&C will often send out flyers regarding events or when to attend meetings, if you are interested in joining contact them on pc.oakwoodprimary@outlook.com. Please join the P&C Facebook page by searching for Oakwood Primary School P & C, even if you're not a member of the P&C it will give you reminders and information of events they are running.

Parking Around School

Please park safely and responsibly around the school. It comes down to individual choices that can put our children at risk when they are coming to school or leaving school. Businesses and homes have said they will contact the Rangers if they see unsafe and illegal parking around the school or at the businesses across the road. Please avoid a fine, and more importantly, keep our precious Oakwooders safe!

Crossing Warden

Please remind your children to cross the road safely, please go over how to use the lights correctly, and to also cross where the crossing warden is near the school, thank you.

Story Dogs

Story Dogs, is a reading program that provides a unique opportunity, for a select few students, to be supported with their reading, we have had this opportunity at Oakwood over the past few years. We are fortunate enough to have a new person and story dog join our team. Please meet Cheryle and Ruby who will be visiting our school to read with a few students. Amanda Milroy – amanda@storydogs.org.au, is the story dogs co-ordinator, if this is something you are interested in and you have a calm dog and are able to volunteer your time to read with some students then please contact her.



Kindy Enrolments 2026

We are now open for Kindy enrolments for 2026, our intake area for 2026 Kindy enrolments will apply.

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School Uniform Expectations

We would like to remind all of our families that children are to wear correct school uniform and is stipulated when enrolling at Oakwood Primary School. This includes:

*Oakwood Polo (Faction Shirt on Wednesday)
or Oakwood Dress*

Oakwood Bucket Hat

Oakwood Jacket

Navy Blue shorts/skort/pants

All uniform should be labelled with your child's name. Please ensure your child is wearing correct uniform every day, we appreciate your support with this.



Outdoor play spaces

The outdoor play equipment in ECE, Junior and Senior areas of the school are not to be used before and after school by students, or other siblings who are on school site dropping off or collecting siblings. We would encourage you to utilise the green playground space by the basketball courts which is available before school and after school play if the parent of the child is present.

Dogs on School Grounds:

Please refrain from bringing dogs onto school grounds for the safety of our students and family members, lots of children have a fear of dogs and this can set them up for an anxious start to their school day.

Information from the School Nurse

Anaphylaxis

Checklist for parents of students at risk

- Tell the school administration if your child has been prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector (i.e. EpiPen), has experienced anaphylaxis, has any changes in allergies, and/or any other health care needs that may affect anaphylaxis management.
- Make sure you give the school an adrenaline autoinjector, which is clearly labelled for your child.
- If old enough, make sure your child carries an adrenaline autoinjector and knows how to use it. Show his or her friends, brothers and sisters if they are old enough to understand.
- Provide an ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis completed and signed by your child's doctor. Update the plan (including a photo of your child) when the adrenaline autoinjectors are renewed (usually every 12-18 months). Action Plans are available from www.allergy.org.au
- Help the school to develop an Individual Health Care and Risk Minimisation Plan for your child.
- Educate your child about how to avoid known allergens (triggers).
- Remind your child to immediately tell someone if she/he feels sick.

Kindy students

Undescended testes

Screening for undescended testes is recommended for boys at school entry, typically around 4 to 5 years of age. Sometimes, the testes (also known as testicles) are in the scrotum at birth but may move up into the groin or abdomen at around 4-10 years of age. This happens because the cord that attaches the testis to the abdomen doesn't grow at the same rate as the child.

Undescended testes do not fully descend into the scrotum and can affect one or both testes. Parents or guardians can encourage older children to check for absence of testes in the scrotum themselves. The condition is not painful but can lead to complications such as twisting of the testis, a groin hernia, reduced fertility, and testicular cancer.

If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner for advice.

Pre-Primary Students

Colour Blindness

It's good to know if a child is colour blind, as they may struggle in school with activities that use colours, such as drawing and sorting blocks.

Colour blindness might become obvious after the age of 4 years and is more common among boys. Children who are colour-blind can see as clearly as other children but cannot tell the difference between some colours or see colours differently from other children. This usually happens with reds and greens, and sometimes with blues and yellows.

If your child is colour blind, it's good to inform their teacher about the condition. This will allow the teacher to choose activities that don't involve spotting colour differences.

If you have any concerns, colour vision testing can be performed by some General Practitioners (GP), eye specialists or optometrists. You can also contact your local School Health Nurse, *Deborah Daniel-Devison* on 0429 946 240 for advice.

Upper Primary Year 6 students

Scoliosis

Early detection of scoliosis is crucial for managing child's spinal health and ensuring the best possible outcomes. Scoliosis is a condition where the spine twists and curves sideways. It is more common in girls than in boys and typically becomes noticeable during growth spurts.

Most cases of scoliosis develop in otherwise healthy children, and the exact cause is often unknown.

Parents and children can look for signs such as uneven shoulders, uneven shoulder blades, a slightly tilted head, a noticeable curve in the back, or one hip being higher than the other. These can be spotted with a simple examination of your child's back.

If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner for advice.