



Oxley High ANCHOR

September 12 2025

From the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents, Carers and Community,

As Term 3 draws to a close I am once again reminded of the incredible spirit, talent and determination that define our school. Over the past fortnight we have celebrated so many achievements across academic learning, sport, the arts and community life and I am very proud of the way our students continue to represent Oxley with pride.

Our Year 12 Industrial Arts students recently reached a significant milestone with the completion of their HSC Major Projects. The work produced is a true reflection of their creativity, technical skill and persistence. To mark this occasion we were delighted to welcome families for a breakfast and exhibition providing the opportunity for students to share the stories behind their projects and the effort that went into each detail. It was a morning of celebration and pride and I thank the TAS faculty for their outstanding support of these students.

Year 12 and staff also showed their creativity in a different way as they embraced Book Week, dressing up as favourite book characters and raising funds for Serendipity through gold coin donations. At the same time our school hosted its very first Collin's Booksale which was a wonderful success and helped raise funds towards Year 12's major fundraising efforts for 2025.

On the sporting field our Open Boys and Open Girls hockey teams travelled to Wyong to compete in the round of 16 at the NSW State Championships. Both teams showed enormous grit and determination with the boys triumphing in a penalty shoot-out and the girls securing a strong 2-0 win. Their efforts have earned them a place in the top eight in the state and they now look forward to the finals series here in Tamworth. We also acknowledge our students who have been recognised at state level with selection in the NSW Merit Teams, a fantastic achievement. Sporting opportunities for our current students remain strong with applications now open for the Northern Inland Academy of Sport programs for 2025-2026. I encourage all families to consider this opportunity for our young athletes.

In the academic space we recently hosted the HSC PDHPE Study Day, welcoming students from Farrer, Peel and Carinya to Oxley. It was a productive and collaborative day focused on strengthening knowledge and writing skills in preparation for the HSC. Our own Year 11 students have just completed their Preliminary examinations, marking an important milestone in their schooling. I congratulate them for their dedication and resilience as they now move into their final year of study.

Our students also excelled at the VEX IQ Robotics Competition where six teams represented Oxley with creativity, persistence and teamwork. Their achievements included strong results in the Teamwork Finals and the prestigious Judges' Award which reflected the energy and determination of our students. These competitions not only highlight technical skill but also the problem-solving and collaboration.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Music and the Arts also continue to flourish. Last weekend our talented Year 11 band The Horizon performed at the Kootingal Country Fair, sharing the stage with former student Matt Barrett and his band. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their talent in front of the local community and we are proud of the way they represented Oxley.

As part of our transition program, we were also pleased to welcome Year 5 students from Moonbi, Tintinhull, Attunga and Oxley Vale Public Schools for a Taster Day at Oxley. This follows from our previous visit from Tamworth Public School. It was wonderful to see the excitement on their faces as they engaged in science experiments, dance, cultural activities and the Rock and Water program all while forming new friendships and gaining confidence in preparation for their transition to high school. The day concluded with a barbecue and treats thanks to our Clontarf staff and the support of Westdale Meats.

Beyond our school gates opportunities for future learning continue to arise. Applications are now open for the Indigenous Australian Engineering School at UNSW, a fully funded program offering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students the chance to experience engineering and university life in January 2026. This is an outstanding initiative and I encourage families to explore it further.

For our Year 12 students this term is a particularly significant one. In just a few weeks we will gather for the Year 12 Final Assembly on Wednesday 24 September. This ceremony is a chance to acknowledge their hard work and commitment across all their years of schooling, to celebrate their contributions to Oxley and to formally farewell them as they prepare for the next stage of their journey. At this assembly we will also announce our student leadership team for 2026, an exciting moment for our school. Your HSC examinations, beginning Thursday 16 October, are an opportunity to demonstrate your learning and we know you will approach them with the same determination you have shown throughout your time here.

It is also important to recognise the achievements of our alumni. Former student Braith Nock has enjoyed an extraordinary horse racing season, collecting awards including Metropolitan Apprentice of the Year, the NSW Apprentice Premiership and the Athol Mulley Trophy. His 112 wins across the season are the second highest in Australia – a remarkable feat from a young man who continues to make Tamworth proud.

Oxley High School was also proud to be named a finalist in the **Tamworth Quality Business Awards** this year. While we did not take home the win it was a wonderful evening celebrating alongside many outstanding local organisations. These awards recognise the contribution that businesses make to the community and in many ways schools are businesses too – we provide services, manage resources and most importantly deliver opportunities for growth and success. Being recognised in this forum is a reflection of the role Oxley plays not only as a place of learning but as an organisation that contributes to the wider Tamworth community.

Finally today we join with schools across the nation to mark RUOK? Day. This is an important reminder to reach out, to check in and to look after one another. A simple conversation can make an enormous difference and I encourage everyone in our community to take the time to ask, to listen and to support those around them.

The past fortnight has been a time of celebration, achievement and preparation for what lies ahead. Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school. Together we create a community where every young person is encouraged to thrive.

R U OK? Day 2025

Today, Oxley High School held a special event to recognise R U OK? Day, encouraging students to connect and check in with one another.

We were fortunate to be joined by several local organisations who ran engaging activities and helped promote the importance of mental health and wellbeing.

A big thank you to the following organisations for their support:

- Sora Community Services – Football toss and craft
- Joblink Plus – Cooked and served a BBQ
- Centacare – Lolly guessing game and R U OK? merchandise
- Benevolent Society – Sand fidget tools
- Tamworth and Armidale Aboriginal Children's Service – Cultural face painting, ochre, and football toss
- OP Hub – Weaving and ball games

We are grateful for their ongoing commitment to our students and for helping make the day such a positive and impactful experience.



Celebrating Local Talent!

Huge congratulations to former Oxley High School student Braith Nock on an incredible 2024/25 racing season!

- Metropolitan Apprentice of the Year – 40 city wins!
- NSW Apprentice Premiership Winner
- The Athol Mulley Trophy – Most wins by an apprentice at Randwick Racecourse
- Newcastle Jockey Club Apprentice of the Year
- 112 total wins for the season – the 2nd most in all of Australia!

What an amazing achievement from a young star making Tamworth proud!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTSPFM9b8EU>



Student Top Deck Awards



Year 7

Breanna Box

Year 8

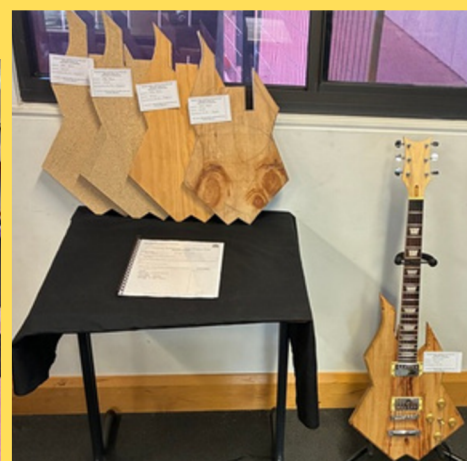
Harrison Bonarius
& Carly Hanks

Year 11

Cassie Cole

Year 12

Ruby Curnow-Grieve



Year 12 HSC Major Industrial Arts Projects

Over the past year, our talented Year 12 Industrial Arts students have dedicated countless hours to designing, constructing, and refining their Major Projects, alongside compiling comprehensive portfolios to document their process and development. These projects are a true reflection of their creativity, technical skill, and persistence.

To mark the completion of their work and celebrate their achievements, we were thrilled to welcome parents into the school for a special breakfast and exhibition. It was a fantastic morning filled with pride and conversation, as students shared the stories behind their projects and showcased the hard work that went into every detail.

We would like to extend a huge congratulations to all of our Year 12 Industrial Arts students. Your dedication and craftsmanship have truly impressed us, and we're so proud of what you've accomplished.

Best of luck as you move into the HSC exam period – we know you'll continue to do yourselves proud.

~Mr Brown and Mr Smith, along with the whole of the TAS Faculty

Oxley High Shines at VEX IQ Robotics!

Oxley High School sent six VEX IQ Robotics teams to the FMAHS Blended VEX IQ Robotics Competition, where they competed alongside 15 teams from:
Tamworth: Farrer Memorial High School & Oxley High School
Sydney: Reddam House, Artarmon Public School, Dural Public School & Abbotsleigh Junior School

Our students showed incredible skill, teamwork, and resilience throughout the competition. We are proud to celebrate their achievements:

Teamwork Awards

Team A (Levi Wardle, Declan Wilson & Noah Barnes) – 3rd Place in Teamwork Finals

Team D (Alyson Dare, Chelsea Beydoun & Trinity Finch) – 3rd Place in Teamwork Finals

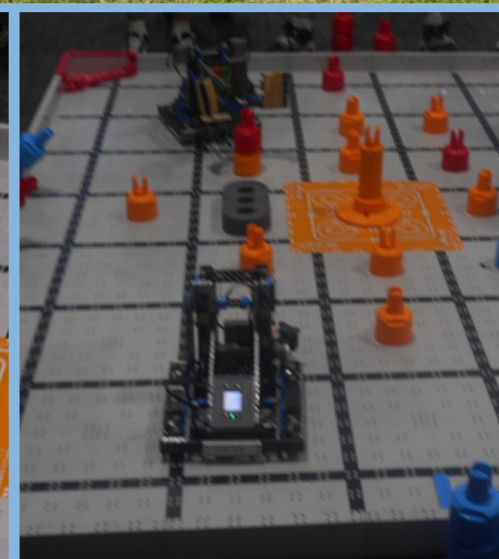
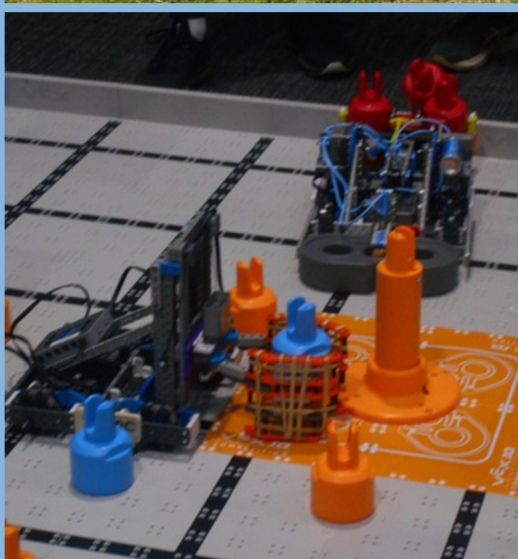
Team F (Rizwan Jaleel, Logan Ayoub & Bryson Unger) – 4th Place in Teamwork Finals

Judges' Award

Team E (Nathaniel Robinson & Brax Keighran) received the prestigious Judges' Award, recognising their energy, determination, and collaborative spirit throughout the event.

A huge congratulations to all our students for representing Oxley High with passion, persistence, and pride. You've done our school and community proud!

A big thank you to Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School for hosting the event and for all the amazing work they do to support Robotics in the Tamworth region.





Book Week Fun – Year 12 Style

Our Year 12 students and teachers embraced the Book Week spirit today by dressing up as their favourite book characters.

The day was not only a fun celebration of reading, but also helped raise money for their chosen charity, Serendipity, through gold coin donations.

Thank you to everyone who took part and made it such a memorable and meaningful day.



A successful 2025 Taster Day

We had the pleasure of welcoming Year 5 students from our partner primary schools Moonbi Public School, Tintinhull Public School, Attunga Public School and Oxley Vale Public School for a Taster Day.

The students enjoyed a fun and engaging day of activities designed to give them a glimpse into high school life and help with the exciting transition ahead.

They participated in science practicals, enjoyed dance sessions, took part in cultural activities, and experienced the Rock and Water program.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces, new friendships forming, and students confidently trying new experiences. A big thank you to our dedicated staff and student leaders who helped make the day such a success.

To round out the day, students enjoyed a BBQ cooked by our Clontarf staff and Zooper Doopers. Thanks to Matt from Westdale Meats for your ongoing support.



Applications are now open for the Indigenous Australian Engineering School (IAES) program, hosted by UNSW Sydney Engineering in January 2026. This one-week residential program is designed for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who will be in Years 10, 11, or 12 in 2026.

Fully funded by UNSW and Engineering Aid Australia, the IAES program offers an immersive experience in engineering, including hands-on activities, insights into engineering careers, and an introduction to life on campus. Students will stay for six nights, with all travel, accommodation, and meals fully covered. In addition to the engineering experience, the program includes cultural, social, and peer activities.

Key Details:

Dates: January 11th – 17th, 2026

Location: UNSW Sydney

Cost: Completely free for students, including travel, accommodation, and meals

Applications close: November 7, 2025 at 12:00 AM (midnight). Please apply through the application link below.

[Program Overview & Apply - Click here](#)

For more information, please visit the UNSW Engineering Indigenous Webpage. Link is below.

[Learn More - Click here](#)



Oxley High 2026 Year 7 Enrolment

Enrolment forms are due now!

To confirm Enrolment we need

- Enrolment Form
- Birth Certificate
- Mobile Phone Policy Form
- White Contact Information Card
- 100 points of Residential Proof

**Please complete the above
and return these to the school
to secure Enrolment**

Your High Potential and Gifted child and what the Research says.....

High Potential and Gifted children are broadly considered to fall within one or more 'domains'. Each newsletter this term, we will focus on describing one domain so you can consider how each of these relates to your child. The last newsletter focused on the Physical Domain, and today we will look at the Creative Domain.

The Creative Domain

The Creative Domain refers to natural abilities in imagination, invention and originality. Students who excel in the creative domain may demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics, at a notably higher level than their peers:

- **Originality:** Expressing ideas in unique or novel ways.
- **Innovation:** Developing new solutions or perspectives.
- **Imagination:** Conceptualizing and creating new ideas, images, or scenarios.
- **Inventiveness:** Creating something new or improving upon something existing.
- **Social Value:** The originality and innovation are recognized as having value or purpose for others.
- **Flexibility:** The ability to generate different ideas or approaches.
- **Fluency:** Producing a large number of ideas.

How are these students supported at school?

Students are often supported to achieve in class through differentiation, including in CAPA and TAS classes. Oxley High School also offers a range of creative extra-curricular activities, such as the Studio 66, participation in Dance ensembles & Eisteddfods and a community card making.

Next week - continue reading to learn more about the Social-Emotional Domain!



REMINDER TO YEAR 12 FAMILIES:

Please RSVP at
Window 1 or the
Front office for
catering purposes for
the Year 12 Farewell
Assembly.



Connect and Thrive Series

Create connections. Build skills.
Share ideas. Discover opportunities.

Don't miss this new event for young people in Tamworth to network, learn, and share with their community.

Tuesday 16 September 2025 at the Tamworth Regional Youth Centre, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm * Registrations essential




Aged 15-20?
YES - I'm keen to attend



Local business or organisation?
Express your interest to be involved

Click [here](#) to learn more
Click [here](#) or Scan the
QR code to apply

Free Healthcare Checks

for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander female students and non-Clontarf male students at Oxley High School.

If you would like your child to access this service, please email with the following details and state that you give permission for your child to participate:

- + Student's full name
- + Student's date of birth
- + Student's Medicare number
- + If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact Jason Allwood on the below number.



Email jason.allwood3@det.nsw.edu.au
Call (02) 6766 1677



Elevate Education's Term 3

Parent Webinar Series

Hear expert advice on the following topics:

How to Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated
6th August 6:30pm (AEST)

How You Can Make Technology an Ally (& Not the Enemy!)
20th August 6:30pm (AEST)

How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking
3rd September 6:30pm (AEST)

How You Can Support Your Child During Exams
17th September 6:30pm (AEST)

Click the link in the caption to reserve your space.



UPCOMING EVENTS



The RIOT Champions Team have organised an exciting day of activities for each of the year groups (7, 8, 9,10) in Week 6 and 9:

Year 7 - Tuesday 26th August
Year 8 - Tuesday 16th September
Year 9 - Wednesday 27th August
Year 10 - Wednesday 17th September

Students will learn more about:

- Reviewing the RIOT program
- Team work
- Goal setting
- Exposure ladders
- Catastrophe scale
- Sensory/grounding strategies
- The brain's functions - decision making and emotional regulation, problem solving
- Resilience and coping skills to help students face stressful situations

HELD AT OXLEY HIGH SCHOOL

RESILIENCE IN OUR TEENS

SHINE
DANCE FITNESS
WITH Mel

TICKETS \$18

MOVIE NIGHT

FORUM 6 CINEMAS

6.15PM FRIDAY 12 SEPT 2025

BRING YOUR GOLD COINS FOR THE RAFFLE! ALL PROFITS TO TAMWORTH RMHC.



Proudly Supporting
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Northern NSW



RAFFLE & LUCKY DOOR PRIZE!

DOWNTON ABBEY
THE GRAND FINALE