

# ©RANA SEASONS

Term 1, 2018



## SAVE THE DATE!!

Kindergarten Afternoon Tea: Tuesday, 8 May 3:15pm until 4:00pm

Primary School Afternoon Tea: Wednesday, 9 May 3:15pm until 4:00pm

High School Afternoon Tea: Thursday, 10 May 3:15pm until 4:00pm

More information will be sent out soon!

### Sophia Group Workshop

Chalkboard drawing with Roger Targett

Saturday 5 May 2 to 4pm

Cost: \$10 per person (teachers free)

Where: Grade 4RT classroom

Limited spaces so booking essential

Contact: Angela 0452220553

[sophia.group@outlook.com](mailto:sophia.group@outlook.com)



## Term 2 Open Days

Thursday, 24 May

Primary School tour: 9:30am

High School Tour: 11:30am

Wednesday, 30 May

Early Childhood Tour: 9:30am



Outstanding  
education that  
lasts a lifetime

For more information:  
6288 4283  
[www.oranaschool.com](http://www.oranaschool.com)

## TERM 2

### April

- 30 First day term 2  
Class 3 Excursion to Ingelara
- 30 Classes 2, 3, 4, 5  
AIS Swimming Program

IBDP Information Evening

- 31 Term 2 Open Day Early Childhood  
Classes 2, 3, 4, 5  
AIS Swimming Program

### May

- 4 High School Disco
- 7 Class 9 German Exchange Information Evening
- 8 Class 10, P.A.R.T.Y. Program Excursion, Canberra Hospital
- 10 Class 8 Potluck Dinner, High School
- 11 Classes 5-12 Cross Country Carnival
- 15 Class 10, 11, 12: CIT Health Day out

### June

- 1-8 Classes 2, 3, 4, 5  
AIS Swimming Program
- 1 Class 11 Botany Excursion, Botanical Gardens
- 8 Class 10 Excursion to Sydney
- 12 Classes 7 and 8, World of Maths Workshops
- 13 Spend a Day at Orana
- 21 Classes 1 and 2 Spiral Walk, Drama Room
- 22 6:00pm Primary School Winter Festival
- 24 Term 2 Open Day Primary School and High School
- 25 Carol's Parent Meeting, Bluebell
- 26 Classes 1-7 Opera Performance
- 29 St John Ambulance visiting Primary School
- 29 Japanese Tanabata Star Festival, Overture Hall
- 4:50pm Early Childhood Winter Festival

Last Day Term 2

Orana Steiner School  
Unwin Place  
Weston ACT

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Cover illustration by:  
Dani (Class 3)



## From The Board

Throughout 2017, the Board continued to work with our Principal Linda and her team, and with the College of Teachers, to continue to pursue the strategic objectives of the school. In summary these are to:

- provide a vibrant Steiner school that offers an outstanding education for life
- develop creative and confident students who are innovative thinkers and progressive global citizens
- foster innovative, versatile, competent and committed staff
- achieve a holistic approach to health and optimal wellbeing for students and staff
- engage effectively with stakeholders and the school community
- provide an inspiring, safe and sustainable environment
- adopt a reflect, responsive and strategic approach to all that we do
- ensure we are financially sound and professionally managed.

A particular focus of the Board throughout the year has been to continue to understand how to deliver Steiner education in the modern educational and regulatory environment. In contrast to the first Waldorf School that Rudolf Steiner established with Emil Molt in Stuttgart in 1919 — which was subject to almost no external regulation from the State (which was Baden Württemberg; see the fascinating discussion in Peter Selg's *The Essence of Waldorf Education*) — Orana is subject to a very large number of external regulations and requirements. Working within these frameworks to deliver Steiner education is an ongoing task for us all.

Orana's decision to become a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate is a practical step towards allowing us to continue to focus on Steiner principals while meeting regulatory requirements.

Financially, Orana is in a sound position. Of course, we can't afford to be complacent, and prudent planning and spending remains the order of the day. The Board has approved a careful budget for 2018 which we think is well balanced and allows Orana to continue to invest in our facilities and our people.

This enterprise of educating our children simply wouldn't be possible without the work and commitment of the whole Orana community. The Board would like to offer sincere thanks to everyone involved: to all the teachers; the College of Teachers; the Administration and Finance teams and the Maintenance and Grounds team who keep our school looking wonderful.

As we all know, the parents and carers also play a huge role at Orana. The Board would like to thank the P&F, the Spring Fair Committee and all the Spring Fair volunteers as well as all the Class Coordinators and the special role of organising and supporting the coordinators, for all of their work throughout 2017 and for the work we know they will do in 2018.



## Early Childhood

Celebrating Harvest Festival in Early Childhood

Give thanks to the mother Gaia

Give thanks to the Father Sun

Give thanks for the flowers and the veggies in the garden

Where the Mother and the Father are one

Harvest is a wonderful time in Kindy, our early childhood groups and playgroups at Orana. All the bounty of the summer is upon us. This year, as Easter was early, we decided to celebrate and hold our Harvest Festival at the very end of term. Although we are well and truly into autumn now, it is still so warm! However, the leaves have started to turn and we are finally welcoming autumn in all her glory. The children gather the falling leaves and use them in their play and add them to our nature tables daily.

Gratitude is a quality that we consciously work with and nourish in the young child through imitation. As educators our inner attitude of gratitude for what we receive is foremost for the children and they perceive this in how we prepare for all we do, and especially as we prepare for this festival. We gather fruits to preserve and turn into jam to be enjoyed on our bread on baking day; we have gathered corn sheaths to make into corn dollies; apples harvested from family trees are shared and dried or cooked; many seedpods, acorns and leaves are gathered and strung into beautiful decorations; the rosehips are ripe too and will be threaded and dried and drunk as herb tea in the winter months and beautiful harvest loaves will be created. There are endless opportunities for harvesting Mother Earth's offerings and working to create something beautiful together. As ever the children's enthusiasm to make and do things is infectious. In working together and sharing with others what we

have made or gathered the children learn the gift of giving and also of receiving; Mother Earth has given these things to us freely and we thank her.

How do we show thanks for all the bounty Mother Nature provides for us? Once again reverence is a quality that we foster daily in Early Childhood; a special harvest morning ring and the verses and songs we sing together as we greet each day, as well as the blessings we sing before we eat a meal, all reflect the deep inner connectedness the children have with their surroundings; the importance of acknowledging how very blessed we are to have this precious earth and how we can work together in harmony; giving and receiving.



Our Harvest Festival will begin in the morning with a gift from the teachers for the children; a puppet show in the morning with the theme of giving and receiving and helping each other. Each Kindy will celebrate Harvest in a slightly different way; songs, stories and celebratory food shared will be feature in each of course! We will have spent the days ahead of the festival making harvest garlands or other harvest craft and baking, then come together in various ways to celebrate. At the centre of each festival, will be a deep offering of gratitude for all we have received from Mother Earth. Children will bring something to offer for the festival table, and a bountiful display will be created for all to enjoy. Veggies and herbs brought to Kindy will be made into soup and enjoyed together and other offerings will be donated to others for their enjoyment. Baking as always is an important part of the festival. The children will help to bake festival bread or cake to

enjoy with each other. As we come together and sing our appreciation, children are given a living experience of gratitude and connection; here we celebrate together and give thanks. Certainly we have much to be thankful for.

Stephanie Gottlieb for the Early Childhood faculty

### Celebrating Easter in Early Childhood

Many of you are undoubtedly familiar with some of the images and ideas often associated with Easter – predominantly we see chicks, rabbits and lambs along with flowers, eggs and colours representative of the emerging and blossoming life seen in Springtime. But for us here in Australia where it is Autumn and nature is actually withering and contracting, it really is impossible to simply take these Spring Easter traditions and transplant them. Instead, to make them truly meaningful and authentic, we need to rework them and find fitting ways to reflect the Easter themes of transformation, rebirth and strength/courage that meet us here in the Southern Hemisphere.

Additionally, Easter is probably one of the hardest festivals to bring to young children in a way that avoids intellectual explanations but still carries the ideas and images appropriately. In the Kindergarten, I bring these to the children through story, song and artistic/seasonal activity. One effective and appropriate activity that we have been doing, suited to the season and themes, is collecting and planting seeds. They are plentiful at this time of year and carry the message that although seeds appear hard and “dead” on the outside, they contain within, unknown, new life to come forth later. Decorating eggs is another good activity. Eggs have universally been recognised as a symbol of life – bringing new life and representing the cycle of life. Outside the shell is cold, hard and seemingly “dead” but from within springs life that starts the whole process again. Inside the unfertilised egg is also the golden

yolk that is a wonderful picture of the shining heavenly light living within all of us and the outer “shell” returns once more to the earth. Similarly, we have been cutting open apples to see the seed “stars” inside. On our season table sits our “Easter tree” where the children’s hollow decorated eggs are hung from bare branches. These branches reflect the Autumn trees that will lose their leaves only to grow them anew come Springtime.

Some of the older children have been making fleece Hares for Easter. In the Kindergarten we speak more of the “Easter hare” rather than the bunny as although we often see rabbits around at this time of year, it is the Hare that is viewed as the appropriate bringer of eggs! This is because unlike the rabbit, the Hare makes its home wherever it finds itself and is also an animal that is capable of overcoming egotism and sacrificing itself for another unknown to itself, thus portraying qualities of courage, strength and giving selflessly. Hot Cross Bun making is one other activity the children have partaken in and I really do not bring the image of these strongly for the children but they are enjoyed as something significant at this time of year. In fact, I only recently learned more about the apparent religious significance of these – the cross is more obvious, but supposedly the buns represent the rock rolled from the opening of the cave where Christ was buried and then rose again; the combination of the sultanas and “bread” in traditional buns reflect the wine and bread of the Last Supper.



Easter occurs according to the movements of the Moon (Sunday after the full moon following the Autumn Equinox) and so is a moveable celebration, unlike Christmas, and has a strong connection with the cosmic world. So as the days grow shorter and darker here and forces of nature are withdrawing into the earth, it reminds us to pause and reflect and anticipate a return to and reconnection with light and life to come, both physically and on a spiritual level.

Nicole for the Early Childhood Faculty

## Playgroup

Playgroup has started the new year by welcoming back many familiar faces. We are also very happy to welcome the new families that have joined us this year!

As the new families become familiar with the seasonal songs and purposeful tasks of a Playgroup morning, our children from last year have grown a little bigger and have smoothly settled into the rhythm once more. There are many helping hands to complete our meaningful work!

Parents and caregivers meet new faces and kindle friendships over shared cups of tea and coffee, finger knitting and teaching one another to crochet, while the children run about their feet, brew their own tea in the play kitchen and tuck their babies into bed.

This has been a wonderfully warm and gentle start to the school year and the slow and relaxed pace seems to mirror the change in the seasons now as we've entered Autumn. Just as our days become mild with the warm glow of the Autumn sun, the energy at Playgroup is unhurried, peaceful and vibrant.

One of our puppet stories this Autumn is called "The Autumn Fairies" who are woken to complete their important task of painting the leaves of the trees in their myriad of colours. There is a beautiful and simple song we sing

during the story that I'm sure the young children in your lives will love!

Adapted from a story by Kim Preston (sung to the tune of "Twinkle, twinkle little star")

Autumn Fairies wake today,  
Mix your colours as you play.  
Red and gold and orange too,  
Yellow, brown and purple hue.  
Once each leaf is painted so,  
From the tree it can let go.

Playgroup sessions are held on Monday through Thursday mornings from 9.15 – 11.45am.

As our Playgroup continues to grow in popularity, we now have a waitlist for every session. If you would like to join our warm, growing community, please register your interest by emailing [playgroup@oranaschool.com](mailto:playgroup@oranaschool.com) or phone the Early Childhood Admissions Officer - Harriet Daly on (02) 6287 8301.

Natalie Mooney and Jenny Incher  
Playgroup Leaders



# Primary School, High School and Senior College

## Class 1JC and Class 1DGR

Class 1 started the year with the Form Drawing Main Lesson, where we were introduced to straight lines and curved lines and many variations of these forms through stories. We also spent some time getting to know each other and settling into our daily rhythm.



We are now learning our alphabet, with the aid of stories and drawings. We have been enjoying our long walks every week and the opportunity to engage with our external and internal surroundings. In the last couple of weeks our classes have examined and collected autumn leaves and created beautiful leaf rubbings from them.



It is of course hugely exciting to see our new playground taking shape outside our classrooms. Thank you to all the parents and staff who have been working hard to make this possible. Thank you also to all the parents who have been helping in many

other ways to make our events and classrooms so wonderful!

Jason and Dharini



## Class 2

Class 2 started 2018 ready to work and play! Our first Main Lesson explored animal fables from around the world. The stories and moral lessons helped to create our class rules and emphasised team work.

We entered the world of numerically based patterns for our next theme. Class 2 created room sized stars and pentagons using our bodies and wool to mark out the geometry. We used this experience to make designs in our main lesson books. Towards the end of the main lesson we introduced place value through story and play.

Our last main lesson of Term 1 is centered around showing an appreciation and understanding of the local flora and fauna of the ACT.

## Class 6MT

The story of Julius Caesar, love him or hate him, has been told for two thousand years and still has the capacity to make the mid boggle with the audacity of his actions. In class 6MT, we've been looking at a detailed narrative of his journey into Gaul and beyond. So often, we zoom over history at ten thousand feet, taking in the broad sweeps of it and rarely do we have time to move in closer and tell the sort of detailed biography that makes history so compelling, and so full of lessons for our times. As Mark Twain is

credited as saying: 'History doesn't repeat, but it sure rhymes!'. The story of Rome is an old one, but in our second main lesson of the year we have investigated something even older, which makes the entire history of humanity seem like a passing instant.

Geology – the study of rocks and earth processes – takes in vast sweeps of time, and the children have experienced the entire history of Australia compressed into a 24 hour day. Even the last glacial maximum came at 11:50pm and oxygen was a fraction of its present concentration for most of the 'day'. It can be hard to get back to ancient Rome to study it first hand, but rocks of unbelievable antiquity are always just under our feet. Geology has given us a great chance to get out of the classroom and check out our local rocks!



### Class 7

Our Class 7 students have all been stepping up to a number of volunteer and leadership opportunities this term. These opportunities for service are building self-esteem, responsibility and a sense of belonging for our students.

Every Thursday, a group of students have been taking a planned path around the Orana site and cleaning up any litter they find on the way. It has been interesting to note the differences in the types of litter in the various areas of the school.

Another group has been visiting Class 2 students and helping with reading which is proving to be a valuable experience for all

concerned. A third group of Class 7s are working with Class 3 students, supporting the numeracy games initiative that the Class teachers have collaboratively planned. For the students who have been at Orana since the early years, this activity has brought back many fond memories.

We are also very proud of the large number of Class 7 students who are continuing with the Volunteer Orchestra. The Volunteer Orchestra is a key group of students at Orana who not only extend their musical expertise by practicing together but who provide invaluable support at our community events with their performances.

Class 7 are looking forward to supporting our school community in many more ways as this year unfolds.

### Japanese

2TM and 2KS had a cooking lesson at the end of term 1.

We made rolled Sushi using bamboo mats. Interestingly, some students already knew how to make sushi because they often make it with their parents at home.

I hope they enjoyed this cooking experience and that they will have an opportunity to make this healthy Japanese food at home.

The main theme for Class 3 Japanese is Hiragana writing.

Class 3 students are very excited about having a new Japanese notebook and learning Japanese writing, Hiragana.

Most of the lesson content for Class 3 is still based on aural-oral work, but now we also use a "Japanese Book". They draw relevant pictures relating to the content.



Instructions are given in Japanese—what to draw, what colour to use, etc.—

with examples drawn on the blackboard by the teacher.

Each letter has a drawing, and they will draw and write all the letters, 46 basic letters, this year.

Their first Japanese script has been already presented in the form of their own name written in Hiragana phonetic characters.

I hope they will enjoy learning Hiragana this year.

Fumi



こんにちは！ Hello from the Japanese classes. This week we engaged in a little cultural immersion with authentic foods from Japan. One dish in particular, おこのみやき (Okonomiyaki) was quite popular as it is also amongst students in Japan. Some students felt they could make it at home themselves so watch out parents and caregivers! The most beautiful bridges built between cultures occur with the sharing of meals so well done to all the Japanese students who participated in the tastes and smells of authentic cuisine. ごちそうさま でした!

Valerie



### Class 11&12 Japanese excursion

Class 11&12 Japanese students went on an excursion on April 4th. We visited Japanese embassy in Yarralumla. We did Japanese calligraphy and explored in their beautiful Japanese garden.

The highlight for Fumi Sensei was definitely Japanese obento lunch from lori.

The students enjoyed authentic Sushi, Sashimi, Teriyaki chicken and tempura.

Yukiko accompanied with us as another adult supervisor. Thank you, Yukiko!



## Japan trip 2018

20 students from Class 9, 10 and 11, two teachers and one parent departed Orana on April 7th. This school trip is from April 7th - 22nd, and the group are traveling to Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Nara, Himeji and Mt, Fuji.

They are now in Tokyo, immersing themselves in Japanese culture and language.

They are absolutely exhausted everyday and sleep very well every night. I hope our students are developing a rich understanding of Japanese culture and understand their own, Australian culture as well. I'm sure they're also learning Japanese and improving their Japanese skills significantly through this practice immersion experience!

Fumi



## German

On 1 December 19 high school students, 2 teachers and 1 accompanying parent headed off to Germany for Orana's first ever study tour. The tour lasted for three weeks, commencing in Frankfurt participants travelled to Heidelberg, Freiburg, the Black Forest to Füssen, Munich, Nürnberg, and finally Berlin. The group stayed in a variety of accommodation, including sleeping in some Steiner School gyms. The students, amongst other things, explored some of the many

wonderful sights in Germany, experienced traditional German and Bavarian cuisine and made new friends.



The full story can be found on our website.



## Senior Leadership Peru Challenge 2018 Fundraising events

Please help our senior college students raise funds for their leadership challenge to Peru in June.

The following events will be happening in Term 2 and your support would be greatly appreciated.

- Perubbq – sausage sizzle every Friday lunch in the canteen for Classes 5 to 12. Food and drinks for sale;
- Family portraits by Roslyn Clark – just in time for Mother's Day you will be able to book a family portrait with Roslyn. More information to come

- Special Perubbq – from 6:30pm on Friday 1 June after the Twilight Concert. Sausages, pulled pork rolls and soup will be for sale.



### Maths Challenge in High School

Class 8B had a challenge to see who could recite pi to the most decimal places to end off the Main Lesson - Patterns in Life.

Our winner was Jacob who knew pi to 35 decimal places. He now going home with an apple pie



### Poetry and Prose of the Orana Senior Students - A Compilation

#### *Canberra*

I stroll across the mist-covered path,  
Underneath the shadow of Black mountain's tower.

Strangers visiting all throughout  
Cameras flashing, unusual tongues raucous.

All directions I look  
People drifting aimlessly,  
Utterly casually  
Contrary to the scenic place they visit.

In place of experiencing  
To the complete degree

This picturesque scene,  
Under the influence,  
Perpetually entranced.

The screens, everlastingly bright,  
Attracts the moths  
Who flutter willingly  
Towards the fire.  
*All in a Daydream*

Amidst this concrete laden creation we sit, a  
learning place they say  
Yet teeming with ignorance  
Filled to the brim with prejudice, pain fueling  
those big, burning balls of anger.  
Their fiery words hurl towards us  
But we lie low  
On our little plot of green, dreaming of the  
unknown, unknowing of self  
Though I'm oh so sure we belong together,  
under the sun, heads in the clouds  
And I could not be happier than here with  
you all, surrounded by these brown, brick  
walls.

#### *Liquorice, Stars and Monkey Bars*

Her name was Chandra Anshu Embranthiri.  
And these were her three greatest loves.  
Liquorice, the monkey bars on Smith Street  
and the solar system. The last one was  
thanks to her Grandfather, who was clueless  
about the solar system. But without fail, every  
Sunday evening, Chandra would lie down  
next to him on the pavement. The pavement  
strewn with hopscotch courses and  
handprints, and together they would look up  
at the sky. Sprinklings of stars only just  
visible through the suburban oak trees. She  
would listen to his thick Punjabi accent,  
calling Scorpius fisherman's hook. And the  
southern cross, Australian pride flag. But  
Chandra didn't mind one bit, for his voice was  
like liquorice and to her, liquorice was the  
next best thing to the solar system. Chandra's  
Grandfather wasn't completely hopeless. He  
did know one thing, that the moon only  
shines because it is reflecting the sun's light.

While her cousins, Angee and Alka's names meant girl with pretty limbs, and girl with pretty hair. Chandra's name. Was built from the constellations. Chandra meant moon, Anshu was for sun and Embranthiri told the story of her ancestors. So, one of those Sunday evenings, when the smell of Mrs. Angelotti's pizza bases was wafting across the street. And her Grandmother's Bollywood music was meeting it halfway. That was the night Chandra learnt to pronounce her full name. With true Punjabi vigour. Never again was Chandra, just Chandra. Neither was she Chandra Embranthiri. Ever since her mouth would allow she pronounced those nine syllables with the kind of gusto that gave all around goose bumps. Chandra knew the moon would never shine without the sun. She also knew that the moon forms the echoing tides. Tides that washed upon the very shores her ancestors walked.

So, it was no surprise that when she walked into kindergarten three years later, with a bright purple bag, nine highlighters, and a grin she was trying to hide. She let go of her grandfather's shaking hand and walked right up to her teacher. Who watched as a backpack marched up to her table before noticing the tiny girl underneath. Chocolate eyes pierced through her own pale blue, and out of a mouth of wobbly baby teeth came these words; "Hello I'm Chandra Anshu Embranthiri. Who are you?"

Little Chandra was somewhere in between disappointed and surprised when the reply was, Beth. Beth who then proceeded to write Chandra's name, taking up two sticky labels, with something that looked more like, Sharndra Arnshoo Embranthieri.

Chandra then sat down, right in between Sarah and Mia, behind Jane and in front of Sam. In a class of names meaning father's joy, or she will be redeemed, Chandra was built from the constellations.

*He did not get that he drove*

He did not get that he drove her crazy with his unexpected outburst of anger. "Don't you ever call me \*\*\* stupid." My mammy cried on the nights of entertainment. My pappy didn't know she adored him heart and soul.

*The Scientist in Love*

Throughout the universe, in all its parts,  
From atoms to suns, from moons to Quarks,  
Happiness and loving is all I spy,  
So where is the passion between you and I?

Atoms form ions so they can bond,  
The maths of science is always strong.  
Hydrogen likes to hang out in pairs,  
So why can't our love be just like theirs?

Great black holes combine in a loving  
fashion,  
Emitting invisible waves of undying passion,  
All objects are accelerated by earth's gravity,  
Always returning to nature's security.

The universe is full of unity,  
Everything living in one big community,  
But the vast cosmos will never be done,  
Until our hearts beat together as one

*The Road*

The road, a cut in nature's skin;  
man's mutation like a scalpel on her back,  
a wound, festering in the summer's heat,  
its edges meeting nature's feet,  
growing larger, day by day  
spreading like the hammer's rage,  
replacing her with hard rock wall.  
She tries to take it back with force,  
growing around the dark decay,  
enclosing it, with her green walls,  
blooming on the barren plains;  
a civil war on her skin .

*Love lives forever*

Love lives forever through all thick and thin  
Through all that happens, draw lose or win  
Love lives forever through all that we share  
It will continue to live as long as we care

Our souls and fates, forever connected  
It was not something I first expected  
So thankyou my love, thankyou my friend.  
Thank you for caring, right till the end

### *Slave Ship Zong*

A large ship sails off into the storm, waves  
smashing, crashing into the ship's side.  
Spilling water over and onto the ships deck.  
Half hidden by the mist of the ominous storm  
that looms over the ship. Just late of the ship  
is the sun, which barely peaks out from above  
the storms tendrils of dark clouds, trying to  
consume the ship and the blurry horizon.  
Surrounding the peaking sun are clouds,  
which look like shinning gold silk balls, the  
colour fading off to orange and eventually a  
red shade the further away from the direction  
of the setting sun. The ocean surrounding the  
ship is a dark and immeasurable, trying to  
clasp the ship and drag it down to the  
bottom of the sea. Further behind the ship,  
and closer in view is the mud like water.  
Housing the horrors and secrets of the Zong.  
The hands and some feet of the, now lost,  
slaves protrude above the surface of the  
ocean, accompanied by the chains which  
bind each of them together. They struggle  
against the immense pull of the ocean  
forcing them down, crushing the life out of  
them. Leaving their limp and sodden frames  
bobbing in the water for the birds to feast on.  
Fish, of many shapes and sizes begin to mill  
around, feeding from the many fresh sources  
of food. Now, with new born hope the slave  
ship, with no slaves, sails smoothly into the  
thrashing storm. Aggressively the winds  
pummel the sails, threatening to shred them  
into tatters in seconds. The waves furiously  
attack every part of the ship, attempting to  
split it in two. However, the Zong fights back,

pushing its way through the storm and  
eventually into still, clear waters.

### *Canberra*

Walking 'round the lake I see,  
Some faces with looks of glee.  
People going for a run,  
People riding bikes for fun,  
But most people here I see,  
Aren't in this reality.

They are looking at a phone,  
Barely missing traffic cones  
As they walk across the street,  
Many dangers they will meet,  
If they do not have some luck,  
They could get hit by a truck.

What have humans now become?  
Phones are making people dumb,  
Phones make people unaware,  
That is what gives me a scare.

### *The morning crisp*

the morning crisp  
as you look upon the wisp  
of fog steaming from lake  
bringing to life the daybreak,  
the sun rising from the hills  
makes the fiery autumn leaves dance  
and the season advance,  
soon the streets will bustle  
with workers, children and mums all in a  
hustle  
but for now the streets are calm with a  
familiar  
suburban hush and whirl  
ready for a new day  
the Canberra way

### *Slave Ship*

Stormy seas, blistering skies,  
Waves too big for men so small,  
thrashing winds, a beastly roar,  
As the boat rocked, over men went,  
Dragged into sea by a ferrum chain,

Vicious creatures from below the waters,  
Come forth, ripping them free,  
Souls pulled from their torn bodies,  
Floated into the air, above the clouds,  
Winds more calm, a brighter day,  
The heavenly gates they stand before,  
Ushered in, they walk again.

### *From the Ashes*

A spark lingers on expired grass  
Dancing, tempting to catch the bark  
Quickly growing, spreading fast  
Rapidly engulfing the diminishing dark

All was burning, all was slain  
All could be gone, lost to that flame  
The smouldering front may now seem plain  
But in a month nothing looks the same

Only time tells what lives and dies  
However, not just the memories survive  
Every day the growing forest tries  
And so one day it can and will thrive.

### *Floating*

Blank, flat.

The texture of the crushed gravel that has  
been shaped, moulded for us. The crunch of it  
under my feet as I follow the path, satisfies  
the sense of hearing. Big rocks taken from  
their  
birthplace, carefully laid, to separate plants  
from our path. They burst in between.  
Concrete  
steps imitating natural wood.

The shade of the trees suddenly soothes.  
Presence of the tree calms. I'm fascinated by  
the foliage. Light shining through. They glow.  
Soft. Soft against the rough, solid structure. A  
warm breeze blows through them, rustling,  
coming in waves. It sounds like the ocean.  
Calm.  
Peaceful. None of this really matters. The  
wind will keep blowing. A big gust comes as if  
in  
reply. A brittle leaf twirls down in a pirouette.

I can see traces. Traces of human  
carelessness. A plastic fish, straw, container,  
another,  
straw, a fork, another container along with  
many other unidentifiable pieces, all left to  
be  
blown by the wind.

The grass cools from beneath, bringing a  
full sense of calm. There are perfect drops  
of dew stuck to the lush blades. Like little  
glass beads yet even more fragile. They're  
gorgeous, glistening in the sunlight. As soon  
as I touch them they burst, my human hands  
destroying the small treasure of nature. For  
no reason. Next to me is another piece of  
plastic, dampening the mood, a reminder of  
the larger problems of abuse.  
Disappointment  
kicks in. The tiny bottle cap, a small sign of  
the big issues. I move on to escape the now  
negative feelings.

I am surrounded by some familiar trees.  
And the memories are coming back. It makes  
me  
smile. All the imaginary worlds that were  
shaped by these trees, and all the friendships  
I've  
had that are no longer. When life was so rich  
and full of life. Every day something new and  
exciting. All under these trees. I wonder what  
other stories were created here. I would love  
to  
know. And the trees have stayed in the same  
place, the whole time growing but stuck in  
the  
same place.

The breeze is blowing all my tension away,  
all my worries. It blows some of that life back  
inside me. I wish I could sit here all day until  
it fills me up completely.

A bee flies by and then a person in a car  
goes past, both beings with a goal, busy,  
moving  
towards that goal. Following what they've  
evolved to do, survive, keep going. Mindlessly.  
Maybe not. I wish I could have as much  
purpose as a bee. To be sure of one's self.

The sharp green needles of the pines,  
contrast with the backdrop of the sky, which  
looks

like it has been perfectly painted. It's funny  
doing this with the constant sound of  
construction  
just across the road, where they've destroyed  
trees just like these, with many stories, so  
that  
we can have our fake wooden steps and  
bordered gardens with gravel paths running  
through them.... Ah it's time to go. I wish I  
could have floated along this unknown path  
for  
longer.

Present. Peaceful.

### *Reaching for you – The Slave Ship*

The sun sets the sky into flames,  
Dancing over drowning men,  
Brushing limbs delicately,  
Creating colours of cruelty.

The ocean overlaps within itself,  
Victims becoming slaves to the sea.  
layers Layers of bounded bodies,  
lifeless lungs becoming,  
collections of wondrous treasure.

A single ship in the distance,  
Sails away freely,  
Away from the colossal  
Of struggling arms.  
It just continues forwards,  
Across the ever-changing waves,  
Across the fingertips of men.

### *Canberra*

As I glide across the water  
In my boat swift and right  
I glance towards the dark mountain  
with its beacon of shining light

I sail up past the bridges  
Through the murky waters  
I see the flash of phones  
Like blinking eyes, watching me loiter

I try to ignore them  
I really do  
But they pierce through my sail  
As I fly by

My sails start to flap as I head into shore  
I think about the cameras I tried to ignore  
The photos will be up on a wall  
There for everyone to see

And I wonder why  
Why our lives are so publicised  
Why we need to spy  
Why are we so wrapped up in everyone's lives  
I sail into the beach

### *The wide expanse*

The wide expanse,  
The yawning depth,  
Holding colourless mist,  
Obscuring faraway heights

The human, with all his power,  
Feels awe at this sight,  
The might of the wind,  
The solitude of the mist

The landscape is but a mirror,  
A mirror of you, Your spirit,  
An unfathomable expanse  
Waiting to be explored.

### *A constellation called Grandma*

three years old I used to lie  
curled around my grandmother's frail figure  
wizened hands I used to hold,  
and I listened to the stories that she told.

she watched my eyes light up,  
as she whispered words of fertile lands-  
beyond all that I knew  
dark eyes just grew and grew

that woman was my sun,  
my moon, stars, Saturn. Neptune.  
try to tell that small girl otherwise  
no, don't try. For they would just be lies .

for I was three years old when I first drew  
galaxies in sunspots,  
that adorned my Grandmother's hands.  
three years old I walked a road map,  
along her pulsating veins.  
it led to the past,  
and to the future just the same.

to a girl who grew up thinking;  
the wind carried hopes and truth and dreams  
the only thing, not a question,  
was how our heartbeat's not our own.  
we were only ever echoes  
of a lone cicada's call..  
only ever waves beating,  
against a sandy wall.

### *On Walking Around the Suburb of Weston*

While walking through the tree lined street  
the lampposts seem almost to become trees  
themselves. The environment seems almost  
tranquil until a car goes by, or a jack  
hammer starts up somewhere. It seems that  
roads are like great man-rivers, that lacerate  
through and divide up the land. To animals  
and nature, they are treacherous barriers  
that force their world into small islands.  
Whenever I find I don't know where I am  
going, the natural shape of the landscape  
seems to point me in the right direction.  
When I go under the bridge and arrive at the  
base of a small hill, I realise that there is  
nothing so drawing as to climb to the peak of  
small rise. So I climb, and when I reach the  
peak in can see all around Canberra. To one  
side is a vast area of almost just nature, open  
grass dotted with trees and a few bobbing  
kangaroos, still separated by fences though.  
All around me are signs of man's feats of  
creation – roads houses, cars, powerlines, but  
still shining through all are the silhouettes of  
nature's unbeatable beauty. The curves of the  
landscapes and hills shape the roads and  
streets, and in the far distance the imposing  
blue mountains are untouched. I feel as  
though I could gaze off this peak forever and  
never get bored.

## Senior College Drama

Last Thursday and Saturday the Senior  
Drama students presented their work at The  
Tuggeranong Arts Centre as part of the  
exhibition *Another Day in Paradise*. Their  
work, entitled *Skin and Bone* was a butoh-  
inspired response to the artwork and story of  
artist Myuran Sukamaran. The work was  
confronting both for the audience and for the  
performers as the girls wandered like pale  
spirits through the exhibition space to the  
sound of a constantly beating heart. The girls  
are to be congratulated for their courage in  
tackling a challenging topic with such  
empathy and sensitivity.



## Sport

### **Class 5 & 6 Regional Swimming Competitors**

Congratulations to Hugh Millhouse, Luka  
Chalker, Owen Boswell, Genavieve Jackson  
and Amelia Justin. They represented Orana in  
the South Weston Swimming Carnival at the  
A.I. S. on Thursday the 5th April. All students  
were competitive on the day and were  
certainly supportive of one another.  
Particular congratulations to Genavieve

Jackson, she has made it to the ACT Schools Swimming Championships to be held in May.



### Class 9 Triathletes

We wish Amara Thomas, Isabelle Friedman and Ashley Lawson good luck in the All Schools Triathlon Competition being held at Penrith in the second week of the school holidays. The girls will be representing Orana in the U 16 Division.



### 3rd place for Orana U14s Boys Basketball team.

Congratulations to the Orana boys basketball team on an excellent summer season. The team placed third in the U14 Division 5 Basketball ACT summer league. The boys have been playing as a team for a number of years. This season was their second in U14s. They really honed their team skills during the season to play some outstanding and exciting basketball.



The boys should be proud of the progress they have made and the sportsmanship they displayed throughout the season. The boys are great representatives of the school and are looking forward to playing as a team again in Division 4 this winter. Thanks goes to Orana graduate Sally Hewatt, the team coach for several years. The boys learn a lot from Sally and her able assistants Stephanie Akers-Barnes and Louise Freebairn.



### Orana in the ACT Secondary Schools Sailing Regatta, 24-25 February 2018

February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 2018 saw two Orana teams enter the ACT Secondary Schools Team Sailing Regatta. After training at the YMCA for just one day, and three evenings, our squad had learned the incredibly complicated rules of team sailing (or at least some of them) and were eager to get started. The intrepid teams braved the ferocious winds and extreme heat of the Saturday competition, surviving dramatic crashes, lots of near misses, runaway and planing boats and several bumps and bruises. After a well-deserved sleep, they were back on Sunday in the pouring rain only to discover that the competition was to be delayed for two hours due to lack of wind! Despite being the youngest and least experienced teams in the regatta, the Orana teams managed to notch up a few wins and, more importantly, had a

wonderful time and didn't complain about the heat, the cold or the rain. It was a fabulous experience for all involved and the beginning of a great partnership between the YMCA sailing club and Orana School.



### Celebrating Students

Indigo, Class 9, is a new Australian Champion! Indigo won the intermediate female clout division at the National Youth Archery Championships in Victoria.

Congratulations Indigo, what a wonderful achievement.



### Healthy changes planned at the Canteen!

The canteen will be run by Murray Johnstone from the beginning of term 2. Murray is the dad of Eleanor in 7MJG and he is a little bit obsessed about healthy food. His aim is for the canteen to serve delicious and nutritious food in a fun environment, and for it to be a regular part of your child's school experience.

He's asking for YOUR input into the new menu changes.

Please take a minute now to text him with at least one food or drink item (or both), that you'd like to see on the new menu. Here's some suggestions of where to look: Something that your child likes to eat perhaps. Or maybe something they like that isn't that healthy because Murray could make a healthy version. Talk with your kids about what might be their favourite alternative to wedges and hash browns? Favourite drink? For those that are gluten free, what do they like the best? Whatever ideas you come up with, no matter how big or small, he's keen to hear about them.

Murray is always up for a chat about food and welcomes you to call or text him anytime on 0406 376 833.

Community hours help will be essential to the success of the canteen. Give him a call and book your fun and rewarding stint in the canteen now for any length of time between 9am and 3pm Mon - Fri.



## Orana Parents and Friends Association Inc

The Orana School Parents and Friends Association Inc held its AGM on 28 March 2018.

Outgoing President, Samantha Edwards, reported that in 2017 the P&F Executive Committee was pleased to make its annual contribution of \$10,000 for fee relief for struggling families. Fee relief is administered by the School.

In 2017, the P&F fulfilled its 2016 commitment to fund two grounds-related projects:

- Turfing around the new Kindergarten (\$3,500)
- The Glass Flow Form sculpture in the Amphitheatre (\$3,500)

The Orana birthday Glass Flow Form sculpture was opened on 6 September 2017, and has greatly enriched the Amphitheatre area.

The Committee is in continuing discussions with the School regarding a 'bigger ticket' contribution over the next few years, balanced by smaller annual contributions.

The full Annual Report for 2017 is available on the website.

### P&F Executive Committee 2018

The P&F Executive Committee for 2018 was elected at the AGM:

- President: Merlin Kong
- Vice President: Samantha Edwards
- Treasurer: Marnie Lynch
- Secretary: Rauny Worm
- Assistant Secretary: Robyn Clough
- Spring Fair Coordinator: Louisa Andrew
- Spring Fair Coordinator: Gail Wright
- Class coordinator Manager: Tracey Gardiner
- P&F Shop Coordinator: Rebeka Mills
- Merchandising coordinator: Kim Keighran
- School Admin Liaison officer: Roslyn Clark
- College of Teachers member: Rael Matthews

- Assistant Treasurer: *vacant*

Incoming President, Merlin Kong, said he is looking forward to further contributing to the Orana community, and looks forward to constructively representing the P&F to the School and Board.

The next P&F meeting will be held on **Wednesday 16 May 2018, 6.00 to 7.30pm**, in the Staff Centre (next to the Finance Office). All members of the P&F community are welcome to attend.

## Craft Group

### Autumn Creations at Craft Group

Autumn has come – the shortening days and the glorious colours of the turning trees. The children are leaving their shoes on when they play in the garden, and evening seems to come around too fast.

At Craft Group, we know that the year will move on quickly, as we prepare for the Spring Fair in Term 4. So as we welcome back old friends and meet new ones, we look forward to sharing and learning together in the warmth of the craft community.

**Who we are:** For those new to the crafting community at Orana, we'd like to introduce ourselves:

Lis, Lee, Sharon and Michelle are the Craft Co-ordinators this year – their generosity with their time, skill and knowledge is legendary, and their patience is superhuman. Their firm belief that everyone can create beauty has bolstered many a faltering sewer or felter, with amazing results – just look at the Spring Fair Craft Stall.

Karen currently manages the café side of the Craft Group, supplying frequent warm drinks and keeping a watchful eye on the Craft Kids as they play. However, she's looking for a break, so if you are (or know of) a welcoming person, able to come along regularly to keep us supplied with tea/coffee, can remember to bring the milk, enjoy keeping an eye on the

craft kids and won't mind too much that you're not getting crafty, this could be the job for you!

The behind-the-scenes team includes Helen and Mandy, who keep things running smoothly up to and beyond the Fair.

There are also a group of very skilled experts who help out with specialist crafts, such as wet-felting or glove stitch demonstrations.

**Where to find us:** We meet every Friday morning from 9 to 12.30 at the new After School Care room (up behind the P&F shed – beware of the roaming chooks!). Children are welcome to come along, under supervision, and contributions towards the morning tea (either in kind or by donation) are also encouraged. Crafting time counts towards your community hours, and we think it's the nicest way to earn them while building a delightful community atmosphere at the school. The Craft Group morning is very informal, and we work on many different creations each year, so you're sure to find something interesting and new to try, as well as old favourites to revisit. There's always someone to help you with the skills and it's a great way to make friends across the school community. Grandparents, school leavers, carers and toddlers all come together at Craft Group.

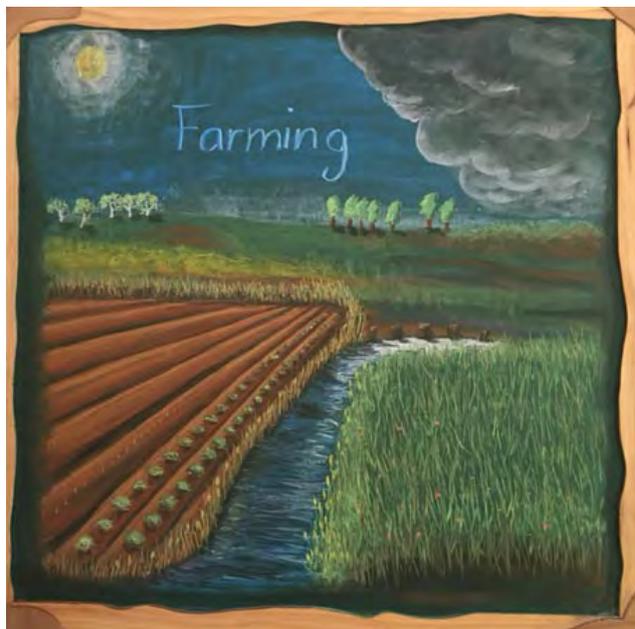
**At home craft:** If you have wood-working skills, or want to contribute to Craft Group but can't make it on Friday mornings, please get in touch – while out-of-hours crafting can count towards your hours, we need to make sure everyone is doing something which will fit the Steiner framework and that we aren't going to end up with 1000 ducks and no toy boats. So one of the co-ordinators will need to approve anyone doing at-home craft before you can count it for hours. If it's something new, please bring a sample to show us or send us a picture.

**Term 1** is a mostly sewing term – felt animals (both simple and complicated) are

being created to grace the Craft Stall tables, and from there, the play worlds of many children. Term 2 and 3 see us dry felting, and Term 4 is generally a time of finishing-up in preparation for the Fair.

**Keep in touch:** To be added to our weekly 'what's happening at CG' group, please email [craftgroup@oranaschool.com](mailto:craftgroup@oranaschool.com) and we'll add you to our regular mailout. If you want to see what we've been up to, check out the cupboard outside our room which fills up over the term with our creations – we also have a Pinterest Board at <https://au.pinterest.com/bluecardy/orana-craft-group-ideas/> and a page on the school website (under the Community heading) where we give a bit more detail on each term's activities.

We look forward to meeting you as the autumn rolls on – you'll probably hear us before you see us (as sewing hasn't yet managed to stop the conversations!) So follow the sounds of cheerful chatting, and welcome to Craft Group 2018.



*Class 3 Blackboard Art*

## Advertisements

Are you tired of the arguments?  
**Sage Psychology presents:**

**Circle of Security** offers a framework, an image and some language that helps us understand what our children are “asking” us at times when their behaviour seems to make no sense and we can find ourselves at our wits end. With the Circle of Security in mind, it is easier to respond to our kids in a confident, effective and kind way that helps the whole family to move through the days and nights more smoothly and with a sense of connection and capacity as a “good enough” parent for our precious children.

Next course begins Sunday, May 8th.

[sagepsychology.com.au](http://sagepsychology.com.au)

Thanking you so much, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Kind Regards

Kate Lang

0403 623 099

**Transport Canberra: Route: 401**

**Commencing:** Term 2, 2018 – 30 April 2018

**Change:** Additional time added to route – now ending at 4.29pm.

We further advise that parents and students are able to use our [NXTBUS](#) system to view live bus information for selected stops or stations.

Transport Canberra

“Deepen Yourself – Waking to the World Within”

Presented by Jeffrey J.S. Knowles (Jeff)

(Teacher, Author, Artist and Sustainable Consultant)

New book and 2018 Seminar Series – at the National Press Club, Canberra

*“Thank you for providing the framework for putting aside my cynical predisposition against the usefulness of delving into Dreams! Looking forward to the next seminar and the dreams in between.”* (Paul Smith)

*“The structure of the evening was really well done. I’d say that you mapped ‘dreaming’ very well indeed”* (Jamie Hearder)



April 30<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm – 9:45pm

Tickets \$40.00 (Limited seating available – Bookings essential at

Facebook.com/JJSKnowles, www.jeffreyjsknowles.com or email [jeff@jeffreyjsknowles.com](mailto:jeff@jeffreyjsknowles.com)

**Upcoming Topic: “Into Nature”** Included in this evening’s

interactions will be conversations about:

- **How Nature doesn’t move in straight lines;**
- **Conscious Observation without judgement;**
- **Naturalist observers: Fibonacci, Goethe and Attenborough.**

These separate seminars are drawn from “Deepen Yourself” - and are an exploration of themes contained therein. Signed books will be offered for sale at a discounted price on the night. Nibbles, Tea & Coffee will also be supplied.

**Gardening Services:** Elysian Landscapes is a garden maintenance and design business run by Daniel, an Orana Dad and a Registered Landscape Architect. Daniel’s attention to detail and 15 years’ experience in the industry will get your garden looking fabulous in no time. We offer a full range of garden maintenance services to revive or beautify your garden and keep it looking great. Including one-off garden clean-ups, total garden make-overs as well as regular ongoing maintenance services. Call Daniel on 0451 787 257 or email for bookings and enquiries. [Daniel@elysianlandscape.com](mailto:Daniel@elysianlandscape.com)