



ORMISTON COLLEGE

22 January 2021

Dear OC families

There is always a positive buzz at Ormiston College as we approach a new school year.

We know that the campus is about to light up with renewed energy as students reunite and share stories of their Christmas holidays.

We know that friendships will be forged and strengthened, and new goals will be set as everyone steps up to the challenges and opportunities of their next year level.

We know that new families will quickly develop a sense of belonging within our College, reinforcing our parent networks and the supportive nature of our school.

We look forward to all this getting underway as students begin day one on Wednesday, 27 January and we wish you and your family the very best that 2021 can bring.

Ormiston College Dux of 2020

In my December letter to families we were pleased to congratulate the graduating Class of 2020 on their outstanding Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) outcomes.

We are now pleased to announce Nathan Lycho as the Ormiston College Dux of 2020. Nathan excelled academically at school and achieved a very impressive ATAR of 99.60. Nathan is now looking forward to studying a Bachelor of Advanced Finance and Economics (Honours) at the University of Queensland this year.

We wish Nathan and our entire graduating class continued success as they pursue their dreams beyond school.

Start of Year Information for Parents

Junior School Teachers and Secondary School Year Level Coordinators are currently creating PowerPoint presentation videos to equip parents with the knowledge they need to make a smooth start to the year.

The videos will introduce your child's teachers and provide information about matters such as our daily routines, learning and wellbeing approaches, homework expectations, dress standards, excursions and camps, and procedures for communicating with teachers.

These videos replace the Parent Information Evenings that we previously held at the beginning of each school year. Many families were unable to attend these evenings and we hope that these new videos will ensure that 100% of our families now have a ready reference to essential start of year information.

Parents are also encouraged to visit the College website to access the Information and Forms page. This page is designed as a one stop shop for parents to access College information. You can visit the page from the quick links menu or by clicking [here](#).

Wonderful new Sport and Physical Education facilities

Campus upgrades and new learning facilities are constantly on the agenda at OC.

In recent months the redevelopment of our north-west oval area has been progressing.

The construction of our new cricket practice nets is complete, while the construction of our international standard athletics facility and the redevelopment of the adjacent football and hockey fields is certainly well underway.

The Ormiston College Redbacks will be making the most of their new facilities as the building projects are finalised this semester.

Enhancing Wellbeing

In the right environment, all young people are able to learn well.

Such an environment will see students feeling safe and supported, with a strong sense of belonging and purpose as they grow and progress through the years at school.

For the past year, a large team of College staff has been working to review and improve our Wellbeing Framework.

The Framework provides a campus-wide guide to wellbeing at Ormiston College. It will focus our wellbeing activities and organise our wellbeing curriculum, primarily under three central themes:

- I am Well
- I am Prepared
- I am Connected

We look forward to sharing further detail regarding the new Wellbeing Framework as the year unfolds.

One College, Four Phases of Learning

At Ormiston College we nurture a 'One College' culture.

From the youngest students in the Early Learning Centre to our graduating class in Year 12; together with all parents, friends and all of our staff, we are one school.

Our Australian Education Award-winning Strategic Plan, Teaching and Learning Framework and Innovative Technology programs are implemented across the campus. Similarly, our Wellbeing approaches, our communication platforms and our College policies and procedures are consistently applied campus-wide.

Within this 'One College' culture, we are committed to ensuring that our various College leaders are positioned close to smaller groups of students, able to get to know the students well and be responsive to their various learning and wellbeing needs.

Hence, we operationalise our College through four distinct Learning Phases:

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| • The Early Years phase (ELC to Year 3) | led by Lee Catterall |
| • The Upper Junior Years phase (Years 4 to 6) | led by Travis Goulter |
| • The Middle Years phase (Years 7 to 9) | led by Phillip Makridakis |
| • The Senior Years phase (Years 10 to 12) | led by Paul Hornibrook |

All ages and stages of the learning journey are important. Hence, our executive leaders will be working together with their respective teaching teams to do all they can to provide the students in their phase with high quality learning and care.

Lee Catterall (Deputy Head of College) is the responsible person for overarching Junior School matters, as Paul Hornibrook is for overarching Secondary School matters.

Please feel free to make contact with the relevant College leaders if we can be of assistance at any time.

Communication

What's on Weekly email: The 'What's on Weekly' is an email that is sent to all parents each Friday. The email communication outlines important information and events for the following week. The 'What's on Weekly' will also highlight for families relevant documents that have recently been uploaded to the College App and will include links to access important information. As this communication will be sent weekly via email it is important that the College has the correct email address for your family. If you do not receive the 'What's on Weekly' please contact the Marketing Office on 3488 6793.

The College News: The College website features a News page, filled with stories sharing the happenings around the College. Stories are uploaded weekly and feature achievements of students, staff, sporting teams, ensembles and much more. Each week a link is provided in the 'What's on Weekly' email, however, to access the News page please visit:

<http://www.ormistoncollege.com.au/news-events/college-news>

Communication from the Headmaster: Each term, all families will receive a 'From the Headmaster' letter/video. This communication piece provides not only College messages of note but also updates families on College strategic initiatives, buildings and grounds, community relations and think pieces around Educational Leadership.

Ormiston College Facebook Page: The official Ormiston College Facebook Page is updated regularly with important notices, information and College news. We encourage you to 'Like' the official Ormiston College Facebook page and feel free to 'Share' upcoming events and important information.

To access the official Ormiston College Facebook Page please click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/OrmistonCollege/>

Accessing common forms/information: As part of the new College website, a dedicated page has been created to offer quick access to frequently requested forms and information. This page includes details on Term Dates, Uniform Shop, Bus Routes, Canteen Menus, Co-curricular information and much more.

To access this page please visit:

<https://www.ormistoncollege.com.au/community/information-and-forms>

Get ONLINE to SAVE TIME: The **attached** flyer will assist parents to access the important online information and updates that are available via the College App and through the College website links to Parent Lounge, My Student Account, Staff and Student ICT Services, Home Internet Filter and Change/Forgot Password.

We encourage parents to be thorough in checking all relevant information, knowing that a well-organised start to the school year helps children begin the term feeling confident and prepared for the learning and study ahead.

Chartered Bus Services 2021

We are pleased to advise families that the College now offers eight chartered bus services for the exclusive use of Ormiston College students, providing families the option of private bus passage for their children.

- OC1 – Mount Cotton, Redland Bay, Thornlands, Cleveland
- OC2 – Carindale, Gumdale, Chandler, Capalaba, Alexandra Hills
- OC3 – Rochedale, Sheldon, Capalaba, Alexandra Hills
- OC4 – Wynnum West, Wynnum, Manly, Manly West, Lota, Ransome, Birkdale
- OC5 – Victoria Point, Thornlands, Cleveland
- OC6 – Capalaba, Thorneside, Birkdale, Wellington Point
- OC7 – Thornlands, Cleveland, Raby Bay, Ormiston
- OC8 – Manly West, Wakerley, Gumdale, Ransome, Birkdale, Wellington Point, Alexandra Hills

Current timetables for all services may be accessed [here](#). Tickets and Term Passes may be purchased from Student Reception in the Administration Building.

COVID-19 measures

The College is closely monitoring COVID-19 updates issued by our Government education and health authorities.

While restrictions in the Greater Brisbane Area have eased recently, we ask parents to assist with the following measures:

- keep your child at home if they are unwell
- maintain 1.5m physical distancing between adults when you are on campus
- encourage children to wash their hands regularly, particularly before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.
- cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow; and
- dispose of tissues in the bin immediately.
- when required, provide contact details to allow for effective contact tracing. This may apply at TAS sport venues this term.

First Day of School Morning Tea

The networks and friendships within our College community are an undeniable strength of OC and are worth cultivating.

Our First Day of School Morning Tea, organised by the Parents and Friends Association, provides an early opportunity for parents to form and renew friendships with others who will share and shape the school year ahead.

Please join us from 8.30am on Wednesday 27 January in the Café Plaza of the CLI.

We extend our very best wishes to all students, staff and families for an enjoyable and productive 2021.

Yours faithfully



Brett Webster
Headmaster