

WELCOME TO 2024

Junior School Handbook



An aerial, black and white photograph of a school campus. Large, dark, triangular shade sails are suspended over a paved area. A winding path leads through landscaped gardens with various plants and a small stone wall. In the background, a building with a grid-like facade is visible.

WELCOME TO 2024

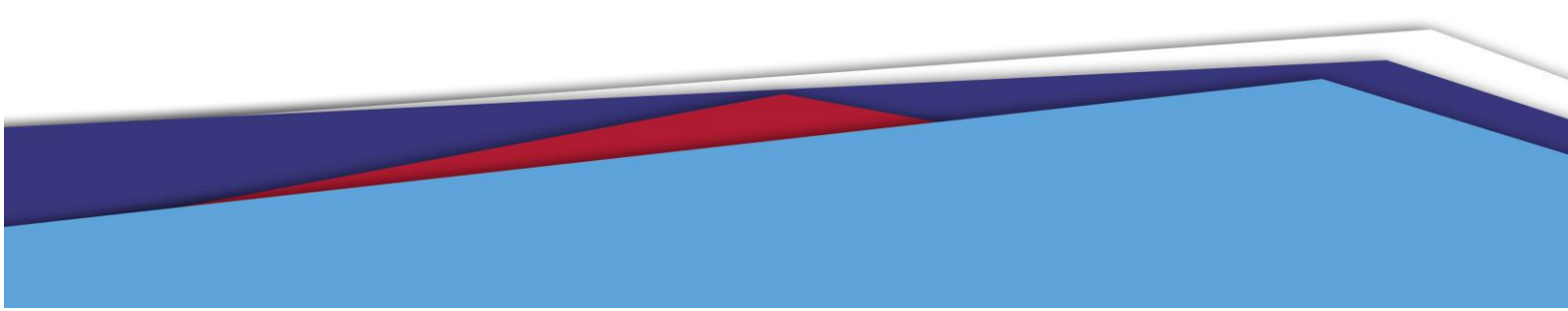
A new year brings new possibilities, and we look forward to partnering with you again in creating a vibrant learning community where each member is valued and students receive a caring, quality Christian education.

All of our policies and expectations for students can be found on the College website but we trust this guide will help you as you prepare for the new year ahead.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call us on 4604 0000 or email admin@opac.nsw.edu.au

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Term Dates 2024

Term 1 (11 weeks)

Wednesday	31 January	Term 1 Commences Transition meetings 7-11 Camps (<i>until 2 February</i>) Year 12 commence Kindergarten orientation commences
Thursday	1 February	Year 1-6 commence Prep Blue (2 day) commence
Monday	5 February	Prep Red (3 day) commence
Saturday	2 March	College Open Day
	13 – 25 March	<i>NAPLAN Online Test Window</i>
Friday	29 March	Good Friday Public Holiday
Monday	1 April	Easter Monday Public Holiday
Friday	12 April	End of Term 1

Term 2 (9 weeks)

Tuesday	30 April	Term 2 commences
Monday	10 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	28 June	End of Term 2

Term 3 (10 weeks)

Monday	22 July	Term 3 commences
Thursday	26 September	Year 12 Graduation Assembly and Valedictory Dinner
Friday	27 September	End of Term 3

Term 4 (9 weeks)

Tuesday	15 October	All students commence
Monday	18 November	Mid Term Break students/ <i>Staff Day</i>
Tuesday	10 December	P-6 Celebration Assemblies
Wednesday	11 December	7-11 Celebration Assembly End of Term 4

Equipment and Stationery to Purchase

General Items

All textbooks and exercise books will be supplied for your child by the College at the commencement of the year. In keeping mindful of our environment, no additional plastic covering (such as contact) will be required for these books.

All students from Prep - Year 6 require the following equipment:

- A fresh piece of fruit or vegetable daily for Fruit Break
- Drink bottle for water daily (not glass)
- College Library Bag (Available from uniform supplier)
- 2 boxes of tissues at the commencement of Terms 1 and 3

Additional stationery items required

The following additional items are required for each Stage Group

Kindergarten	Years 1 and 2	Years 3 and 4	Years 5 and 6
Long-sleeved paint shirt	Long-sleeved paint shirt	Long-sleeved paint shirt	Charged BYOD BYOD Guidelines
Emergency clothes pack*	1 pair of plug in headphones	1 pair of plug in headphones	1 pair of plug in headphones
	Emergency clothes pack*	Pencil case with <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 HB lead pencils- Small pack of coloured pencils- Pencil Sharpener- Eraser- Scissors- 2 X glue sticks- 4 X whiteboard markers	Pencil case with <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 HB lead pencils- Small pack of coloured pencils- Pencil Sharpener- Eraser- Scissors- 2 X glue sticks- 4 X whiteboard markers- 2 ballpoint blue pens- 2 ballpoint red pens
		1 X whiteboard cloth (an odd sock works well)	1 X whiteboard cloth (an odd sock works well)
		30cm Ruler (not metal)	30cm Ruler (not metal)
			Geometry/Maths Set (including protractor, compass and set square)
			Long-sleeved paint shirt

All items should be clearly labelled with student's name.

Please note we do not allow liquid paper or whiteout tape in Junior School.

**Emergency clothes pack for P-2 will remain in your child's bag unless required. Please place all items in a large labelled zip lock bag in the front pocket of your child's school bag. Items required are underwear x 2, socks x 2, navy shorts x 1, red t-shirt x 1.*

Junior School Sport Outline

As a College, our aim for Sport is to provide a structured and balanced program of sporting activities that offer students a positive experience of sport, while developing skills in different endeavours.

In order to reach our goal for Sport, we aim to achieve the following:

- Bring glory to God through our sporting achievements
- Develop a strong, personal character that reflects the Christian ethos of the College
- Develop skills that enhance personal and team performance
- Develop team, College and House spirit
- Encourage students to foster a positive attitude towards an active lifestyle
- Develop different skills, abilities and gifts that God has provided each student in order to develop their potential

Weekly Sport

All Junior School Students will participate in weekly sport and PDHPE. Please see below guide for the days students are required to wear sports uniform.

Day	Year Groups	Activity
Monday	Years K-6	PE lessons
Wednesday	Years 3 – 6	IPSSO and College Sport
Thursday	Years K-2	College Sport

Please be aware that during winter the full tracksuit should be worn to and from the College. The sports cap should be kept in student's tote tray in the classroom.

Prep – Year 2

All students in Prep to Year 2 participate in PDHPE classes that are appropriate to their age. Prep students focus on gross motor activities such as throwing, catching, balancing and many more.

Students in K-2 are taught fundamental movement skills that will help develop fitness as well as providing skills to participate in team games. For College Sport, Years 1 and 2 will participate in a swimming program and all K-2 students participate in a range of sports which can incorporate the use of external coaches, depending on the sport.

Years 3-6- IPSSO and College Sport

Students in Years 3-6 will have the opportunity to trial in various sports at the commencement of Term 1 (Summer sports) and Term 2 (Winter sports) to then represent the College to play against other schools in the IPSSO competition.

Parents will be notified where students are successful in making an IPSSO team and will be sent permission details as well as a code of conduct that is expected by students and parents as spectators.

IPSSO Representative Teams will be expected to train on WEDNESDAY mornings at College from 7:45am to 8:30am with their Coach.

Game times and locations for each week will be sent via the weekly reminders and College Newsletter. Any cancellations to training due to weather will also be notified the day before via the App. Parents will be given as much notice as possible for any changes to the training schedule.

For students that do not participate in IPSSO, a range of other College Sports will be on offer each Wednesday afternoon.

Sports Carnivals – Years 3-6

In addition to weekly sport, students in Years 3 – 6 will participate in three carnivals throughout the year.

The dates for 2023 Junior School College Carnivals are:

- Swimming Carnival – Monday 19/2/24
- Athletics Carnival – Thursday 4/4/24
- Cross Country Carnival – Monday 15/5/24

Please be aware these days are compulsory. Permission including transport details for these carnivals will be sent closer to the event via the Parent Portal and College App.

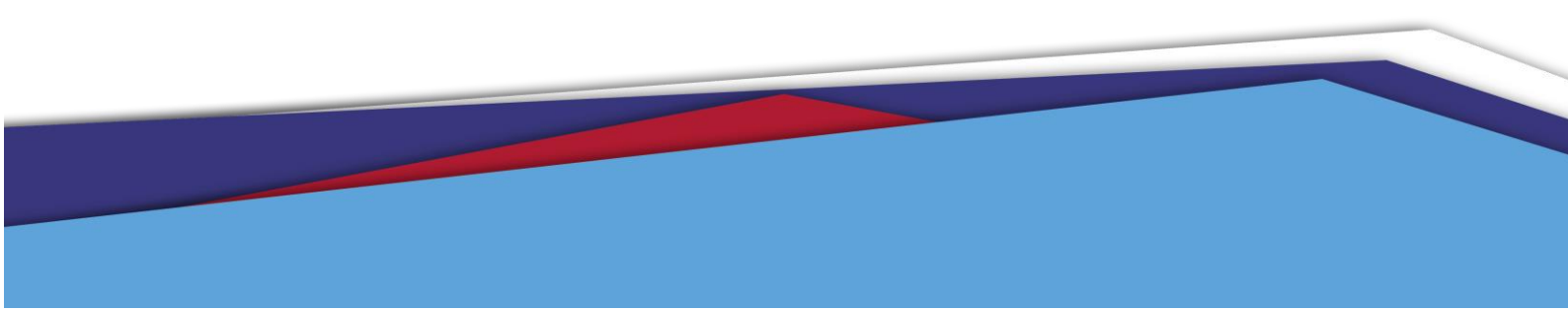
Elite-level sporting pathways

The students who perform best at our Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics carnivals will be selected into our representative team to attend the CSSA (Christian Schools Sporting Association) Zone carnivals where they compete against students from eight other schools. If they excel at CSSA Zone they may progress to CSSA State and CIS (Combined Independent Schools). There will also be opportunities for students to trial for teams to represent at CSSA and higher levels throughout the year.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in a range of sports outside the IPSSO and College carnivals. Depending on the sport, this will be as an individual or as part of the CSSA team with possible participation in CIS events. For further information please see www.cssa.net.au.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have further questions about the College's Sport programs.

Mr Joshua Barber
Junior School Sports Coordinator
primarysport@opac.nsw.edu.au



Co-Curricular Music

Music is a wonderful gift from God, and we encourage all students to participate in a co-curricular music ensemble and strive to become the best musicians they can be. Being part of an ensemble provides fantastic opportunities for students to perform, travel, develop confidence, character and skills and form friendships beyond their peer group.

All students from Prep to Year 6 participate in weekly music lessons. Year 4 students are tutored each Thursday afternoon by an external tutor as part of the Year Four Band Program.

Private Music Tuition

If you would like to arrange private music tuition at the College, details of the tuition program can be downloaded [here](#) or found on the College website (Student Life / Forms / Cocurricular Music at OPAC).

Please note your agreement with Tutors is a direct arrangement and lessons are held at the College in one of the tuition rooms in F block.

Rehearsal Days and Times

Ensemble rehearsals and instrumental tuition will commence from **Week 2, Monday 6th February**.

Day	Times	Group	Fees
Monday	3:30pm - 5:00pm	Stage Band	nil
Tuesday	Lunch Time	Year 5 and 6 Choir	nil
Thursday	Lunch Time	Year 3 and 4 Choir	nil
Thursday	12:50pm - 1:30pm	Junior Concert Band	\$220
Thursday	3:20pm – 4:50pm	Senior Concert Band	\$320

Students in ensembles are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and remain committed members of the ensemble for the **entire year**. All students are encouraged to participate in as many ensembles as they like. As music tutors provide tutoring for Junior Concert band and Senior Concert Band, there is an annual fee for these co-curricular groups which will be added to College fees. Choirs and Stage Band are provided without any additional costs.

In 2023, we will also be seeking interest from students who would like to participate in a brass ensemble or flute choir. This group will incur an additional fee however Creative Kids Vouchers will be accepted by these tutors next year.

Should you wish for your child to participate in a co-curricular music group for 2023, or express interest in the brass ensemble or flute choir, please complete the permission link at the conclusion of this guide.

If you have any further questions regarding our music programs at the College, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Tim Chavura, Head of Music via tchavura@opac.nsw.edu.au

For safety of all, please ensure road rules are followed at all times around the College.

Please ensure your child/ren clearly understand the above afternoon pick-up arrangements. To assist our teachers in 2023 to direct students where they need to be at the conclusion of the day, please complete the form at the conclusion of this guide.

If another designated carer will be picking up your child, a note must be provided by the parent/guardian and the carer must provide ID to the College Office.

Animals on College Grounds

In order to keep our community safe, and in respect of our Wellbeing program, it is requested that no pets are brought onto College grounds at any time.

App

The College App is the best way to keep up to date with College news and can be downloaded at the App store by searching for “Oran Park Anglican College”. To view your child’s information you will be required to login with your parent portal login the first time you use the App. Please ensure you have notifications turned **ON** to receive instant notification of new tasks or information sent.

Notices such as weekly reminders, absences, permissions and other general information will be shared via the App and Parent Portal (desktop).

Should you require instructions to install and log in for the first time, please see “Edumate portal instructions” on the College website <https://www.opac.nsw.edu.au/home/parent-portal/> or for further assistance please don’t hesitate to contact the College office via admin@opac.nsw.edu.au or phone 4604 0000.

Attendance

In order to maximise learning it is expected that all students attend College unless they are ill or have medical appointments which are unable to be scheduled outside of school hours or holidays. Parents will be notified at 10am by SMS and the College App if their child is absent on any day. A reminder to verify any absences will be emailed to parents at the end of each day.

Where a student’s attendance is low, a letter will be sent to parents to verify absences as per the requirement by law.

Should you need to collect your child early for medical appointments please email absences@opac.nsw.edu.au in advance to minimise disruption to classes and minimise waiting times.

Awards

The College has an awards system in order to encourage and recognise the College Values and the Habits of Powerful Learners.

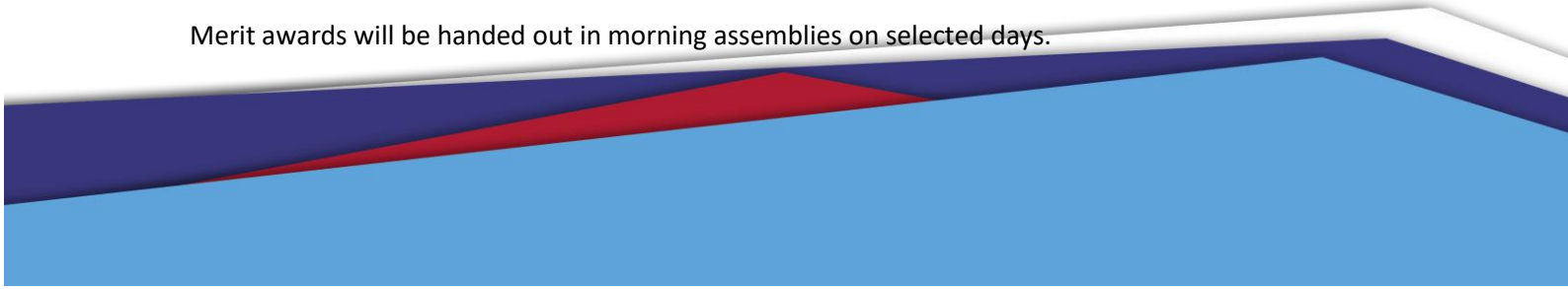
Kindergarten to Year 6 has the following accumulation of awards:

Hand in **5 Good Work Cards** to your class teacher to receive = 1 Merit Award

Hand in **5 Merit Awards** to Parent Reception to receive = 1 Principal Award

Hand in **5 Principal Awards** to Parent Reception to receive = 1 College Award presented at our End of Year Celebration.

Merit awards will be handed out in morning assemblies on selected days.



Bus Travel

Students catching the bus at the conclusion of each day will be supervised by a teacher on duty. Please see the Busabout website for the latest bus timetables <https://www.busabout.com.au/school-services/>. Timetables may change at short notice. The College will notify parents of any changes as soon as we are notified.

Should you require a bus pass for your child, this can be requested directly through Service NSW. <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-school-travel-pass>

Canteen

Fresh Start Canteens will continue to be the provider for the College in 2023. Online orders can be made via www.flexischools.com.au or by downloading the Flexischools App.

Co-curricular Groups

There are a range of co-curricular groups for Junior School students to participate in during lunch. Parents will be notified of these groups at the beginning of each term via the College App and students will also be advised in morning announcements.

College Calendar

Please refer to the College Calendar on the College app for updates throughout the term.

Medical Updates and Medications

In order to assist us to care for your child, it is vital that the College is updated with any changes for your child's medical history.

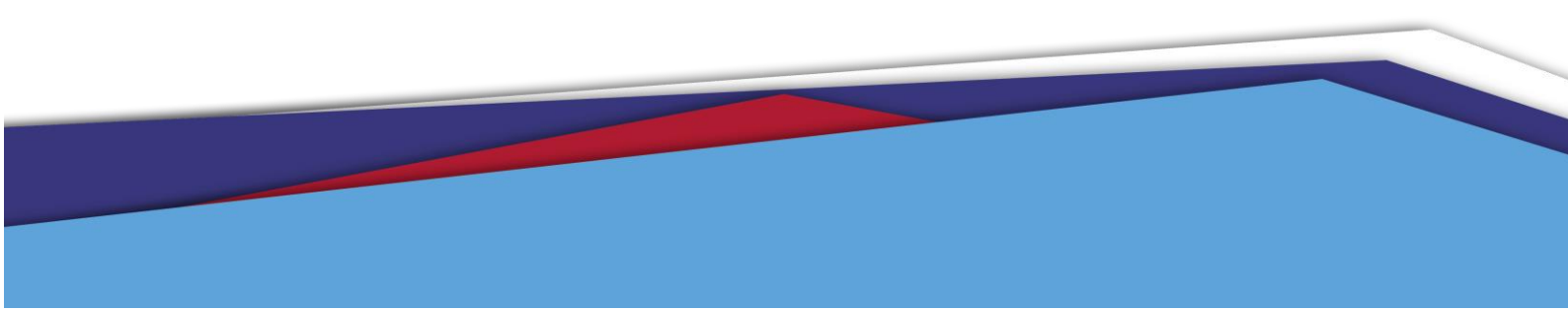
This is particularly important for those students that suffer medical conditions such as Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes and Epilepsy. **Please complete an updated plan at the commencement of each school year or when there are significant changes in how we manage your child's medical condition.** Please complete this plan with your child's GP or Health Specialist using their templates or one of the templates below:

- [Anaphylaxis Plans](#)
- [Asthma Plans](#)
- [Diabetes](#)
- [Epilepsy](#)

Should you require our staff in Student Services to administer any medication for your child while they are at the College, please use the following form on the College Website:

<https://www.opac.nsw.edu.au/current-students-2/forms/>

Please be aware that we are an allergy aware school. Where there are significant life threatening allergies in a class you may be notified by our First Aid Officer.



COVID-19 Guidelines

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 we want to remind parents of the health and safety protocols we have in place to ensure everyone in our community is kept safe and to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

NSW Health requires schools to:

- exclude students and staff with even mild symptoms of COVID-19
- encourage immediate testing for any symptomatic child(ren) or staff
- ensure good hand hygiene at all times (e.g. upon entry to the school, entry to the classroom and upon exit of the classroom)
- ensure that adults maintain physical distancing at all times

Any changes to advice will be updated to parents accordingly.

For any questions or to send through updated plans for your child, please email studentservices@opac.nsw.edu.au

Playground Supervision

Staff will provide supervision in the playground from 8:05am each school morning. The exception to this is on Wednesday morning where IPSSO teams are under the direct coaching and care of their coach from 7:45am.

In the afternoon, teachers will remain on pick up area duty until 3:30pm for car parks and 3:40pm for buses.

Technology

Students using either College technology or their own devices are expected to abide by the technology policy which can be located on the College website or in the student diary. A reminder also that smart watches with connectivity to the internet are not allowed at College with notifications enabled.

Uniform

The College introduced a new uniform in 2021 which is supplied by Rainier. As the transition period has now ended, all students will be required to wear the new uniform from Term 1 2023. Details on purchasing the College uniform and ordering details can be found on the College website:

<https://www.opac.nsw.edu.au/current-students-2/uniform/>

During Term 1 and Term 4 – Students wear full summer uniform.

During Term 2 and Term 3 – Students wear full winter uniform.

From the beginning of Term 2 through to Mother's Day and from Father's Day to the end of Term 3, Junior School students may choose to wear either uniform depending on the weather (but it must be full summer or full winter).

The broad brimmed College hat is to be worn to and from the College and during play time every day, including sports days. Sports caps are only to be worn during Sport and PE lessons.

Lost property is located in baskets outside the Library/Year 1 rooms. Please ensure all uniforms are labelled with your child's name.

Wellbeing

Our College has an extensive Wellbeing Team who are there to assist with the care and support of all our students. More about our program can be found [here](#).

Should you have any concerns for your child, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Luke Przydacz via lprzydacz@opac.nsw.edu.au who is our Deputy Head of Junior School Head for Wellbeing.

In addition, the College is also engaged with Cornerstone Companions who visit with wellbeing canines on a regular basis. Should you wish for your child to NOT participate in the Canine Wellbeing Program and/or prefer them NOT to be included in photography used by Cornerstone Companions, please use this link to opt out [Wellbeing Canine OPT OUT](#)

Please note if you have completed this form previously you will not be required to complete it again. Cornerstone Companions can be contacted via info@cornerstonecompanions.com for further information on the program.



Permission Links and Checklist

2024 Permission Links as outlined below:

The following permissions will be **required** for all Junior School Students by 1/2/24:

Please complete permission for your child/ren using the following link:

- ✓ [2024 Junior School Sports and Carnival](#)

Should you have any further questions regarding permissions please contact Student Services via studentservices@opac.nsw.edu.au or by phone 4604 0000.

