

PIN OAK



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FAREWELL
Year 12 2021

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BIG ISSUES

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ART
Year 8-10 VA



Student Editorial Team
Peggy Holmwood, Olivia Bow,

Oxley College has much to celebrate and be grateful for with being back at school this week after eight weeks of learning@ home and lockdown. Our students have re-connected with each other and their teachers and are both energised, more positive and grateful for all the things they have often taken for granted previously - the structure, socialisation and environment of school. After eight weeks of

It is very exciting to see our students and teachers back on site this week. Really, I don't think we could have gone on much longer without each other! It almost feels like a new school year for us.

I think I can speak on behalf of all our staff in saying that we are purely enjoying being a real-life teacher and being with our wonderful students again! We are focussed on Student-Teacher relationships as our key priority this term. Teaching is a relational profession, so we are intent on making the time it takes to re-establish connection in the classroom. This is already translating into being outside more, definitely less screen and more discussion and collaboration. We are enjoying our beautiful campus more than ever as an outdoor learning environment for all subjects and there are already lots of circle times appearing on all our lawns!

Our core value of kindness, is really being emphasised and we are using this artwork made by our students to remind us, as students and teachers that we are all feeling (and looking) a little different after what has happened in the last months. Our wish for all of Oxley is that we continue to embrace our diversity, honour each other's personal story, find the joy and count the sleeps until the best deserved holiday break ever!

2021 HSC

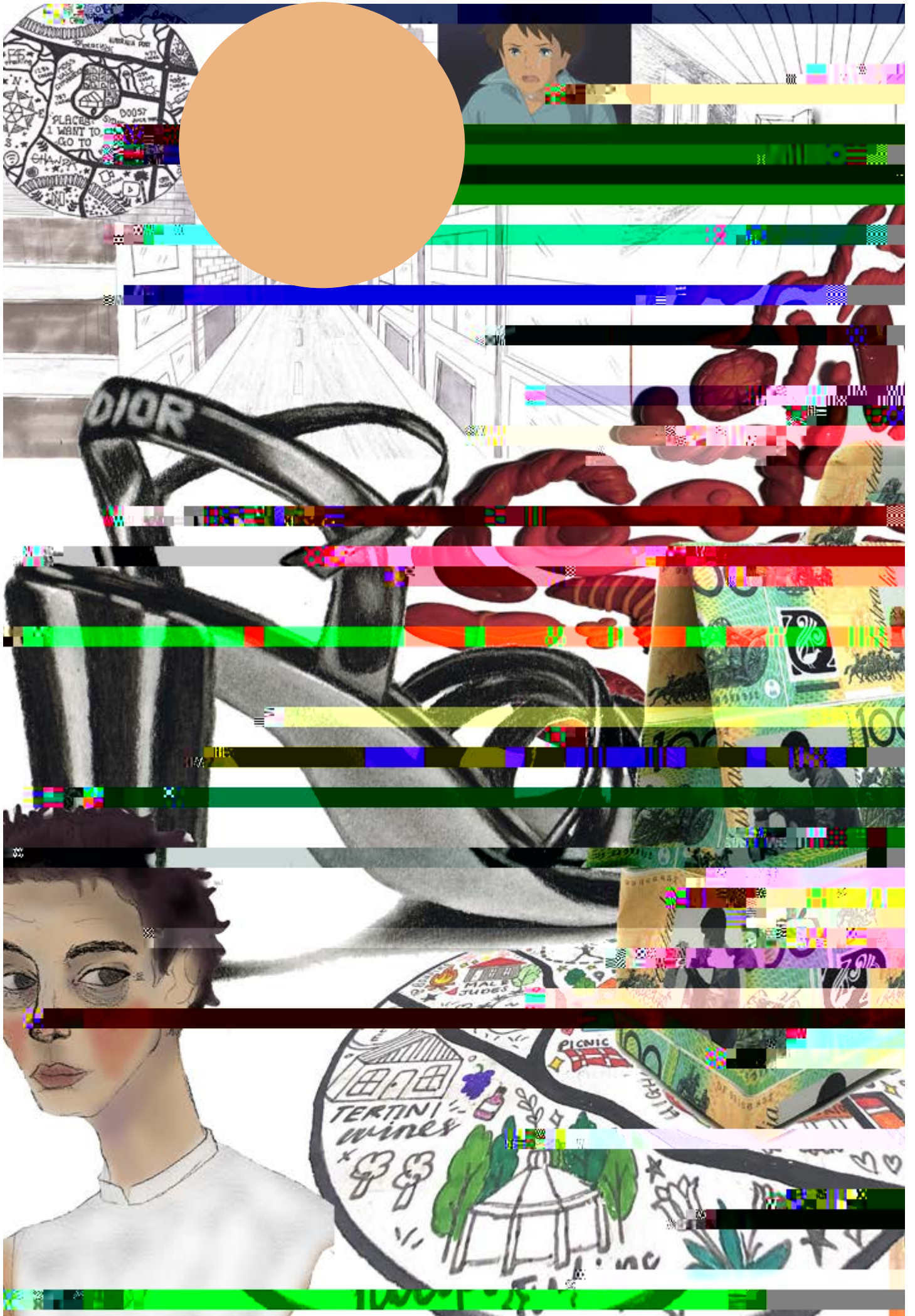
By the time you read Pin Oak again, we should have already had one week of HSC examinations. So much has already been said about this fine group of students, so suffice it to say that we wish every single one of them the very best. The one thing we look forward to is that our students emerge from their examination venue with confidence and smiles! Our indicator of success is exactly that – not the mark itself, but that students feel well-prepared and ready before they enter and emerge with a sense that they have done a personal best as they leave. We are also very grateful for the work of our Year 12 teachers who continue to provide support and encouragement.

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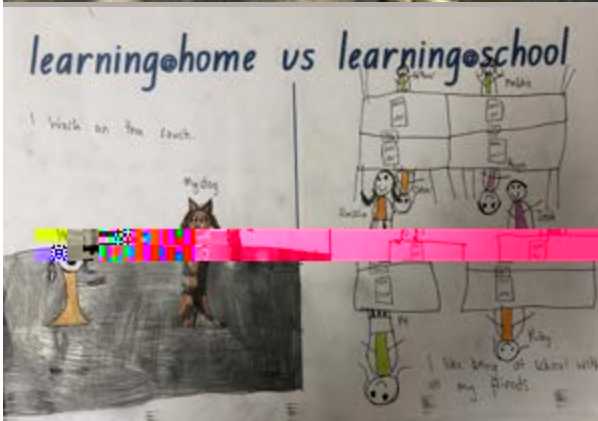
The dark side to capitalism – consumerism.

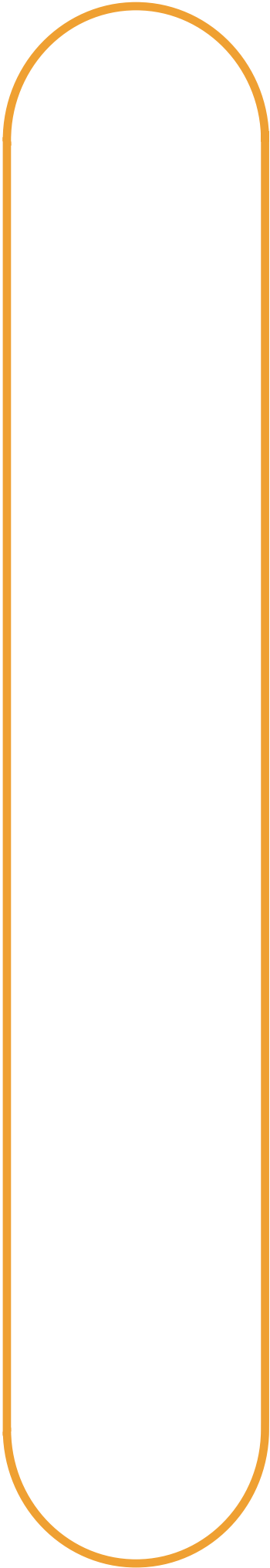
Consumer culture will inevitably erupt our ultimate downfall, otherwise known as the destruction of the planet. The drive to have more, more, more, undeniably builds the very bricks that are tasked with upholding the barrier to environmental protection and preservation. It would be no shock to learn that the 'keeping up with the Jones' mentality of the 21st century is hotter than ever. Online sales and frothing discounts are the new nicotine – one hit and you're out! OR, perhaps a more pulling metaphor is expressed by American author Bryant H. McGill; "The new slavery is consumerism." Such perceived liberation is under threat as we continue to kiss the feet of multinational companies. As to the "why" of such materialistic mentality, I don't know. I don't underst





JUNIOR GALLERY





BIG ISSUE

Now I'm not sure if you've noticed, but there's been a spot of bother around the globe recently. I believe it's called COVID? Coolid? Kool Aid? No matter how you choose to pronounce it, the pandemic has caused a lot of things to change at Oxley, including our beloved public speaking competitions (I know, I know, it's just heartbreaking that you don't have to listen to

Exclusive Interview with Mr David Eaton

David Eaton, a man of remarkable skill and passion for his band, Anubis, is also one of great knowledge and wisdom which he voraciously shares with students at his very own Macarthur Music Academy. Over the past year, I have come to know Dave as a tutor, as a musician, and as a friend. In this interview, I will hopefully enlighten others as to his enthusiasm for his own work and for teaching others to become better musicians and – above all – better versions of themselves.

Hugh: Hi Dave! Thank you for taking the time to chat with me.

