The Principal’s Piece - Helen Chambers

World Teachers Day occurs at the end of next week. This is a day on which we think of the work that teachers do every day in schools all over the world. We thank and appreciate the caring, dedicated and enthusiastic teachers we have at OLD - teachers who enjoy their work with children and happily complete all that is necessary to be an excellent teacher in 2016. Thank you again.

“A teacher’s best reward is in the words ‘I get it now! I finally understand’”

“A great teacher makes hard things easy” Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Who dares to teach must never cease to learn” John Dana

This week (Wednesday 19th) Year 4 go on excursion to Minnamurra Falls and next week (Tuesday 25th) Kindergarten visit the Farm as part of their work in Geography.

Intention to Leave

With the exception of Year 6 students, if any students will not be returning to Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School in 2017, could you please advise the school either in person or via our email old@dbb.catholic.edu.au. We are in the process of organising classes for 2017 and it would be very helpful to know if students will not be here next year.
October: Catholic Mission’s World Mission Month

October is Catholic Mission’s World Mission Month. Join with Catholic Mission this World Mission Month to learn more about issues of mission and justice and to reach out to the children in Cambodia who cannot go to school because their families live in poverty. This is one way in this Year of Mercy, to live out Pope Francis’ call to be the hands of mercy.

Please follow the link to find out more information about Catholic Mission Month:

Last term all students participated in a poster competition to raise money for this worthy cause. We raised $300. The Mercy Action Group will donate this money at the Year 6 Mission Mass on Friday. I am accompanying the MAG to Our Lady of the Rosary in Waitara to join with other students in the Diocese of Broken Bay to celebrate Mission month with Bishop Peter Comensoli.

Mercy Themed Art/Poster Competition:

The winners of the Mercy Art Competition are as follows:

Year 6: Isabella
Year 5: Clare, Elisa, Grace
Year 4: Lindsay, Isra
Year 3: Alyssa, Anthony P
Year 2: Elizabeth N, Ryan K (2SG)
Year 1: Callum, Elise
Kindy: Vicky, Yuan

Honourable Mention to the following Year 6 students:

Phe Phe, Deanna, Mia, Julia and Logan.

The above students received a certificate for their wonderful art and for the important message their artworks portrayed.

Congratulations to all of our students. All artworks showed great thinking and artistic skills.

“Hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” Pope Francis
LAUNCH
Next Friday 28th October, (week 3) Our Lady of Dolours is celebrating the launch of the Kids Matter program, (Component 1) Every Face has a Place.

The purpose of this is to promote a fun learning environment that supports the wellbeing of the students, staff & parents. Children can wear mufti or their national costume clothes.

An outline of the day is as follows

Morning Session in class: Prayer & Meditation, discussions on wellbeing, art & craft activities, singing & dancing.

Recess:
After recess students will be playing board games & are asked to bring these into school the day before if possible

At lunch time parents/grandparents/carers are welcome to join us for a picnic in the school grounds. You can bring in a picnic rug or send one along with your child. Let’s see how many we can put together to make one large picnic rug!

Students are to bring their own lunch (you can add something special for them!)

After lunch, parents are invited to unwind with a YOGA session with Miss Glass.

At the end of the day, the students will bring home a paper cup with stars containing virtues that you can discuss with them. They will have been collecting these all week.

Homework for the week will be to complete the Wellbeing Homework Grid as a family. Spend quality time together tick off as many activities as possible. Your child will bring it home next Monday.

At 2.45pm the whole school will assemble for a song & dance!

Let’s work together to help our wonderful school community take some time for ourselves and our families.

Enjoy! JENNIFER TYGH (Jones) Pastoral Care/Wellbeing coordinator
# TERM DATES 2016-2017

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<th>TERM</th>
<th>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (SDD)</th>
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<td>Fri 16 DEC</td>
<td>Mon 10 OCT</td>
<td>Mon 3 OCT (Labour Day)</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>Mon 30 JAN</td>
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Staff Development Days can be subject to change - you will be advised at the earliest opportunity.
Term 4 Dates for the Diary

OCTOBER

Wed 19  Year 4 Excursion to Minnamurra Falls
Tues 25  Kindergarten visit to the farm
Fri 28  Launch of Kidsmatter at OLD

NOVEMBER

Kindergarten 2017 begin their transition to school with 2 visits to the Kindergarten classrooms.

Tues 1  Swimming program begins for Years 2 - 6
        Year 1 swimming lessons will be advised
Fri 25  Year 6 Graduation Mass at 9am in the church

DECEMBER

Thur 1  All Kindergarten 2017 children and their parents have their final meeting at school
Wed 7  Swimming Carnival for students in Years 2 to 6
Thur 8  Celebration of Learning Day at OLD. On this day parents and carers are invited to join us in classrooms to celebrate the learning which has happened at our school this year. Each class has 30 minutes in which each child is presented with a certificate commending them for a “character strength” they have shown in the classroom this year which has impacted positively on their learning and their relationships. Times for each class will be announced in the next couple of weeks.
Fri 9  Parents are invited to join staff in fare welling both Mrs Shirvington and Mrs Chambers at a function to be held on school premises at 7pm. More details will be forthcoming but at this stage you are asked to put the date in your diary as we would love to see as many people as possible on this night. It will be a parent only function so babysitting may also have to be arranged.
Mon 12  Year 6 Graduation Dinner at Roseville Golf Club
Thur 15  10am: “End of Year” Liturgy in the Church. This is also the last day of term for students.
Fri 16  Last day of term for staff.
School Student Transport Scheme
Applications open 10 October 2016

From Monday 10 October 2016, parents, guardians and students over 16 years, will be able to apply for a 2017 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel pass by visiting www.transportnsw.info/school-students

Information for parents and students
School travel passes only need to be updated when a student:
- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

A new application is required when:
- applying for an SSTS pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten,
- progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation.

For more information on planning your school travel, visit www.transportnsw.info or contact your local operator.

Passes for 2017 travel
Opal network: Please remind ALL your students to keep their School Opal cards for travel in 2017. These cards will be automatically deactivated for school holidays and then reactivated for school travel in term one. Students’ current School Opal cards can be updated with changes of school, home address or operator.

Rural and regional travel: Students travelling with operator-issued passes will receive a new pass in the new school year.