

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWS Term 1 Week 4 - 21 February 2017

The Principal's Piece - Philip Ledlin

Dear Parents and Friends,

This week, our Director of Broken Bay Catholic Schools, Mr Peter Hamill, specifically asked all principals to add a letter from Bishop Peter Comensoli (Bishop of Broken Bay Diocese) to their school newsletter. The attached letter in this newsletter, addresses a breathtakingly horrible and hideous side of parts of "yesterday's" Catholic Church in Australia. I say "yesterday's" church, because I am hope-filled considering the formal processes that have been instituted recently, specifically the newly established national oversight body, "Catholic Professional Standards", to protect the vulnerable and indeed all the faithful as we move forward.

Last week, I read that close to 4500 people made claims for alleged incidents of child sexual abuse between January 1980 and February 2015. Interestingly, the total monetary compensation was \$258.8 million (about \$91 000 per claim). I have little doubt that the money is cold comfort for most victims.

At school last Friday, I listened to two of our teachers discuss the importance of general respect and integrity with their students in class. Amongst the gathering, there was a profound sense of understanding; every single student got it! Furthermore, the conversation moved to the importance of saying "sorry" when we do wrong; again they all got it!

I hope and pray that all of us can have the courage and conviction of children and never be too proud or stubborn to unreservedly utter the most cleansing word in the world, "sorry". Indeed, we often have to show more strength and courage when it's time for us to forgive someone who has wronged us. I find Leonard Cohen's following quote wonderfully inspiring and relatively liberating - (from the song, 'Anthem'):

"Forget you perfect offering ... there is a crack in everything ... that's how the light gets in."

Perhaps we will never come to fully understand the evil perpetrated by some clergy in the past, but I strenuously urge every layperson in Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish to spare a thought (and a prayer) for the good clergy of our parish who live as disciples of Jesus and devoutly inspire us to 'follow'. Yes, we have good reason to be hope-filled.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Wed 22 Parents and Friends' Meeting (6.30pm - School Library)

Tues 28 Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day

MARCH

Wed 1 Ash Wednesday

Sun 5 Mercy College Open Day

Wed 15 Open Day for Kindergarten 2018

Sun 19 Weekend "Welcome Mass" 9am in the Church

Wed 29 School Photos

KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE UNDER 'NEWS & EVENTS - EVENTS FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO DATES

www.olddb.catholic.edu.au

The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

So, how can we build our church and community? (I think the answer just might come from our staff members, Miss Camilla Brown and Mrs Stella Gemperle, who shared the following at our most recent staff prayer session):

POPE FRANCIS' FIVE FINGER PRAYER



- 1.) THE THUMB IS THE CLOSEST FINGER TO YOU. SO START PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE CLOSEST TO YOU. THEY ARE THE PERSONS EASIEST TO REMEMBER. TO PRAY FOR OUR DEAR ONES IS A "SWEET OBLIGATION."
- 2.) THE NEXT FINGER IS THE INDEX. PRAY FOR THOSE WHO TEACH YOU, INSTRUCT YOU AND HEAL YOU. THEY NEED THE SUPPORT AND WISDOM TO SHOW DIRECTION TO OTHERS. ALWAYS KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS.
- 3.) THE FOLLOWING FINGER IS THE TALLEST. IT REMINDS US OF OUR LEADERS, THE GOVERNORS AND THOSE WHO HAVE AUTHORITY. THEY NEED GOD'S GUIDANCE.
- 4.) THE FOURTH FINGER IS THE RING FINGER. EVEN THAT IT MAY SURPRISE YOU, IT IS OUR WEAKEST FINGER. IT SHOULD REMIND US TO PRAY FOR THE WEAKEST, THE SICK OR THOSE PLAGUED BY PROBLEMS. THEY NEED YOUR PRAYERS.
- 5.) AND FINALLY WE HAVE OUR SMALLEST FINGER, THE SMALLEST OF ALL. YOUR PINKIE SHOULD REMIND YOU TO PRAY FOR YOURSELF. WHEN YOU ARE DONE PRAYING FOR THE OTHER FOUR GROUPS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR OWN NEEDS BUT IN THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE, AND ALSO YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PRAY FOR YOUR OWN NEEDS IN A BETTER WAY.

Opening School Mass:

An absolutely wonderful Mass was celebrated by Fr Paul last Friday. At the Mass we welcomed all of our new families, new Kindergarten students (and all new students Yrs1–Yr6), new staff and our new deacon, Deacon Kevin Hale.

Congratulations also to our Year 6 students who received their Leadership Badges and a blessing at the Mass.

Thank you to our REC (Religious Education Co-ordinator) Mrs Kathy Gray and all staff who assisted Kathy to make the Mass so special.



The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

Safety and security at school ... A few critical requirements:

If parents or visitors enter the school during learning/teaching hours, it is imperative that they visit the school reception first.

If parents have a message for their child, they must leave the message at school reception and it will be sent to the respective classroom.

If parents bring their child to school late (or if they need to pick-up early), they must visit school reception first. Parents must not walk up to classrooms.

Thank you for your co-operation re these matters.



Safety for students before school commences at 8:15am each school morning:

Parents are respectfully reminded that supervision commences for students at 8:15am each day. Students should not be on the school grounds until 8:15am. (Before School Care is offered every day). Thank you

Safety for students after school at our local Chatswood Library:

I was very alarmed to receive a phone call from Barbara at our local Chatswood Library last week concerning a number of our students who are being left unsupervised at the library. Barbara and I will monitor this situation over the coming weeks to ensure student welfare and safety is not compromised.

Good News re our 2017 School Calendar!

I am pleased to inform parents that our school website now has a detailed 2017 calendar of events for OLD School. Please note that dates are subject to change.



<https://www.olddb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/271/events>

Online Lunch ordering



Online lunch ordering is now available 5 days a week through Total Canteen Solutions who have been selected to run the Canteen at Mercy College. Part of the agreement is that they provide OLD with lunches every day too. Lunch orders and payments can be made through our  App. Please note, all orders must be placed by 9.00am.

Safety and dietary requirements:



Parents are reminded that it is unsafe to send food to school with nuts in it.

Additionally, several students at OLD will have an allergic reaction if they consume products containing eggs. Staff are aware of their students' important dietary needs but I strenuously urge parents, who have children with vital dietary requirements, to keep teaching them safe practices at home.

This is particularly important as we approach Shrove Tuesday, next week, when the P & F prepare pancakes for the school.

I remind all parents that students are not permitted to share food at school with other students. Could you please remind your child.

Birthday treats from home (in light of the safety requirements):

If parents choose to treat their child's class to a treat on their birthday, the following is suggested:



BIRTHDAY ICEBLOCKS PURCHASE FROM CANTEEN



As you are aware, there is no sharing of lollies, cakes or any food treats at school for birthdays.

If you would like to purchase ice blocks for your child's class on their birthday this can be arranged through the school canteen only.

Please email your order with at least one weeks notice to Janelle Arena or Zoey Cortese at olodcanteen@yahoo.com.au

Your choice of ice blocks are **Quelch Sticks 50c, Icy Twists \$1 or Mini Calipos \$1**

Payment is to be made on the day or before to the school office in an envelope marked **Canteen Birthday Ice Blocks** with your child's name and class.



SHROVE TUESDAY – PANCAKE DAY - & HELPERS NEEDED

Next Tuesday 28th February will be Shrove Tuesday. It is a tradition at our school to have pancakes (a double butter and jam pikelet) available at morning tea time for all students. The idea of having a ‘pancake’ allows the children to have a ‘treat’ prior to the start of Lent.

Please provide your child with a Gold coin donation.

If your child has an allergy to egg, gluten or dairy, and is not able to have a pancake, please inform the school by email at old@dbb.catholic.edu.au. An alternative to pancakes will be provided to your child.

As with any special event at school, we can only provide this service with volunteer parents and carers. We would require your help from 9.00am – 11.30am.

If you are able to help, please email Glenda at glenda.chan@gmail.com

TERM DATES 2017

TERM	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (SDD)	STUDENTS RETURN	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	LAST DAY OF TERM
1			Fri 14 APRIL (Good Friday) Sat 15 APRIL (Easter Saturday) Sun 16 APRIL (Easter Sunday) Mon 17 APRIL (Easter Monday)	Fri 7 APRIL
2	Monday 24 APRIL Fri 28 APRIL (Staff Development Day - No Students)	Wed 26 APRIL	Tue 25 APRIL (Anzac Day) Mon 12 JUNE (Queen’s Birthday)	Fri 30 JUNE
3	T.B.A.	Mon 17 JULY		Fri 22 SEPT
4	T.B.A.	Mon 9 OCT		Tue 19 DEC

Staff Development Days can be subject to change - you will be advised at the earliest opportunity

SCHOOL BANKING @ OUR LADY OF DOLOURS

School banking is in need of volunteers; it takes approximately 1 hr on a Tuesday (time is flexible).

For any further information regarding school banking, please contact Glenda on glenda.chan@gmail.com

Thank you to all the bankers who have made their first deposit with school banking in 2017. We have some exciting new rewards this year and a competition to win a trip to Tokyo Disneyland:

Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1

3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2

Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3

Pencil and Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4.



Win a family adventure holiday at Tokyo Disneyland

This year, School Banking is running a Future Savers Grand Prize competition that will take one lucky School Banker all the way to Tokyo, Japan. The winner gets an unforgettable family trip, for up to two adults and three children, where they'll explore Tokyo Disneyland with its amazing attractions, including the futuristic Tomorrowland, plus enjoy the fun rides at Tokyo DisneySea.



This prize includes:

- Five nights' accommodation at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel
- Return economy airfares from the winner's nearest capital city to Tokyo, Japan
- Three-day Magic Pass to Tokyo Disneyland & Tokyo DisneySea
- AU\$1,000 spending money.

To enter, students have to make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017. This will automatically enter them into the competition for a chance to win.

OLD NETBALL 2017 – Registrations will close 28th February 2017

Contact Kathleen Nicholls on OLDNetball@gmail.com for more information or to register your interest

YRS 2 & 3

- NETTAs

Modified netball rules

Players rotate positions each quarter in order to experience each position



When: Competition games Saturday mornings split between The Greens North Sydney and North Sydney girls High School

Cost: \$165 (plus uniform cost of approx. \$65)

Registration: With OLD Netball Club in February 2017 – ***email your expression of interest now***

Netball Season: 13 rounds (Rd 1 is Sat 2nd April and a gala day on Sat 20th August 2017).

Training: For this year, OLD is requesting Volunteers to train the girls. Training will be in the school grounds to commence late Feb/early Mar 2017 (day dependent on coach but previously Friday afternoons)

Additional information:

- Need minimum of 8 players to form a team with recommended team size of 9 players.
- Games are approximately 45 minutes in duration and the team assembles half an hour prior to the game for a warm up.

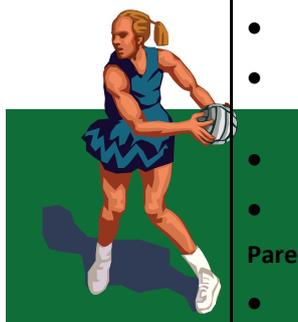
Parental involvement:

- One parent to assume the Team Manager role
- One or two volunteers for the Coaching Role
- Games are controlled by one umpire who must be over 15 years. OLD must provide an umpire on a rotation system, approximately every 2nd game.
- At least one parent to attend the Mature Red Robin Clinic (for umpires) 9am – 12 noon Sat 12th March 2017 at Willoughby Leisure Centre Netball Courts.
- Parental assistance required when OLD is scheduled on duty at either venue (once or twice a season)

YRS 4, 5 & 6

- JUNIOR

U10s, U11s, U12s



When: Competition games Friday afternoons/evenings at Willoughby Leisure Centre Netball Courts, Bi-Centennial Park.

Cost: \$165 (plus uniform cost of approx. \$65)

Registration: With OLD in February 2017 - ***email your expression of interest now***

Netball Season: 14 rounds (Rd 1 is Fri 1st April 2017, Rd 14 is Fri 12th Aug 2017). Semifinals, finals and grand finals are held each succeeding week.

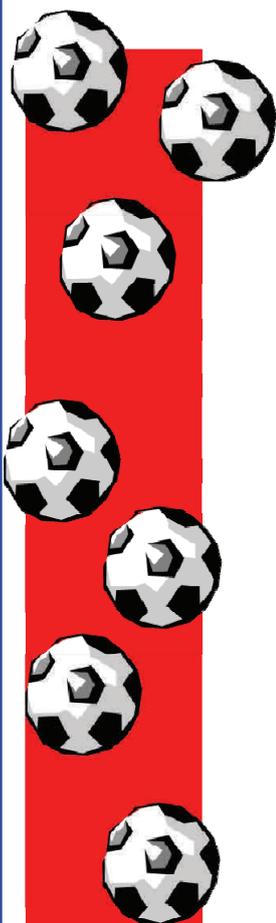
Training: For this year, OLD are requesting Volunteers to train the girls. Training will be in the school grounds to commence late Feb/early Mar 2017 (day dependent on coach but previously Thursday afternoons)

Additional information:

- Need minimum of 8 players to form a team with recommended team size of 9 players
- Games are approximately 45 minutes in duration and the team assembles half an hour prior to the game for a warm up.
- Umpires for these games are still yet to be confirmed
- U10s grading day from 4:30pm on Friday 11th March 2017

Parental involvement:

- One parent to assume the Team Manager role
- One or two volunteers for the Coaching Role
- Parental assistance required when OLD is scheduled on duty at the Willoughby Leisure



SOCCER at O.L.D.

Would your child like to play soccer this year?

Over the years Our Lady of Dolours soccer has proven to be heaps of fun and a great way for children (and families) to form and establish wonderful friendships.

The 2017 soccer season kicks-off soon and we're looking for players in all age groups for 2017!

For more information, please email expressions of interest
as soon as possible to the school
Football Co-ordinator, Geoff Linders



geoff.linders@gmail.com



We proclaim a crucified Christ

1Cor 1.23

Friday 3 February 2017

My dear People,

Next Monday, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will commence a final intensive review of the Catholic Church in Australia. This hearing will run for three weeks, and will involve some 60 witnesses, from victims, experts, leaders (clergy, religious and lay people) and bishops. While the Diocese of Broken Bay has not been summoned, our Vicar General, Very Rev Fr David Ranson, has been called as a witness because of his recognised academic expertise with this issue over many years.

Unlike the public sessions held to date relating to the Church, this hearing will not be a case study of a particular set of facts or events. Instead, it will inquire into the Church's structures, culture and governance and what relevant aspects these have to the occurrence of child sexual abuse in Australia and the response to survivors.

Two key questions will be asked by the Royal Commission: What has the Church done, and is doing, to address the occurrence of abuse by clergy, religious and Church workers, and the manner in which victims have been responded to by Church leaders; What are the underlying causes that have led to the occurrence of abuse and a failure of response, and how are they being addressed now and into the future?

The coming few weeks will be a traumatic time for many individuals, and a difficult and bruising time for all Catholics, as again we will be brought to face the loss of innocence and trust amongst our most treasured and vulnerable. The evidence of the extent of abuse that has occurred within the Church will be shocking, and no institution, including our own Diocese, will be immune to the evidence. But these next weeks, as well as the months and years ahead, will also offer a real impetus to work all the more diligently to ensure the works and activities of the Church are trustworthy places of safety and goodness for all. I have strongly supported the important work of the Commission since its establishment. As challenging as it has been to look deeply into the institutional failings of our Church, it holds nothing to the pain and suffering of those whom we have failed. As a Diocese, I believe we have sought to address the implications of our Church's difficult history through building a culture of renewed responsibility and accountability. Nonetheless, we remain at the foot of the Cross, sorrowful for the evil that has occurred but hopeful for the good to be done.

My chief prayer over the weeks ahead will be to hold up to the Lord all of you who have experienced, either personally or in your families and local communities, the evil of abuse, or have been confronted with the failures of your faith leaders. May I humbly acknowledge that you too, can be the eyes and ears of Christ in your communities, ever present for those who may again feel the pain of our failings and need support. Across our local communities, please join me in prayer that true healing and reconciliation will flourish, and that those who are in pain may come to know the heart of Christ, whose love is unfailing.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Bishop of Broken Bay

Caroline Chisholm Centre, PO Box 340, Pennant Hills, NSW 1715, Australia

• Tel: (+61 2) 9847 0214 • Fax: (+61 2) 9847 0201 • bishop@dbb.org.au • www.dbb.org.au



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE
CO-EDUCATION IN THE HEART OF WARRONGA

OPEN DAY

Friday 3rd March
9.15am – 11.45am



VISIT ST LEO'S COLLEGE IN ACTION!

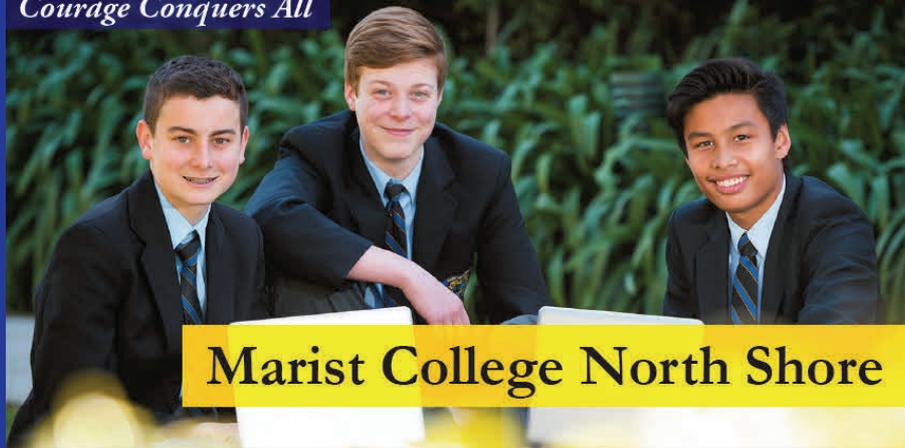
- Principal's Welcome, 9.15am
The Light of Christ Centre
- Meet the Principal, staff and students : school tours : light refreshments
- Parking and Entry via
Yardley Ave & Unwin Road

Prospective Parent Supplementary
Information Evening
Wednesday 15th March, 7pm
The Light of Christ Centre.

For more College and enrolment information
please visit www.stleos.nsw.edu.au

16 Woolcott Avenue, Warrongga, NSW, 2076 | t: 9487 3555 | e: stleos@dbb.catholic.edu.au | www.stleos.nsw.edu.au | [@stleos](https://twitter.com/stleos)

Courage Conquers All



Marist College North Shore

Open Day

Saturday 11 March 2017 10am - 2pm

Come and visit our staff and students and learn about Marist College North Shore's integrated and comprehensive curriculum program that, for every student, promotes faith, encourages excellence, engenders responsibility and develops respect and dignity.



Currently accepting enrolments for Year 7, 2019
For an application: www.maristcollege.com or contact
the Registrar on 9957 5000

270 Miller St, North Sydney NSW 2060
E: northshore@maristcollege.com

T: 02 9957 5000
W: www.maristcollege.com



Stepping Stones Triple P



Does your child have a disability?

Parents of children with a disability aged 2 to 12 are now eligible for free parenting support through the Stepping Stones Triple P Project.

You are invited to attend the following FREE parenting seminar:

Seminar 1 - Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability

Thursday 16 March from 9.30am to 11.00am

St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga

RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

Seminar 2 - Helping your Child reach their Potential

Thursday 23 March from 9.30am to 11.00am

St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga

RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

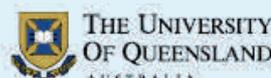
Seminar 3 - Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behaviour

Thursday 30 March from 9.30am to 11.00am

St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga

RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

For more sessions visit www.triplep-steppingstones.net



Funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia

New Playgroup

For Mums, Dads and Grandparents



Come and join us for a new inspirational playgroup for you and your child. A trained playgroup leader will lead the session to create a gentle rhythm that includes songs and rhymes that your child will love; baking bread, parent craft, stories and lots of time for the children to play together while parents meet. Giving the opportunity for parents, grandparents and their children to form strong and supportive relationships.

Where: Glen Kindergarten (next to Belrose Library)
1 Ashworth Ave, Belrose, 2085

When: Each Tue (9:30am – 11am)
Each Fri (from 24th Feb 17)

Cost: FREE!

Confirm: Call **9451-3449** or email glenkindy@hotmail.com
to confirm your place (numbers limited)

Details: www.glenkindergarten.com.au