

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWS** Term 2 Week 4 - 16 May 2017

## The Principal's Piece - Philip Ledlin

Dear Parents,

You will recall in the last five newsletters that I included summaries of the first five habits of "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families" (Stephen Covey).

I hope that we can all appreciate the sixth "habit" included below. (I note that I commenced these summaries as part of a warm-up to the up-and-coming Parent Education sessions at OLD School – ie "123 Magic" on the following dates – Starts TOMORROW!!!:

Part A - Wednesday 17 May (9 – 11am)

Part B - Wednesday 24 May (9 – 11am)

Habit # 6: - "Synergise" (summary of 28 pages ... THIS IS DEFINITELY MY FAVOURITE CHAPTER!)

"Synergy is the 'summum bonum' (supreme or highest fruit) of all the habits. It's the magic that happens when one plus one equals three - or more" ... We might think of synergy as a third person in our relationship ... Synergy is "risky business" because it involves stepping out into the unknown and the process of creating it can sometimes be near chaos ... "You go in not knowing what's going to come out of it, but knowing that's it's going to be a lot better than anything you brought to it" ... It's an adventure and the magic of it is in the "moment of mutual vulnerability".

### HOW CAN WE CREATE SYNERGY IN OUR RELATIONSHIP?

Learn to value – even celebrate – "differences"

Wholeheartedly accept our partner / children for what / who they are – accept and love everything about them, not just the bits that are like our personality

Recognise "spouse differences" as being fabulous potential for reaching the "summum bonum"

Recognise that "synergy" unleashes a tremendous capacity to have fun and grow together in a respectful relationship

Remember: "The key to your family culture is how you treat the child that tests you the most" ... Powerful stuff!!!

Once we realise that each family problem is asking for a response instead of just triggering a reaction, we start to learn. We start to become a learning family.

**Farewell Fr Barry:** Don't forget, next Sunday is Fr Barry's last day in the parish before he begins his retirement. We're all invited to join together in the Rotunda after the 10.30am Mass for his farewell. Please bring a plate to share.

## COMING EVENTS

### MAY

- Wed 17** '123 Magic' Parenting Programme - 1st Session
- Fri 19** Crazy Hair & Mufti Day  
Choir in the COLA at 2.30pm
- Tue 23** Broken Bay Cross Country (Fagan Park)
- Wed 24** '123 Magic' Parenting Programme - 2nd Session

### June

- Thur 8** Yr 5 & 6 Camp to Milson Island
- Mon 12** Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday
- Wed 14** School Athletics Carnival
- Fri 16** Polding Cross Country Carnival
- Sat 17 & Sun 18** Sacrament of First Eucharist - All Parish Masses
- Wed 21** OLD Public Speaking Finals  
Sacramental Program - Parent's Info. Evening
- Tues 27** League Gala Day (Bales Park, Chatswood)  
Netball Gala Day (Bicentennial, Willoughby)
- Fri 30** P & F Sport-a-thon & Games Day  
Last Day Term 2

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

[www.olddb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olddb.catholic.edu.au)

## The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

**"Priority Enrolment in Yr7 at St Pius X"**: (for families meeting criteria): OLD families need to be fully aware of the special "priority enrolment" in Yr 7 at St Pius X that OLD, specifically, is privileged to have. Essentially, families wishing to secure a Yr7 placement need to apply when their child is in Yr3 by the end of the month of May.

Importantly, our present Yr3 families need to apply in the coming weeks to secure enrolment for their sons in Yr7 2021. (Full details are on the St Pius X website).

Parents are encouraged to contact me at school if they would like more information regarding this important privilege for OLD families.

**Enrolment Drive – Stage 3 2018**: An enrolment drive is presently on at OLD for Yr5 and Yr6 2018. Parents are simply encouraged to "spread the word"!

**ICLT Purchases – Update for Parents**: I am pleased to inform parents that OLD has just finalised the order of a considerable number of computers for student learning. Staff are presently moving through extensive professional learning to ensure the new devices enhance learning in the best way possible.

For your information:

Years 5 and 6 will have 1:1 devices (Chrome Books) (ie each student will have their own device)

Years 3 and 4 will have 1:2 (Chrome Books) (ie one device between two students)

K,1,2 will have 1:2 (iPads)

**Semester 1 Student Reports**: Semester 1 student reports go home to families Friday 16 June.

**Formal Parent / Teacher Interviews**: These will be held in Weeks 9 and 10 this term (ie immediately after student reports go home)

**'Pigeon Holes' for K and Yr1 Bags**: These will be installed in the coming weeks.

**Great news regarding Anneliese Johnson**:

Anneliese recently entered the writing competition, 'Write 4 Fun', and has successfully made it past the first round and will have her work published by the organisation. We can now look forward to hopefully seeing Anneliese progressing even further in this exciting competition.

FYI, her story is titled, 'Trouble in Paradise'. Congratulations Anneliese!

**Play Equipment after hours**

Parents are respectfully reminded that the play equipment on the school grounds is out of bounds unless an OLD staff member or a Camp Australia staff member is supervising. Please note that this is also a Catholic Schools Office expectation. Thank you for your anticipated co-operation in this regard.

**Lunches delivered to the school office at OLD**

Parents are respectfully asked not to bring lunches up to school for their children during the day. This will assist with management in the office, thank you. (This, of course, does not apply to the very rare occasion when lunch might have been left at home by a student).

## The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

### **Arrival times at school:**

Parents are respectfully reminded that school commences at 8:45am. Students are strongly encouraged to be at school at least five or ten minutes before the 8:45am bell so they get a chance to link up with their peers and get settled. Students regularly arriving late to school are missing valuable learning time, and they arrive not having valuable before-school socialising.

Students arriving after 8:45am need to go to the school office for a late note. This procedure is a Catholic Schools Office expectation. Thank you for your anticipated co-operation regarding this matter.

**School Emblem and Colour House Banners:** We are presently investigating a possible change re our school emblem – ie returning to the former OLD traditional emblem (the same emblem at Mercy College). Additionally, Mrs Kathy Gray and Yr6 are investigating patron names for our colour house teams at OLD. Stay tuned for more information.

**Signage at OLD:** The following photos are a mock-up of what we are investigating for OLD re signage facing Archer St.



### **"Crazy Hair Day" – Bring a gold coin – This coming Friday:**

Friday 19 May – this coming Friday, is a P+F fundraiser ... It's a gold coin, "Crazy Hair Day"!

This basically means students are permitted to have a fancy hair-do on Friday and they need to bring in a gold coin to support the P+F fundraiser. Thank you.

### **Congratulations Mrs Alix McKittrick:**

I am thrilled to announce that Mrs Alix McKittrick (Yr 5/6G teacher) is expecting a baby. On behalf of the OLD community, I wish her (and her husband, Brandon) every best blessing for a safe and exciting period over the next few months. Alix will be working with her students up until the end of Term 3. A thorough hand-over period will occur during Term 3 with Alix and her replacement teacher to ensure a smooth transition for

## The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

### Mothers' Day at OLD 2017

Congratulations and thank you to all the parents who assisted to make the Mothers' Day Stall and the Mothers' Day Breakfast so special. Interestingly, I have made a note in my 2018 calendar for the end of April to rally our OLD dads into action. 2018 will be even bigger!

Following are some comments that rang out around our community:

- \* "Loved the Mothers' Stall, no mugs, aprons or anything to remind mums of household chores!"
- \* "At rough count, it looks like this year's Mothers' Day Stall will be the most profitable yet."
- \* "Mothers' Day Breakfast / Mass, was perhaps the greatest attendance the school has ever seen."

Check out the photo below showing Fr Barry blessing the show of mums on the sanctuary!



For information about the 'Children's Sacramental Program' please click [here](#).

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - Kirsty Thorpe

### Uniforms

A school uniform is a very important part of being a member of the OLD family. It is a symbol to the wider community of what family we belong to and is a sign of the pride we feel towards ourselves and our school. As we have now transitioned into wearing our winter uniform, I would like to remind the community of some uniform guidelines.

- Each day children should arrive to school looking neat and tidy; shoes regularly polished and uniforms regularly cleaned and ironed.
- Boys must tuck their shirts into their pants and wear school ties. Just like tying shoe laces, teaching a child how to properly knot their tie can be a challenge, but it also a life skill they will develop, so we appreciate the parents and guardians who are taking the time to do so and encourage all others to attempt to do so too. (Don't forget that pre-tied, strap-around ties are also an option)
- Girls must wear navy or dark blue ribbon or hair ties and keep all shoulder length hair tied up away from their face.
- The school hat is also an important part of the school uniform and essential in protecting our children against the harsh Australian sun. Every day of the year, children must wear their school hat whenever they are outside (before school, recess, lunch, during sport and after school). The teachers will be enforcing this and if children do not have their hat they must stay in the shade. Children will also not be allowed to go to Beauchamp Park without a hat.
- This is also the time of year when our lost property bins overflow, as children take on and off layers throughout the day. Please label all items of clothing clearly with your child's name and talk to your children about being responsible for their belongings.

On behalf of all the teachers, I thank you for working with us to educate your children about taking pride in their uniforms and being responsible for their belongings.

*Kirsty Thorpe - Assistant Principal*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Kathy Gray

### CANDELA HANDICRAFTS

Thank you for your support of the Candela Mission over the past week. Mrs Mary Rajca is very grateful to our school community for raising funds to help the women and children of Candela in Lima Peru. The monies raised from the sales of these handicrafts will help families have an income to provide for their families.

Thank you again for supporting this worthwhile cause.



# AWARD WINNERS

## Weeks 2 & 3



## TERM DATES 2017

TERM	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (SDD)	STUDENTS RETURN	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	LAST DAY OF TERM
<b>2</b>	Monday 24 APRIL  Fri 28 APRIL  (Staff Development Days are Pupil Free Days)	Wed 26 APRIL	Tue 25 APRIL (Anzac Day)  Mon 12 JUNE (Queen's Birthday)	Fri 30 JUNE
<b>3</b>	T.B.A.	Mon 17 JULY		Fri 22 SEPT
<b>4</b>	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



Please click on the following link to view the Fitkids Australia 2017 Vacation Programs.

[Fitkids Australia 2017 Vacation Programs](#)