

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWS IN BRIEF Term 2 Week 9 - 20 June 2017

Dear Parents,

I am so proud to tell you and boast about two wonderful social justice initiatives spearheaded by our students at OLD. I note that I am particularly inspired by the initiative and creativity of so many kind and thoughtful students! And yes, Mrs Kathy Gray and staff are ably supporting it all.

1. Congratulations to our Yr 4 students leading the toy and book fundraiser for the Timor-Leste orphanage we are jointly supporting with our OLD Parish
2. Congratulations to our Yr 6 students who led the food drive to support 'The House of Welcome' (ie a local 'outreach' initiative we support in conjunction with OLD Parish). I note that it was a wonderful experience for the students to work with Mrs Trish Wilson (Social Justice Team – OLD Parish) last Friday. Trish and the students worked together to pack, stack and organise the vast array of donations. Finally, thank you to all our families who generously supported the food drive.

The following photo is of the students working with Trish:



Congratulations to all our First Holy Communicants:

Congratulations to all our First Holy Communicants who received the Eucharist for the first time last weekend. Thank you to all the sacramental facilitators/co-ordinators who prepared the students so beautifully. I was able to attend the 9am service last Sunday and was particularly impressed to see the sense of wonder and awe amongst the First Communicants. This sense of wonder and awe acutely reminded me of the extraordinary gift that the Eucharist is; a gift we must never take for granted.

Finally, I sincerely thank all the staff from OLD who keenly supported the students by attending at the various Masses over the weekend.

Congratulations to all OLD athletes, all staff, many parent helpers and Mr Joe Martin:

It was indeed an absolutely wonderful Athletics Carnival last week. And why was this so? ... Because of the fabulous sportsmanship of all students, the support of staff and so many parent helpers ... and let's not forget Mr Joe Martin who calmly and so professionally organised the whole day.

Special congratulations to all athletes who will now progress to the Cluster Athletics Carnival.

COMING EVENTS

JUNE

- Wed 21** OLD Public Speaking Finals
Sacramental Program - Parent's Info. Evening
- Mon 26** "The Bishop's Art Competition" Gallery-walk around all classes
- Tues 27** League Gala Day (Bales Park, Chatswood)
Netball Gala Day (Bicentennial, Willoughby)
- Wed 28** "The Bishop's Art Competition" - Finalists' Presentation @ the whole school assembly 8:45am
- Fri 30** P & F Sport-a-thon & Games Day
Last Day Term 2

JULY

- Mon 17** Start of Term 3
- Fri 28** P & F Disco Night

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

www.olddb.catholic.edu.au

Principals' Meeting with The Hon Mr Paul Fletcher last Friday afternoon re proposed changes to Federal Government funding for Catholic Schools:

Last Friday I (and 8 other Catholic Systemic School Diocesan Principals) met with The Hon Mr Paul Fletcher in his role as Member for Bradfield for 2 hours.

Each Principal gave a personal account of how the proposed legislation will affect their school and community.

4 critical topics were tabled:

1. ***A commitment that both transparency and consultation would be conducted before the legislation is passed*** (there had been NO consultation or transparency before this Bill was introduced into Parliament in May)
2. ***A robust review of the SES instrument would be undertaken*** (as the SES model for funding is flawed)
3. ***Reinstatement of the SWA (System Weighted Average)*** (which the Government wants to phase out)
4. ***Enshrine in Legislation - capacity to reallocate funding within the Diocese on a needs basis***

Mr Fletcher would not move, waver or concede on points 1,2 and 3. He did determine that he would 'pressure' Minister Bermingham on point #4.

Parents are strenuously urged to carefully read the attached Media Release from the National Catholic Education Commission.

Don't forget the Sports-a-thon coming up on the last day of Term 2- Friday 30 June:

The annual Sports-a-thon is coming up on Friday 30 June. Thank you to all families who are able to support this major school fundraiser for OLD. All funds raised from this event go directly to support school resources for students' learning.

Important Reminder:

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the break at the end of Term 2 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families. School zones operate on all gazetted schools days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

Social Justice Initiative: Refugee Sunday June 18th

Thank you for your generous donations of food for Refugee Sunday. The parish was most appreciative of our support and your good will is most appreciated. World Refugee day is actually this Tuesday, so please pray for them.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3



Year 4 Fundraiser: Maubara Orphanage in East Timor

Thank you to Year 4 for their wonderful social justice efforts in running their stall for the Maubara Orphanage in East Timor. We will let you know the exact total of their efforts, but it is looking like well over \$400. *Not a bad effort for young children to initiate and run this whole Social Justice Initiative!*

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the following children for making their First Holy Communion on the weekend:

Miyaka, Sara, Grace, Antony, Iara, Keona, Mia, Evelyn, Martin, Chloe, Chloe, Max, Ethan, Alyssa, Kayden, Ardan, Genevieve, Hayden, Ryan, Marcus, Marianne, Chloe, Keira, Ethan, Jack, Issa, Amítíel, Andrew, Elizabeth, Sofia, Adeang, Thúik, Zachary, Riley, Lara, Andrea, Chloe, Marcus and Francesco.

Thank you to the families for supporting their children in the preparation for this Sacrament. Also, a big thank you to Mr Joe Martin and Mrs Sally Briggs for their wonderful preparation of the children through the Religious Education Curriculum in partnership with the parish program.



"For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." John 6:33

From the Parish: Sacramental Program (Confirmation)

You will notice the attached Sacramental outline brochure mentions a Parent Information Meeting being held at Our Lady of Dolours, in the Church on Wednesday 21 June 2017 at 7.30pm. This meeting is especially suitable for parents for whom this is the first child they are enrolling in the 'Children's Sacramental Program', however all parents are welcome to attend. An overview of the whole process will be discussed including the order of the Sacraments, the roles of parents, children, parish and school and the on-line enrolment process will be explained.



After this meeting, the on-line enrolments will be open for the first Sacrament in the process, Confirmation. In order to enrol your child on-line, please visit our Parish website: <http://www.chatswood.dbb.org.au/> then click on Sacraments and then 'Children's Sacramental Program' and follow the directions.

If you have any questions about the Children's Sacramental Program, please contact: Angela Hague - Pastoral Associate for the Children's Sacramental Program Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (9.30am – 3.30pm)
Ph: (02) 9410 9033 email: angela@chatswoodparish.org.au

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS

GRAND FINAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2017

Just a reminder....The Grand Final Public Speaking Competition will be held **this week**,

Wednesday the 21st of June,

from 9.00am to 11am in the school hall.

The timing of the judging will be different this year as it will be conducted ***straight after the speeches of each Stage***. This allows the parents to organize any work or other commitments in order to see their children present on the day:

- **Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)** will present first and then be judged when finished (approx. 9.00 – 9.30am)
- **Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)** will present second and then be judged when finished (approx. 9.30 – 10am)
- **Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)** will present third and then be judged (approx. 10.00 – 10.45 am)

(These times are very approximate as it all depends on what occurs on the day)

All parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

Come and be entertained and impressed by our school's most talented speakers!

It's a wonderful occasion and not one to miss!

Here are our fabulous finalists:

1	Vicky T 1B Yuan Hao C 1B	Nate L 1G Ryan K 1G
2	Alexander P 2B Erica G 2B	Hannah T 2G Ryan C 2G
3	Marianne L 3B Amitiel Mc 3B	Genevieve H 3G Sara A 3G
4	Anthony P 4B Beatrice A 4B	Jack F 4G Porscha P 4G
5	Alyana D 5B Lara A 5/6 G	Lindsay A 5/6G Gwenaelle L 5/6B
6	Corban G 6B Emma T 6B	Anneliese J 6B Clare G 5/6B

Over the last couple of weeks, our final class in the school to present their excellent speeches, was from our wonderful Kindergarten children....and they did not disappoint us with their reciting of their favourite Nursery Rhymes. The teachers and I were very surprised by the confidence and presence of these young speakers as it was their first time public speaking. Again, it was very difficult to choose, but finally we did and they are:

KB: Theo C and Adelina S

KC: Anastasia H and Nicholas K

(These Kinder speakers will not compete in the Grand Final Competition)

Congratulations children!

MEDIA RELEASE

June 19, 2017



CAMPAIGN OUTLINES WHY SENATORS MUST VOTE DOWN BAD POLICY

National Catholic Education Commission executive director Christian Zahra says with the education of Australian children about to be decided upon in the Senate, Catholic schools and families will continue to speak out about why the Turnbull Government's flawed policy must be defeated.

"We know time is running out before the vote, but we also know that Minister Birmingham's support within his party is fading," Mr Zahra said.

"New social media and video collateral is being rolled out today to underline why Coalition and cross-bench Senators must push back against an attempt to pass legislation that locks in a failed school funding model. Parents and school communities are concerned about what this flawed model means for them – and new independent data released over the weekend shows that it means cuts to Catholic schools.

"Our campaign is calling on the Government to keep the funding fair."

Mr Zahra said the campaign also serves as a reminder to Education Minister Simon Birmingham that he should be thinking more about students and families and educators.

Speaking on ABC Radio National this morning, Minister Birmingham offered a laundry list of people he's been in discussions with about his school funding plan. He didn't once mention educators or school system leaders.

"On the one hand, that's a shocking admission from an Education Minister. On the other, it's not surprising, given the Minister has shown no respect for education leaders for the past several months," Mr Zahra said.

"We have seen multiple reports over the weekend about the damaging impact of Minister Birmingham's funding model. He struggled to answer questions this morning about the \$4.6 billion of cuts to Catholic schools revealed by his own department, but easily explained his campaign to secure 'special deals' with the Greens and cross-bench Senators to get his legislation passed."

Mr Zahra said long-time political observer Michelle Grattan made an astute observation about how this school funding debate should have been run.

"As Michelle explained this morning, this process should have been about considering the school funding model and how it allocates funding to Australian schools," he explained.

"Instead, the focus has been on the quantum of funding to school sectors and there's been little consideration about the implications of the model for Australian families and for school choice, which we know families and parents value.

"Months ago, the Government's mantra was 'it's not about the money' when it comes to education. The new mantra seems to be 'it's all about the votes'.

"Rather than look at the significant flaws in the current model and try to fix them, the Minister is trying to get his colleagues and cross-benchers to lock in that model.

"Poor policy planning, especially by ignoring educators in the development of a 10-year school education policy, has led to a shambolic political process.

"The Minister is reaping what he sowed – which now includes colleagues rightly considering crossing the floor, lest they be remembered as part of a Coalition Government that ripped billions off Catholic schools."

Access the new videos and other material at SchoolFundingFacts.com

April 2017

Our Lady of Dolours

Catholic Parish of Chatswood, Diocese of Broken Bay

To: Parents of Children in Year 2 at Our Lady of Dolours Primary
From: Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish Chatswood
Re: Children's Sacramental Program

Dear Parents,

We would like to thank you for caring about your child's faith education and enrolling him/her in our Parish Catholic School. Please find enclosed, our brochure giving an overview of the 'Children's Sacramental Program' for 2017-2018.

In our parish, which is part of the Diocese of Broken Bay, the 'Children's Sacramental Program' is a three stage process through which children are prepared for and receive three sacraments: Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Communion. This program is run over a twelve month period, which usually begins in July/August and concludes in June the following year. To be eligible to join the 'Children's Sacramental Program', children must be a baptised Catholic and 7 years of age or older. Children usually begin the program whilst in Year 2 and conclude the program in Year 3.

If your child has not yet been baptised, you are welcome to contact the parish to arrange or discuss preparation of your child for Baptism if this is what you desire for your family.

You will notice the enclosed brochure mentions a Parent Information Meeting being held at Our Lady of Dolours, in the Church on **Wednesday 21 June 2017 at 7.30pm**. This meeting is especially suitable for parents for whom this is the first child they are enrolling in the 'Children's Sacramental Program', however all parents are welcome to attend. An overview of the whole process will be discussed including the order of the Sacraments, the roles of parents, children, parish and school and the on-line enrolment process will be explained.

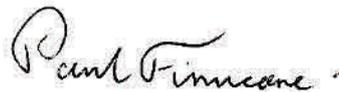
After this meeting, the on-line enrolments will be open for the first Sacrament in the process, Confirmation. In order to enrol your child on-line, please visit our Parish website: <http://www.chatswood.dbb.org.au/>, then click on Sacraments and then 'Children's Sacramental Program' and follow the directions.

If you have any questions about the Children's Sacramental Program, please contact:

Angela Hague - Pastoral Associate for the Children's Sacramental Program
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (9.30am - 3.30pm)
Ph: (02) 9410 9033 email: angela@chatswoodparish.org.au

We look forward to supporting you during this very important phase in your child's faith journey.

Yours faithfully



Fr Paul Finucane
Parish Priest Ph: (02) 9410 9022

Church and Office are located at 94 Archer Street Chatswood.
Mail: PO Box 1446 Chatswood NSW 2057 Phone: (02) 9410 9000 Fax: (02) 9412 1282
Email: office@chatswoodparish.org.au website: www.chatswoodparish.org.au



Children's Sacramental Preparation Program 2017 – 2018

May God's Spirit guide you, as parents in helping your children prepare for their Sacraments of Initiation.

At Our Lady of Dolours, which is part of the Diocese of Broken Bay, the order of the Sacraments of Initiation for children after Baptism, begin with Confirmation then First Reconciliation before receiving First Holy Communion to complete their initiation into the Church.

Therefore, the Children's Sacramental Program at Our Lady of Dolours is a three stage course that runs between **July and the following June** each year.

Enrolments for the first Sacrament in the Program - Confirmation open in June 2017.

An overview of the whole process is discussed at our **Parent Information Meeting**, which will be held on **Wednesday 21 June 2017 at 7.30pm in Our Lady of Dolours Church**.

At this meeting, the order of the Sacraments will be discussed and the roles of parents, children, parish and school are explained.

On top of this meeting, preparation for each of the three Sacraments include:

- Sacramental Parent Meeting per sacrament
- Four Child/Parent small group preparation sessions
- Home activities and reflections to help continue the preparation process at home
- Welcome and rituals at the Sunday Masses during the preparation phase
- A practice for the ceremony in the church
- A retreat afternoon for First Holy Communion

Enrolment for the First Sacrament

When enrolling your child for the first Sacrament in the program, please:

- Complete on-line enrolment via the parish website (below)
- Email to angela@chatswoodparish.org.au
 - A copy of your child's baptismal certificate
 - A photograph of your child with the child's name noted in the email, for display in the church during the program. (This is optional)

Please Note: There is a Fee to enrol in each of the 3 Sacraments to cover the cost of books, resources, medals, certificates etc..

Typically 100-120 children prepare for each Sacrament. Your co-operation by providing information by the specified due date makes the administration task of the program much easier.

If for a good reason, you cannot complete your enrolment by the due date and need to make alternative arrangements, please contact:

Angela Hague

Pastoral Associate for Children's Sacraments

Phone: 02 9410 9033 or e-mail: angela@chatswoodparish.org.au

Enrolment for each Sacrament is completed when all of the above information is received and a parent has attended the parent meeting for that Sacrament.

Enrolment for subsequent Sacraments

When enrolling your child for subsequent Sacraments, please :

- Complete the on-line enrolment via the parish website when enrolment for the Sacrament has opened.

Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish of Chatswood 94 Archer Street Chatswood NSW 2067 PO Box 1446 Chatswood NSW 2057	Phone: 02 9410 9000 Fax: 02 9412 1282 e-mail: office@chatswoodparish.org.au Website: www.chatswood.dbb.org.au
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