

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWS** Term 3 Week 4 - 8 August 2017

## The Principal's Piece - Philip Ledlin

Dear Parents

Next week on Tuesday 15 August we will celebrate one of the most important feast days of the liturgical year, "The Feast of the Assumption". It is so important that it is called a Holy Day of Obligation. In Australia, there are only two Holy Days of Obligation: Christmas Day and The Assumption (NB Easter Sunday is the most important day in the liturgical year, but it naturally always falls on a Sunday)

The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the Church's belief that at the end of Mary's life she was taken up, body and soul, into Heaven where she is now the Mother of the Church as well as the Mother of God.

Over 30 years ago I read a story about Mary that I will treasure as one of my all-time favourites; some of the exact details have become a bit "sketchy" over the years, but it relates to the Marion apparitions that have allegedly been occurring in Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina (Apparitions commenced in 1981 and Mary, supposedly, continues to appear there today – Pope John Paul 11 and Pope Francis have encouraged the faithful to aspire to all Mary's messages of Medjugorje).

The Story: Once, when one of the five visionary children had to go to hospital, Mary continued to appear to her. One morning in hospital, Mary was with the visionary child and she told her that Jesus was coming to visit her later that morning. Naturally the visionary child was overcome with excitement. Mary helped her tidy the room and then Mary left her alone. The child's overwhelming excitement continued for a few minutes in the silence of her room, and then the hospital chaplain visited with Holy Communion ... Ahhh, Jesus did indeed visit!

Jesus will be appearing in Chatswood at the following times: (15.8.17):

- 6.45am Our Lady of Dolours Church
- 8am **St Pius X College Chapel**
- 9am Our Lady of Dolours Church
- 12.15pm Our Lady of Dolours Church
- 7.30pm Our Lady of Dolours Church

Wonderful News: (Invitation to join our Parish Pastoral Council):

Last week, I included a note in the school newsletter encouraging OLD parents to consider joining our Parish Pastoral Council. I am so pleased to announce that I've passed one parent's name on to Fr Paul already. It will be terrific if we can have two OLD parents represented on the council, so please come to see me if you'd like more information. This is a really exciting opportunity that will serve to connect our school and parish in such a positive way. The Pastoral Council meets in the evening once each month and discusses important spiritual, pastoral and administrative matters to help 'grow' our parish community. Thank you.

Strategic Planning 2018 onwards ... "2020 Vision" - Last week, school staff met to commence the groundwork for our Strategic Planning 2018-2020. Subsequent meetings will be held throughout Terms 3 and 4. Importantly, parents will be engaged in this process in the coming months.

## COMING EVENTS

### August

- Tues 8** St Mary of the Cross  
Feast Day (Mary  
MacKillop Feast Day)
- Fri 18** North Shore Cluster  
Athletics Carnival  
(Narrabeen)
- Fri 18** P & F Toy Upcycling Day
- Sun 20** Parish Family Mass—  
Year 3
- Tues 29** Diocesan Athletics  
Carnival (Narrabeen)
- Thur 31** Fathers' Day Stall  
(organised by Yrs 5 & 6)

### September

- Fri 1** Fathers' Day Breakfast  
and Mass (Breakfast  
organised by Kindy)
- Wed 6** Confirmation Practice
- Fri 8** P & F Mufti Day  
  
Polding Athletics  
Carnival (Newcastle)  
  
Confirmation
- Fri 15** Our Lady of Dolours  
Feast Day
- Mon 18** Creative Arts Festival
- Tue 19** Creative Arts Festival
- Wed 20** Writers' Festival  
20 to 23 Sept
- Fri 22** Last Day Term 3

**EPP CHECKING THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE  
UNDER 'NEWS & EVENTS - EVENTS FOR  
POSSIBLE CHANGES TO DATES  
[www.olddbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olddbb.catholic.edu.au)**

## The Principal's Piece (Cont.)

### **OLD School Band - PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – Wednesday August 16, 6pm**

*– (Following is a message from Teaching Services)*

All/any parents are warmly invited to the Band Information Evening Wednesday 16 August 6pm. This will be a great opportunity to meet your child's new band conductor, Miss Mari Jaatinen and to give you a chance to ask any questions you may have about the transition and the future of the band program at OLD. We will be meeting **in the school library** from 6pm and we expect to be finished before 7pm.

If possible, please leave your children at home; most of what we discuss will not be relevant to them directly. We do understand if this is not possible, so if they do come along please bring an activity to keep them amused. Thank you.

**Health Message:** - Parents are reminded to check their children's hair regularly for nits. For more information please click on the following [link](#).

### **SOS ... Do you have publishing, formatting and typeset skills?**

Parents will be aware that all children in all classes at OLD K-6 are in the process of writing a book that will be published/printed as a series at the end of this term - (NB there will be 13 stories developed by our 13 classes). Just FYI, the main character is Archer Ferguson and the stories are all about his adventures in Chatswood. The books will be launched at OLD's inaugural Writers' Festival at the end of this term.

SOS: If you have publishing, formatting and typeset skills, you are invited to have a chat to Mrs Alix McKittrick or me (Philip) asap. Thank you!

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - Kirsty Thorpe

### **Sports-a-thon class prizes**

Congratulations to all the students who won individual prizes for their fundraising efforts, we thank you for your efforts and hope you thoroughly enjoy your prizes. A big congratulations to **KG** who won a mufti day and an ice-block each for being the class with the largest amount fundraised and for returning their fundraising notes in the fastest. They will have their mufti day and ice-block treat this *Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August*. Congratulations to **2B** who won the prize for the most number of children who fundraised. They will also have their movie afternoon this *Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August*. A special lunch with Mr Ledlin and myself will be held *Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August* for the students who raised the most amount of money in their class. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute to the success of the 2017 Sports-a-thon.

### **Creative Arts Festival**

It is just over 6 weeks until our annual Creative Arts Festival and the students have been busy practising their performances. This year our Festival is based on the magical world of books. Throughout the performances you will be taken on a journey through fictional lands, you will meet amazing characters and be entertained by a myriad of intriguing themes.

The students will be performing in either the Concert Hall or the Theatre in the Concourse, Chatswood. Below are the dates of the performances and the scheduled performance evenings for the classes. Each evening, the performances will begin at 7pm.

- MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> September (Concert Hall)-Band ,Junior & Senior choir, KG, 1G, 2G, Year 3, Year 5, Year 6
- TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> September (Theatre) - Band, Junior & Senior choir, KB, 1B, 2B, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

Tickets will soon be on sale through the ticketek website. There will also be an opportunity for you to pre-order a DVD of the performances directly from the videographers website. Information about purchasing tickets and ordering DVDs will be released in the coming weeks. Information regarding costumes, arrival and pick up times, band and choir performances will also be distributed by classroom teachers in the coming weeks.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Kathy Gray

### Term 3 Social Justice Focus: Stewardship of the Earth!

This term, the school community and students at O.L.D. will be involved in a weekly focus around caring for their environment:

Week 4: Plastic Awareness Week

Week 5: Saving Power Awareness Week (Power-Rangers) and MAG Class Presentations.

Week 6: Enviro Tips

Week 7: Tree Day – dress in green and brown/donate a gold coin for Catholic Mission

Week 8: Paper Awareness Week

Week 9: Mindfulness Prayers

Week 10: Write prayers and apply Mercy Values TO THE PRAYERS.

Also, the Year 6 MAG will be doing a presentation to all classes to include the theme Stewardship of the Earth. Our class prayers will also focus on the Mercy Values that we have focused upon and apply these to our Earth. We will also incorporate an environmental focus in our R.E. Modules.

### This week's focus is: Plastic Awareness Week

It's in our homes, our offices, our vehicles, our yards, our playgrounds. We use it to package food, bottle products, bag produce, make dinnerware and utensils, make toys etc.

Plastics have undoubtedly helped us to manufacture, package and ship goods more easily, for less money, and in some cases more safely than ever before.

But, plastics pose a significant threat to our planet as well.

Part of the problem is plastic itself. The very qualities that make it an adaptable and durable product to use, also make plastic an environmental nightmare. You see, plastics do not biodegrade. Instead they photodegrade - breaking down under exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays into smaller and smaller pieces.

Bottom line: with the exception of the small amount that has been incinerated, virtually every piece of plastic that was ever made still exists in some shape or form.

### How you can help:

- Choose to reuse when it comes to shopping bags and bottled water. Cloth bags and metal or glass reusable bottles are available locally at great prices.
- Refuse single-serving packaging, excess packaging, straws and other 'disposable' plastics.
- Reduce everyday plastics such as sandwich bags and juice cartons by replacing them with a reusable lunch bag/box that includes a thermos.
- Bring your to-go mug with you to the coffee shop, smoothie shop or restaurants that let you use them. A great way to reduce lids, plastic cups and/or plastic-lined cups.
- Spread the word. Talk to your family and friends about why it is important to Rise Above Plastics!



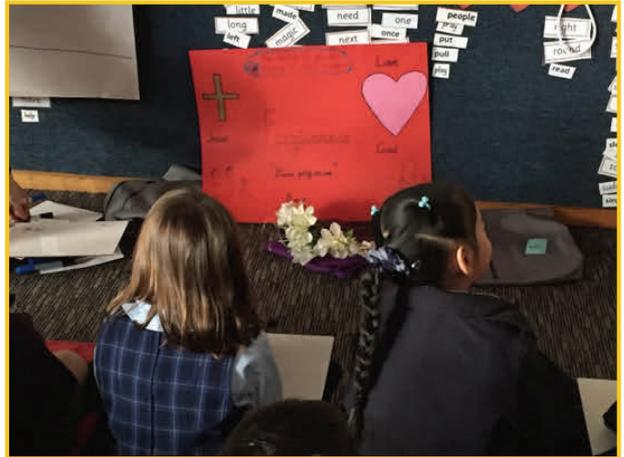
## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - (Cont.)

### Year 6 Mercy Action Group and Mercy College: Class Mercy Value Presentations

Last Wednesday the Year 6 MAG and Mercy students presented to all classes a presentation about each class' given Mercy value of: *love, forgiveness, respect, compassion, excellence, hospitality and integrity*. It was an important initiative to keep the Mercy spirit alive in our school because it represents our history and connection to Saint Catherine McAuley.



Kindy Class Mercy Value: LOVE



Year 1 Class Mercy Value: FORGIVENESS



Year 2 Class Mercy Value: RESPECT



Year 3 Class Mercy Value: COMPASSION



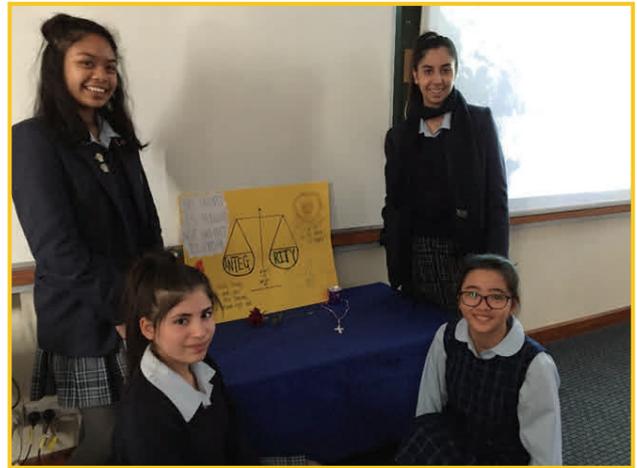
Year 4 Class Mercy Value: EXCELLENCE

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - (Cont.)

### Year 6 Mercy Action Group and Mercy College (cont.)



Year 5 Class Mercy Value: HOSPITALITY



Year 6 Class Mercy Value: INTEGRITY

### Blue Whale Theatre – ‘A Bright Light in the Darkness’ - The Catherine McAuley Story

On Friday, all classes had the pleasure of watching a play based on the real life story of Catherine McAuley (the founder of the Mercy Nuns and O.L.D.'s Mercy heritage). The play was a creative way to educate the students about their school's founder and Mercy heritage. The play was an excellent production which brought a tear to the eye of many students. Catherine's life had much sadness and yet she continued to work for those less fortunate... especially the women and children in poverty in Dublin. She also helped the plight of men in poverty by her Mercy nuns becoming known as the 'walking nuns,' helping the homeless and sick on the streets in Dublin.



5 Year old Catherine and her father James



Catherine and her sister Mary



The beginning of the Mercy Nuns



## Year 3 Mass!

The Catholic community of Chatswood invites  
Year 3 children and their families to  
A special celebration for Year 3 children during our

### 9am Family Mass

Sunday 20 Aug 2017

A family-friendly celebration at  
Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church  
94 Archer St Chatswood

### **Year 3 Cake Stall**

Please bring a plate/cake to share

The money raised from the cake stall,  
will go towards the Children and Families activities in the parish.

Please contact Margaret Chan for enquiries about the cake stall.

Email: [margaret.chan@internode.on.net](mailto:margaret.chan@internode.on.net)

Toward the end of Mass the children will receive a special blessing.

After Mass we will have **morning tea** on the Forecourt

**All welcome!**

## FROM THE PARISH (cont.)

### Try Alpha

Alpha offers freedom to discuss the big questions and their meaning without judgment.

Everyone is welcome.

Alpha goes to the basics of Christianity. It's for everyone with questions; for those with faith or those wondering what they believe. Each week, Alpha explores the questions we experience in life and the ways people have responded. Each week we begin with sharing food. Alpha becomes a place to talk openly and without judgment. When people feel at home they can share all kinds of life experiences. This open-minded approach allows people to develop friendships. These friendships build trust with those they talk to over a number of weeks.

For more information about:

- **Wednesday** evening 23 August 6.45, contact Melissa 0402 892 852.
- **Monday** morning 28 August at 10, contact Ditas 0405 999 510



# AWARD WINNERS

## Week 3



# Book Week 2017 - Next Week

Week 5 - 14th August -19<sup>th</sup> August



The theme for this year is **ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE**.

## Program for the week

### Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August.

- 8:45am: Book Week Assembly
- 8:50am: Trivia in the playground. Could you please make sure your child is at school on time.
- Author visit from Anna Fienberg - each class will spend 1hr listening to Anna about her book and the life of being an author.

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August- Library Borrowing Day K-6

The whole school will have a 20 minute borrowing slot. Please could you make sure students have their book bags on this day?

### Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August K-6

Author / Illustrator visit from Matt Stanton. Each class will hear his humour and watch him illustrate from his new book '**Funny Kid as President**'

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August K-6

#### Book Week Parade.

Time: 8:45am -9:30am

Each student is asked to dress up as a book character. The theme is '**Escape to Everywhere**' so the scope is wide. Children are encouraged to carry the book to match their character.



**Please note children will stay in their costume all day, so make sure they wear comfortable shoes.** After the parade the Library will be open for children to donate a book to the Library.

**All books will be \$10 (it is a donation towards the book)**

A book plaque will be put into each donated book and the children will be able to borrow them immediately.

If parents can't come, children can bring \$10 in an envelope on the day **marked Library Donation** and I will help them choose a suitable book.

I hope it will be a really enjoyable Book Week for everyone at school.

Regards,

Mrs Louise Murphy

Teacher/Librarian.

## Community News



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**SERIOUS. FUN.**

# LOWES

EXCLUSIVE OFFER TO  
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\*Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only. Styles and colours may vary from store to store. No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 5% discount. Excludes gift cards. Offer ends midnight (AEST) 10/8/17. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.