

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWS Term 4 Week 9 - 5 December 2017

The Principal's Piece - Philip Ledlin

Dear Parents and Friends,

Last weekend's gospel had a very important warning for all of us to tune-in to.

I sense you might appreciate the following story that packs a powerful message

Hachiko might be the most faithful dog in the world. Every day he was on hand to see his owner go off to work. Every afternoon at 4pm when the train pulled into Japan's Shibuya Station, Hachiko was there to greet his owner. After some pats and a warm hug, they would walk home together. One day, Hachiko's owner didn't get off the train. He had died at work and never returned. But Hachiko still waited in fervent hope. The next day at 4pm, the dog returned to the train station to await his master's return.

For the next ten years, Hachiko never gave up hope. He continued to live with his owner's family and went to the train station every day. When Hachiko died the local townspeople erected a bronze statue of him and put it at the spot where he always waited.

Since the beginning, the early prophets foretold the coming of a messiah. Just like Hachiko, we still wait for the return of Jesus.

Last weekend's Gospel calls us to be vigilant and faithful, like Hachiko. We are warned: "Stay awake."



COMING EVENTS

December

- Wed 6** OLD School Swimming Carnival
- OLD's Vision & School Improvement Plan Meeting 5:30pm
- Band Concert 6pm
- Fri 8** Christmas Mufti Clothes Day/Gold Coin Donation (note change of date)
- OLD Christmas Evening 5:30pm
- Wed 13** Band performing Christmas Carols at Chatswood Westfield.
- Fri 15** Last Day Term 4
- Christmas Liturgy in the Church at 10:15am

January

- Mon 22** Enrolment for Reconciliation opens (please click on the following [link](#) to access information)

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.

Carols and Movie Evening at OLD – “Starry Starry Night” – this coming Friday 8/12:

This coming Friday evening, commencing 5.30pm, the school will be hosting the inaugural “Starry Starry Night Carols and Movie Evening”. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together for the last time this year and share the Christmas spirit!

There has been a lot of excitement about the event in the playground and an overwhelming response from our families. We hope that every OLD family can make it and all are encouraged to attend and join the fun!

Following is the exciting agenda:

Time	Event
5:00 pm	OLD School Band sets up (please do not arrive before 5pm)
5:30 pm	School Band performs
5:45 pm	School Choir performs
6:00 pm	Classes perform one Christmas carol each
6:30 pm	Visit from Santa
6:45 pm	Picnic meal on the playground
7:30 pm	Outdoor Movie Screening – “Home Alone”

Important notes:

1. If you haven't done so already, please get online and buy your ticket through Qkr! or return your form in the P&F box.
2. Bring a chair to sit on – and a picnic rug. You may bring low level chairs, beanbags or inflatables for your comfort, tall back or high chairs will need to go towards the back to ensure everyone can see.
3. Bring a picnic dinner and/or have a sausage sizzle!
4. **No alcohol is to be brought to this function** - (This is a Catholic Schools Office requirement - for events like our 'Starry Starry Night Carols Evening')

Thank you to the fabulous parents co-ordinating this exciting initiative! Helpers are required on the night so if you can assist please log on to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a45ada72ba2f49-starry> and/or contact your class parent for more information.

Several important safety matters (WHS matters) regarding the evening:

- ◆ Parents are responsible for total supervision of their children for the total duration of the event (NB: PARENTS MUST NOT DROP THEIR CHILD/REN OFF AND LEAVE)
- ◆ No alcohol is permitted at the event
- ◆ All families must leave the school site after the outdoor movie screening (approx. 9pm)
- ◆ The play equipment is out of bounds all evening
- ◆ Students are not permitted to play any running games
- ◆ Parents are reminded about hot beverages etc and safety - (students do not need to have any hot beverages)
- ◆ No vehicles will be permitted on the school grounds during the evening
- ◆ No smoking is permitted on the school grounds
- ◆ Classrooms, hall, library etc are all out of bounds
- ◆ Evacuation routes will be clear (NB Kirk St double gates open at all times and Archer St exit area open at all times too)

The Principal's Piece - Cont.

Important note for students attending After School Care on Friday afternoon:

If your child is attending After School Care this coming Friday afternoon, and if they are also attending the Carols Evening, you can write a letter to Melissa at After School Care asking for her to walk your child to the performing area just before the start time of 5.30pm. Please note that, if you do this, parents are expected to be 'on duty' re supervision from 6pm onwards. Thank you.

Student Leadership at OLD:

Over the coming two weeks, we will sincerely thank and acknowledge the excellent leadership of our 2017 student leaders. Over the coming two weeks, we will also be welcoming in our new student leaders for 2018.

From the outset, I make it crystal clear that every 2018 Yr6 student is a leader with a critical role. Importantly, every 2018 Yr6 student is vitally expected to set an outstanding example for the younger students to follow in the spirit of Mercy.

Following are the Yr6 2018 student leadership roles - (Congratulations one and all):

School Captain: Lara A

School Vice-Captain: Gwenaelle L

Sport Captains (Galilee House – Green): Lillian N and Alyana D

Sport Captains (Cana House – Red): Mikaela A and Lindsay A

Sport Captains (Nazareth House – Gold): Charlotte H and Jake L

Sport Captains (Bethlehem House – Blue): Mia B and Chloe T

Music Leaders:

Sophia J Estelle C

Emma C

Library Leaders:

Zachary R Lucas S

Ryan C Ciana G

Vincy T

Liturgy Leaders:

Gabrielle H Kaelyn A

Mercy Action Group (MAG) Leaders:

Ilona S Sophie M

Lucinda S Isabelle V

Panny L

ICLT Leaders:

Christophe D Riley S

Ashley P Hope B

Ethan T Benedict S

Environment Leaders:

Audrey A Sabrina K

Isra S Mia B

The Principal's Piece - Cont.

Important date change re Mufti/Gold Coin Day:

A P+F Mufti / Gold Coin day was set for next week in the diary ... BUT, this has now been brought forward to **this coming Friday 8 December**. Students are encouraged to come to school this coming Friday 8/12 in mufti that has a Christmas theme - (with a gold coin too, for the P+F fundraiser). Indeed, let's remember that our 'Starry Starry Carols Night' is on this coming Friday evening too!

Meeting - TOMORROW: School Vision and our School Improvement Plan 2018-2020 – 6.12.17 5.30pm

On Wednesday 6 December 5.30pm, Parents and Friends are invited to an information and discussion meeting regarding OLD's Vision and School Improvement Plan 2018-2020 - School Library.

Parents who attended the recent P+F AGM will recall that I tabled quite a few Vision/School Improvement Plan matters that evening. At this up and coming meeting, I will simply be able to put forward more detail and 'open the floor' for conversation.

NB THIS 5.30PM MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE 30 MINS BEFORE THE BAND PERFORMANCE EVENING THAT COMMENCES AT 6PM

Staffing notice:

At the end of Term 4 this year, Mrs Mary Lou Claremont and Mrs Stella Gemperle (both of our Kindergarten 2017 teachers) will be leaving OLD.

Mary Lou has made a big decision to leave her full-time teaching load and dedicate more time to assisting within her family, and Stella has accepted a teaching position at The Kings School, Parramatta.

I sincerely thank Mary Lou and Stella for their contribution to OLD, and I wish them every best blessing as they go forward to new adventures.

Semester 2 2017 Student Reports:

This coming Friday 8/12, parents/guardians will receive their child/ren's school report for Semester 2 via email.

If you would like to make an appointment to meet with your child/ren's teacher to discuss report/s, please contact the school.

Orientation to new classes

On Thursday 14 December in the afternoon, students will have 'orientation to classes for 2018'. In this session, students will meet their classroom teacher for 2018.

Last school day of 2017:

On the last day of the school year, Friday 15/12, students K-6 will celebrate with a whole school liturgy in our church from 10.15am -11.15am – (Parents are warmly invited).

At this liturgy, we will also have a Y6 leadership handover ceremony - (Please note that the official commissioning of our Y6 2018 leaders is done at the Opening School Mass in early Term 1 next year).

After this 'end of year' liturgy (ie at 11.15am), students are permitted to go home with their parents/guardians if they have WRITTEN PERMISSION – Please provide this ASAP.

Students are not permitted to go home with a parent other than their own unless they have WRITTEN PERMISSION. Please ensure permission notes/letters are delivered to your child's teacher ASAP – thank you.

Finally, parents must rest assured that supervision is provided at school up until 3.30pm on Friday 15/12.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - Kirsty Thorpe

Infants Road Safety days (Week 10)

Following on from the Road Safety play the children watched at Mercy College last week, all the children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be involved in a bike/scooter safety lesson at school. We will be inviting the students to bring in their bikes and scooters to school (helmets are compulsory). If your child does not have a bike or scooter or is unable to ride one, it is ok, we can either share or give them other fun jobs during the day.

During the lesson students will learn about road signs, how to cross at zebra crossing and lights and how to ride safely on footpaths. They will also complete a fun obstacle course. The sessions will involve practical lessons in the playground and theoretical lessons in the classroom.

When students arrive at school, all bikes and scooters will be 'parked' in a special OLD parking area in the playground (valet parking will be unavailable). 😊

Students wear sports uniform on their bike/scooter safety day.

Please see below which days each class will be doing the bike safety lesson (Your child only needs to bring in their bike/scooter and helmet on the designated day below):

Monday 11th December: Year 2 (9-10.30; 2B 11.20-12.30; 2G)

Tuesday 12th December: Kindergarten (9-10.30; KB 11.20-12.30; KG)

Wednesday 13th December: Year 1 (9-10.30; 1B 11.20-12.30; 1G)

Our day will be an even bigger success with some helpers, so if you would like to help during these days please let Miss Thorpe know via email. Fingers crossed the weather stays on our side too!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Kathy Gray

Christmas Liturgy

On the last day of school, Friday December 15, the students will participate in a Christmas Liturgy in the Church at 10:15 am. This will be led by our Year 6 students and every class will be singing a song to tell the story of Christmas. It will be a wonderful way to end the year together and celebrate the Christmas journey. Sadly, we will also be fare-welling Fr Paul. We hope you can make it to this celebration as a sign of support for our amazing school community and parish priest.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - (cont.)

Year 6 Parish Mass – Class Mass and Graduation Ceremony

Thank you to the many Year 6 students who came along to the Youth Mass on Sunday afternoon. The Parish prayed for the Year 6's as they journey into the future...that they will be safely held within God's loving care.

Adrian, the leader of the Parish Youth Group, said the Prayer of St Brendan to the children:

*Beyond these shores – Into the darkness
Beyond these shores – This boat may sail
And if this is the way then there will be – A path across this sea,
And if I sail beyond the farthest ocean
Or lose myself in the depths below
Wherever I may go Your love surrounds me
For You have been before
Beyond these shores.*



Advent

Advent began on Sunday. Please enjoy our Advent display in the foyer. The Beram family has donated the beautiful wooden Nativity. It was actually bought in Bethlehem and the Nativity is made from the wood grown in Bethlehem. This is a VERY special gift! And of course the Nativity reminds us of the love, joy and peace of Christmas.



FROM THE PARISH

Children's Christmas Eve Mass

Practices and a rehearsal;

- Sunday 3rd December First Practice – Blue Room @ 10am
- Sunday 10th December Second Practice – Blue Room @ 10am
- Saturday 23rd December – Church @ 3.30pm

Any enquiries about the Children's Christmas Mass please contact Angela in the parish office on 9410 9033 or angela@chatswoodparish.org.au

Christmas Zumba Night with Kathy Manlaghit - 10th December

THE 9AM CHILDREN AND FAMILY GROUP would like to invite everyone to a "Christmas Zumba night" on Sunday 10 Dec at 7:00pm with, as instructor, our well known parishioner Kathy Manlaghit. Tickets are \$10 per person. Zumba is a fitness exercise for people of any age. We can all do it. It's a nice way to join together as community. The money raised will go to the Orphanage in Maubara - Timor Leste and also to the new Nativity Scene for the forecourt .

If Zumba exercise is not your thing, every Sunday after the 9am Mass there is a Christmas Stall to purchase Christmas cookies in special jars, candles, etc. Or simply just give a donation for the orphanage in Maubara - Timor Leste and also for the new Nativity scene for the forecourt.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Every Sunday at 9am Mass except when the Children's Choir is on.

Young children to process in, move to the Blue Room to listen to Gospel and engage in craft activities, and rejoin the Mass before Offertory.

Pixie Dust O.L.D. Playgroup

Friday Pixie Dust O.L.D. Play Group runs from 10:00 to 12:00 at the Bishop Barry Room. The doors are open from 9:30. All children from baby to 5 years of age with parents, grandparents and/or carers are welcomed. For more information contact Gemma Hill 0412 333 637



Swimming Carnival - Wednesday, 6th December

Please see attached the Event List for tomorrow's swimming carnival. A list of jobs for parent helpers was sent home yesterday to any parent who offered to help. If you would still like to volunteer to assist, please see Mr Martin on the day.

AWARD WINNERS

Week 8



TERM DATES 2018

TERM	TERM BEGINS	TERM ENDS
1	<p>Monday 29 January Staff Development Day</p> <p>Tuesday 30 January Assessment day for timetabled individual (1:1) assessments K-6 N.B. small change to description.</p> <p>Wednesday 31 January Assessment day for timetabled individual (1:1) assessments K-6</p> <p>Thursday 1 February First Day of 2018 for students Yrs <u>1-6 ONLY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment day for timetabled individual (1:1) assessments <u>K ONLY</u> <p>Friday 2 February First Day for K2018 – (Half day only - until 12pm)</p> <p>Monday 5 February -First Full Day for K2018 – (Usual 3pm finish to the day)</p>	Friday 13 April
2	Monday 30 April	Friday 6 July
3	Monday 23 July	Friday 28 September
4	Monday 15 October	Wednesday 19 December



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHATSWOOD

SWIMMING CARNIVAL – WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2017

EVENT LIST

1.	8 BOYS & GIRLS	50M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	APROX 10.00am
2.	9 BOYS & GIRLS	50M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	
3.	10 BOYS & GIRLS	50M FREESTYLE	2 RACES	
4.	11 BOYS & GIRLS	50 M FREESTYLE	2 RACES	
5.	12 BOYS & GIRLS (Yr 5)	50 M FREESTYLE	3 RACES	
6.	12 GIRLS (Yr 6)	50 M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	
7.	13 BOYS & GIRLS	50 M FREESTYLE	2 RACES	
8.	YR 2 BOYS & GIRLS	25M FREESTYLE	3 RACES	APROX 10.30am
9.	YR 3 BOYS & GIRLS	25M FREESTYLE	5 RACES	
10.	YR 4 BOYS & GIRLS	25M FREESTYLE	5 RACES	
11.	YR 5 BOYS & GIRLS	25M FREESTYLE	3 RACES	
12.	YR 6 BOYS & GIRLS	25M FREESTYLE	4 RACES	
13.	8 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	APROX 11.00am
14.	9 BOYS & GIRLS	50 M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	
15.	10 BOYS & GIRLS	50 M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	
16.	11 BOYS & GIRLS	50 M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	
17.	12 & 13 BOYS	50M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	
18.	12 GIRLS	50M BREASTSTROKE	2 RACES	
19.	13 GIRLS	50M BREASTSTROKE	1 RACE	
20.	YR 2 BOYS & GIRLS	15M KICKBOARD	4 RACES	APROX 11.30am
21.	YR 3 BOYS & GIRLS	15M KICKBOARD	3 RACES	
22.	YR 4 & 5 BOYS & GIRLS	15M KICKBOARD	2 RACES	
23.	YR 6 GIRLS	15M KICKBOARD	1 RACE	
24.	8 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	1 RACE	APROX 11.50am
25.	9 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	2 RACES	
26.	10 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	2 RACES	
27.	11 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	2 RACES	
28.	12 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	2 RACES	
29.	13 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BACKSTROKE	1 RACE	
30.	8, 9, 10 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BUTTERFLY	1 RACE	APROX 12.30pm
31.	11 & 12 BOYS & GIRLS	50M BUTTERFLY	1 RACE	
32.	8,9,10 BOYS & GIRLS	100M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	APROX 12.45pm
33.	11 BOYS & GIRLS	100M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	
34.	12 GIRLS	100M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	
35.	13 BOYS & GIRLS	100M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	
36.	YR 6 STUDENTS Vs TEACHERS	50M FREESTYLE	1 RACE	APROX 1.05pm

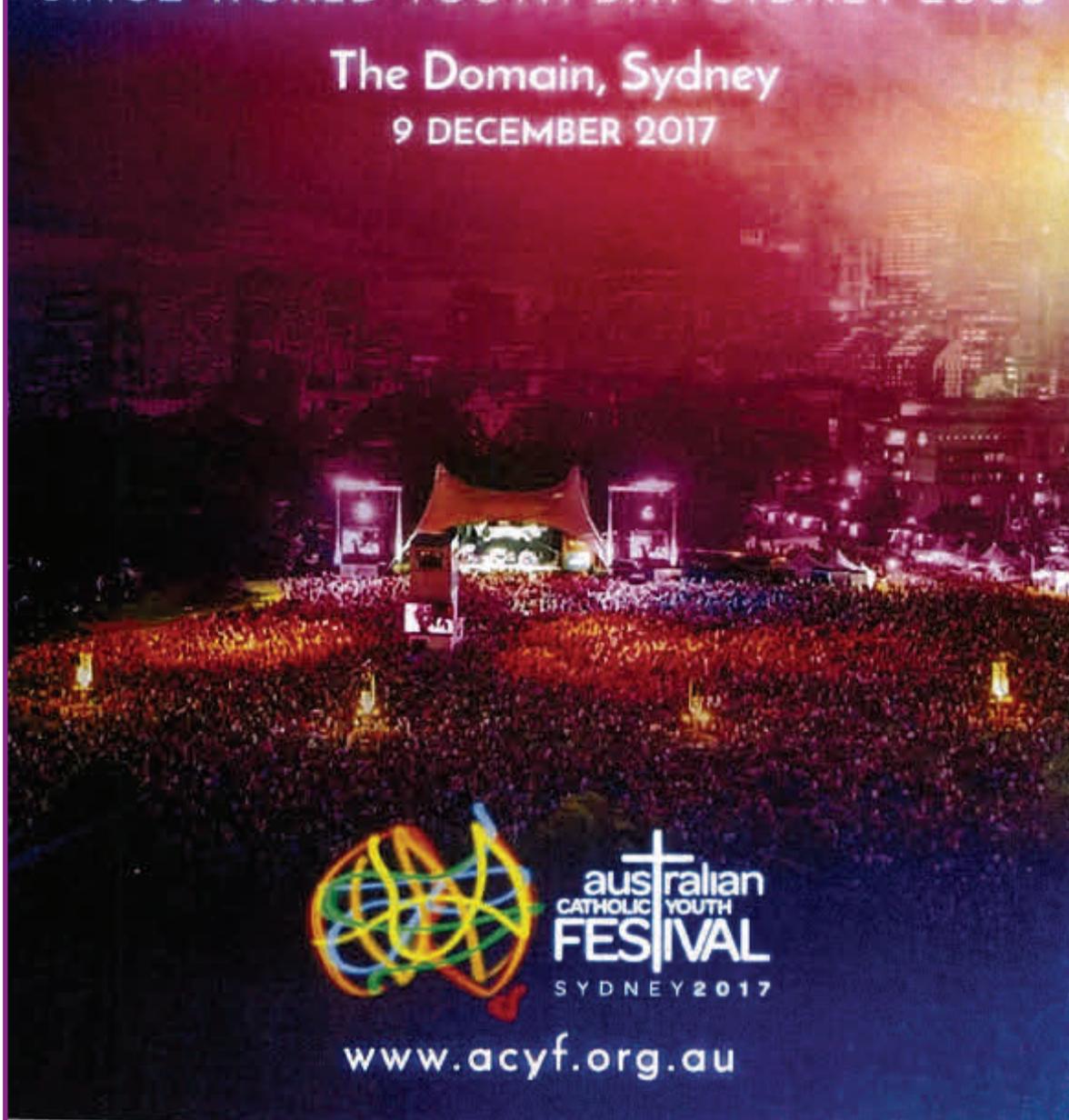
BUSES LEAVE LANE COVE AQUATIC CENTRE BEGINNING 1.30pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO
AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST CATHOLIC

Mass

SINCE WORLD YOUTH DAY SYDNEY 2008

The Domain, Sydney
9 DECEMBER 2017



australian
CATHOLIC YOUTH
FESTIVAL
SYDNEY 2017

www.acyf.org.au