

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWS** Term 1 Week 3 - 13 February 2018

## The Principal's Piece - Philip Ledlin

### A special story at the start of Lent – "Two Pots"

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself and I want to apologise to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house.

Because of my flaws you have to do all of this work and you don't get full value from your efforts." the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologised to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Perhaps during this Lenten season that commences tomorrow, we can all take some time to be appreciative of all that God has made us to be - flaws and all. Lent is indeed a time of prayer and reflection; a time to deeply consider what God is calling us to 'be' – our true self. I particularly love the story above, because Jesus too often gets the best out of us via our flaws and humble failings. Let's not be too hard on ourselves over this Lenten period; perhaps we need to sometimes consider celebrating our shortcomings. (continued over)

## COMING EVENTS

### February

- Mon 12** Parent/Teacher  
**To** Interviews for Yrs 1-6  
**Fri 16** only
- Tues 13** Shrove Tuesday  
(Pancake Day at school)
- Wed 14** Ash Wednesday  
Kindergarten  
Information Evening  
6pm-6.30pm
- Mon 19** Monday weekly Lenten  
Reflection commences  
2.30-3.00pm.  
Principal's address 6pm  
and P & F General  
Meeting 6.30-7.30pm
- Fri 23** Friday weekly Lenten  
Reflection commences  
2.30-3.00pm.

### March

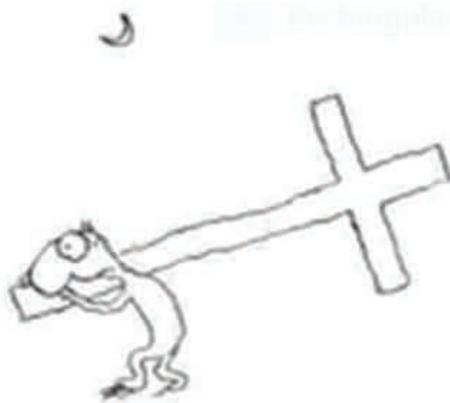
- Thur 8** "1,2,3 Magic" 9am-11am
- Fri 9** P & F "Big Night Out"
- Wed 14** "1,2,3 Magic" 9am-11am
- Sun 18** Kindergarten Blessing  
Mass 9am
- Fri 30** Good Friday

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.

All this considered, I do wish that Leunig would go a bit easier on himself:



**What is Lent all about? ... Can you spare 2 minutes viewing a refresher course ... Check out the following link ... And yes, it's 2 minutes long:** <http://bustedhalo.com/video/ash-wednesday-in-two-minutes>

### **An exciting invitation for parents and friends to share in prayer and reflection during Lent at OLD School:**

I am so pleased to be offering parents and friends a wonderful opportunity to participate in weekly reflection times during Lent at OLD School.

What are the dates? (NB You can choose to come to either A or B below):

- **A: All Mondays in Lent (commencing 19.2.18) from 2.30pm-3pm at OLD School ... OR**
- **B: All Fridays in Lent (commencing 23.2.18) from 2.30pm-3pm at OLD School.**

Who will be leading the sessions?

- Fr Jim will lead the Monday sessions and Gail Gill will lead the Friday sessions.

Please RSVP/email to the school office if you would like to attend all, or some, of the sessions, and indicate the most suitable day/s you prefer.

I look forward to meeting with you in prayer and reflection over the Lenten period.

### **Diocesan Initiative: "The Light is On"**

*The Light is On* is an exciting initiative this year for Lent that seeks to welcome people to our churches for quiet time, prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Churches around the Diocese of Broken Bay will be open on Friday evenings in Lent, 16, 23 February, 2, 9, 16, 23 March from 7pm – 8pm. This initiative allows people to make a space for God during Lent where they can bring their hopes and concerns, pray for themselves and their families, and find healing and peace. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at this time. All are most welcome.

Further information and resources, including the list of participating churches, can be found at:

[www.thelightisonforyou.org.au](http://www.thelightisonforyou.org.au).

For any queries contact Pina Bernard, Catholic Life & Faith Formation, Office for Evangelisation 9847 0474

[faith.formation@dbb.org.au](mailto:faith.formation@dbb.org.au).

## The Principal's Piece - Cont.

### **"123 Magic" is back again for 2018 ... Attention everyone, particularly all Kindergarten families:**

Last year, OLD hosted the wonderful parenting programme, "123 Magic", and it's coming back again for 2018.

This year, we are particularly targeting all our new Kindergarten families, but anyone and everyone is most warmly welcome.

The programme runs over 2 mornings and, put simply, I view it as one of the best parent education initiatives I've ever participated in.

Please contact/email the school office to register ... And yes, it's free ... And yes, it's at OLD School!

#### Dates:

**Thursday            8 March    9-10.30am**

**Wednesday        14 March   9-10.30am**

### **Reminder: Parents and Friends' General Meeting and Principal's Address:**

All parents/friends are invited to the Principal's Address on Monday 19 February 6pm-6.30pm in the School Hall, 'Harrington Hall'. Immediately after this address, everyone is warmly invited to follow through to the Parents and Friends' General Meeting 6.30pm-7.30pm.

The principal's address will include a presentation on the following (NB 6pm-6.30pm 19.2.18 – Harrington Hall):

- Brief outline of our new school Strategic Plan 2018 - 2020
- Brief outline of our 2018 School Improvement Plan
- Parent engagement/involvement in 2018 and beyond
- Connection to Parish (NB we warmly welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr Jim)
- Important procedures at OLD School (ie communication, uniform, attendance etc)

### **RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REVIEW**

An Expert Panel has been appointed by the Prime Minister to examine whether Australian law adequately protects the human right to freedom of religion. It is vital that as many voices as possible are heard on this important issue.

**Submissions are due by 14 February 2018** and can be made online, by email or by mail.

Online: <https://pmc.gov.au/domestic-policy/religious-freedom-review/submission>

Email: [religiousfreedom@pmc.gov.au](mailto:religiousfreedom@pmc.gov.au)

Mail:

The Expert Panel on Religious Freedom

C/O Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

PO Box 6500

Canberra ACT 2600

## TERM DATES 2018

TERM	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (SDD)	STUDENTS RETURN	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	LAST DAY OF TERM
<b>1</b>	Tuesday 3 April - <b>Pupil Free Day</b>		Friday 30 March - Good Friday Monday 2 April - Easter Monday	Friday 13 April
<b>2</b>		Monday 30 April	Monday 11 June - Queen's Birthday	Friday 6 July
<b>3</b>	Monday 23 July - <b>Pupil Free Day</b>	Tuesday 24 July		Friday 28 September
<b>4</b>		Monday 15 October		Wednesday 19 December

## School

F E E S

Friendly reminder to the families who have chosen to pay monthly. Your first payment is due into the school 15 February.

Please note that Bpay payments can take up to 3 days to reach us.

### Open Day for Kindergarten 2019 (and for all other interested families too):

I encourage parents and friends to spread the word regarding OLD School's Open Day, Tuesday 15 March!



**OUR LADY OF DOLOURS**

# OPEN MORNING

## THURSDAY 15 MARCH 2018

ENROL NOW  
FOR 2019

9am - 10.30am  
Come and see what a Catholic education can offer your child.

Together we strive to make a difference as a community by embracing and celebrating the uniqueness, creativity and achievements of each individual.

School tours can also be arranged by appointment.

---

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL 94a Archer St Chatswood NSW 2067  
TEL 02 9419 2645 EMAIL [old@ddb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@ddb.catholic.edu.au)

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

Our Lady of Dolours  
Parents' Night Out  
@  
The Avenue

---

Book the babysitter  
and  
come have a night out with parents and  
friends of O.L.D

There will be food, music and some great  
lucky door prizes!!

---

Where:  
465 The Avenue  
465 Victoria Ave, Chatswood

When:  
Friday, 9th March 2018

Time:  
7.30pm till late

Cost:  
\$25 per person or \$40 per couple  
Cost includes cocktail food  
Drinks to be purchased separately

RSVP  
@kr or PGF box - 5th March 2018



## CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Our Lady of Dolours Primary School (Chatswood) is held on Thursdays from 12:40pm to 1:40pm, starting on 15 February 2018.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email [enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au](mailto:enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au) for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



The Council of Catholic School Parents is looking for a part-time **'Communications and Development Manager'**, working 3 days / week. Please click on the following [link](#) for more details.



### **ABOUT CATHOLICARE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY**

We are the social care and support agency of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Broken Bay. We help children, young people and adults to live more enriched lives. We provide quality services tailored to individual needs which take into account people's social and cultural backgrounds. With funding from both the Federal and NSW Governments and a workforce of more than 630 people, we offer:

- Children's Services including early learning and care centres, out of school hours care, vacation care, family day care and in home care
- Family Centres offering counselling, domestic and family violence support, family dispute System Notes
- Resolution and mediation, parenting and relationship education and more
- Disability services and NDIS support
- Out of Home Care including foster care and residential care services
- Hospital chaplaincy and pastoral care
- Emergency relief ... and much more. Belonging to the larger network of Catholic Social Services Australian (CSSA), we provide services to 26,000+ children, young people, individuals and families on the NSW Central Coast, North Sydney and Northern Beaches, and have been doing so since 1987. We delivered around \$38 million of care last year.