

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWS Term 2 Week 3 - 14 May 2018

The Principal's Piece

Dear Parents and Friends,

As a community, we are presently responding to a call from our Bishop, Bishop Peter Comensoli, and our Director of Schools, Mr Peter Hamill, to adopt a proven, school leadership structure that can ultimately support the best impact possible within our community as a whole; I note that the model proposed has the students and their needs at the centre of its purpose. Last week, Mike Gaffney (representing the Catholic Schools Office - CSO) addressed parents at an evening meeting where he outlined how OLD might imagine and establish a leadership structure that specifically supports OLD's needs. The common term for the new structure is an Advisory Council, and our diocesan system expects all CSO schools to adopt an Advisory Council by the end of 2018.

From the outset, I wish to stress a few facts about any Advisory Council that will exist at OLD:

It will not be managed or monitored by the CSO –(And clearly there will not be CSO representation on the council either)

We are encouraged to have strong representation on our OLD Advisory Council primarily from our parent body with the added inclusion of perhaps one staff member and one representative from the wider parish. It is important to know that students should also have input into the council, but it is not recommended they attend formal council meetings

Termly P+F General Meetings for all P+F need to continue – (We can choose to have our P+F General Meetings facilitated by our Advisory Council)

The extraordinary 'class parent' system of leaders and co-ordinators that we have in each and every class at OLD is a critical working structure that must continue to support authentic engagement and full inclusion for all parents and friends

What might authentic 'inclusion' and 'engagement' look like at OLD? (Inclusion/engagement is the number one goal I proudly value within the relative simplicity of our powerful School Vision 2018-2020: "Ignite, Innovate and Include in Mercy". The following list is by no means definitive or exhaustive, but the list grows from the simply beauty and power of a welcome smile for all ... Indeed, we do the following so well at OLD ... Is it possible to do things even better?):

Inclusion/engagement begins with a smile. This is simply about greeting our friends at school, parish and social events with joy and enthusiasm.

Inclusion/engagement is about reaching out. Stepping out from our comfort zone to say hello to a 'new face' on the playground ... and maybe inviting a newfound friend out for a coffee.

COMING EVENTS

May

Mon 14 Compulsory winter uniform

Tues 29 Discussion re Advisory Council 6:00pm

Tues 29 Term 2 P & F General Meeting 6:30pm

June

Mon 11 Queen's Birthday

July

Fri 6 Term 2 concludes

Mon 23 Pupil Free Day

KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE UNDER 'NEWS & EVENTS - EVENTS FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO DATES
w.olddbb.catholic.edu.au

[Our Lady of Dolours](#)



The Principal's Piece - Cont.

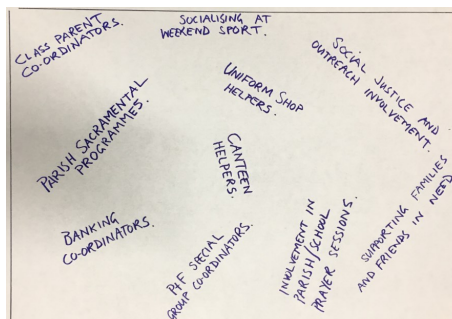
Inclusion/engagement is about awareness of others and their needs. Having an awareness of others in need and responding compassionately; this can take us 'beyond' to really searching out for, and responding to, the needs of the lonely who perhaps do not feel 'connected'. Indeed, it is about realising we're all a bit different and we all have different needs and different coping skills as we traverse the sometimes slippery slopes of life.


Inclusion/engagement is about involvement/interest in students learning and social development. Supporting the teachers and support staff, and having an active interest in all the school is striving to achieve for our students.

Inclusion/engagement needs 'doers' who inspire and organise events and occasions. Arr yes, we need generous and energetic people to rev us up and to inspire 'sparkling eyes' throughout all of our community. I sense these people are our invaluable class parent leaders and various 'P+F Co-ordinators'.

Inclusion/engagement requires a transparent, diverse 'wisdom group' of 'guides' with no hidden agenda ... a group that responds directly to the cry, the needs and the wishes of the people ... an accountable group that ultimately responds to OLD's Mission and Vision.

Inclusion/engagement perhaps looks a bit like these recent photos:





OVERALL

THIS WEEK

Rank: 1 (2)

Points: 100

Rank: 1 (2)

Points: 100

[View Info](#)
[View All Stats](#)

[Update Group](#)
[Update Group](#)
[Manager's Log](#)
[Email Manager](#)

MY TOPS

OVERALL

WEEKLY

NHL LADDERS

MESSAGING

Round 10

OVERALL STANDINGS

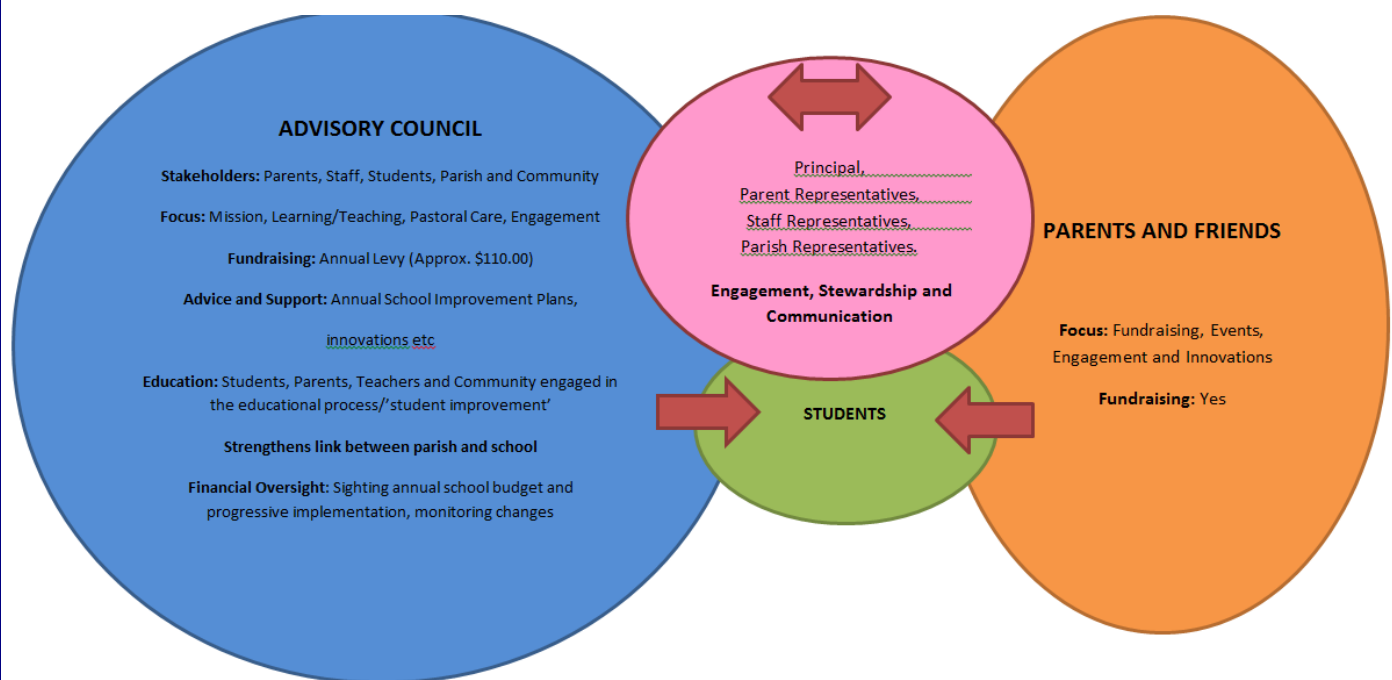
TEAM	POINTS
1	100
2	92
3	89
4	83
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6	80
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86	1

The Principal's Piece - Cont.

At this present crossroad of leadership, I propose two models that both aim to support all of the above. As a community we need to decide which of these models will best support OLD:

An Advisory Group that exists alongside the existing formal P+F Executive Leadership. Note that the P+F Executive Group will require P+F fundraising initiatives and co-ordination/collection of about 20K each year

An Advisory Group that incorporates the P+F Executive Group. This combined group will not require an elected P+F Treasurer; instead, a voluntary yearly fundraising levy of about \$110 per family will be asked for. Please note that there will be NO other P+F fundraising – with the exception of 'Mission' donations that families would be invited to voluntarily contribute to several times each year. Note that this model of leadership would direct 100% of its efforts into engagement/inclusion.



Wow - that's plenty of information! ... I now invite all Parents and Friends to come to a meeting **Tuesday 29 May 6.00pm in our School Library** to hear me discuss all of this a bit more and to let you discuss it together as a group too - (After this meeting, we will flow directly into our Term 2 P+F General Meeting at approximately 6.30pm).

I sincerely thank all the parents who have already come to see me offering support for an Advisory Council at OLD.

I invite parents to write to me or meet with me particularly about the two proposals I've suggested because there just might be an even better option to make sure we secure the best for OLD going forward to even 'greater things' - specifically for our students!

Special Announcement:

Presently, our P+F Leadership Team does not have a treasurer; it is an expectation within the P+F Constitution that we have one. The Constitution permits the school principal to appoint a treasurer in the event of a treasurer stepping down midway through the year. I have asked Katie Crichton (Jasmine Y3, Benjamin Y1) and Katerina Trani (Frankie Y4, Kristof Y1) to temporarily manage the treasurer role up until our Term 2 P+F General Meeting, Tuesday 29 May. At this meeting, I'll call for 'treasurer nominations' and fill the position formally.

Date for the Diary:

We have finally set a date for the big 2018 P+F fundraising day. Friday 10 August.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Kathy Gray

Mothers' Day School Mass

Thank you, Fr Jim, for leading our school at our Mothers' Day Mass. We loved your homily about love. Love grows, it doesn't divide. Interesting!

Thank you to the many people in our school community who were able to attend the Mass. To see over one hundred mums up on the altar was an amazing sign of community.

Thank you also to Year 4 and Year 2 teachers and students who prepared, participated in and presented this Mass.

Finally, one more thank you...to Mrs Croall for putting together the photo reflection. This is another sign of our wonderful OLD spirit. Over 200 emails were sent into Mrs Croall. Thank you Mrs Croall for your handling of all of these emails and photos and for putting together the beautiful reflection.

Woops...and one more thing...thank you to all of the OLD students for your amazing singing! Your singing moves my soul every time!



Parish Sacramental Program: First Communion THIS WEEKEND!



Please keep the following children in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion:

Kiara, Serena, Lexine, Tessa, Stephanie, Madden, Caleb, Farid, Wills, Nickolas, Ryan, Jasmine, Liam, Jake, Airley, Erica, Tatiana, Ruby, Nikolai, Lauren, Jason, Ava, Jacob, Kalan, Cordelia, Kaila, Kyla, Alexander, Rocco, Roman, Alexander, Joshua, Timothy, Aden, Brandon, Jayden, Sophia, Rosebelle, William, Zachary, Hanna, Callum, Hanna W and Michael

Year Threes are going to experience an in school retreat as a part of their preparation for Communion. Angela is coming over to the school on Thursday May 17 and running two sessions with our classes (*starting after NAPLAN*). Thank you Angela.

The First Holy Communion celebrations are in the church THIS Saturday and Sunday the 19th and 20th of May at all Parish Masses; and at 12:30 pm on the Sunday the 20th of May as a dedicated First Communion Mass (sorry about the error in dates last week).

Please contact Angela for more information.

Phone: (02) 9410 9033. Email: Angela@chatswoodparish.org.au

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Kathy Gray

Knitting

The first knitting club was a huge success! Many kind volunteers arrived to help teach our eager students how to knit. After a brief introduction, the students and helpers sat in little friendship pods and knitted. The most exciting thing from all of this, is that the goal of the knitting club is...kindness. What a wonderful way to get the students involved in thinking of others beyond themselves. The elderly recipients of these scarves will be thrilled!



AWARD WINNERS Week 2



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - Kirsty Thorpe

NAPLAN I want to congratulate all the Year 3 and 5 students who, at the time of me writing this, have just completed their first NAPLAN exam of 2018. All teachers have reported that children feel very confident and proud of their efforts. Thank you also to the Year 3 and 5 teachers who have worked so hard to prepare the students in how to take the tests and to ensure they entered this testing time relaxed and confident. By all accounts, I've heard from the Year 3 students that the first test was 'super easy'!

ICAS Reminder Following on from past newsletter reminders we still have two ICAS exams open to Years 3-6. Registration for the English and Mathematics exams will close on Friday 22nd June.

For those who have paid and registered for the Spelling and Writing exams (registration is now closed for both exams) these exams will be held on the 13th and 14th June in school time.

FROM THE OFFICE



School Hours

Please remember school hours are 8.15am to 3pm. If you could please ensure children are not dropped before 8.15am as there is no supervision. We have a fantastic before and after school care facility if you are in need of care before or after school hours. Please contact Camp Australia for further information 1300 105 343 or www.campaustralia.com.au

Children's lunches

We understand that mornings are a very busy time in households when you are juggling children getting ready for school, ensuring everyone has a fulfilling breakfast, parents trying to get to work and ensuring everyone gets out the door on time. However, over recent weeks it has been brought to our attention that many children are arriving at school without lunch. If you could please ensure your child has lunch each day and, to help you, lunch orders can be placed until 9am via QKR. Don't forget those forks and spoons either if you've packed your child some delicious lunch delights.

We do not encourage parents or carers to come in during the day with food for their children, therefore we recommend using a lunch block with a frozen ice block in it if needed.



Enrolments for K2019

We would like to bring to your attention that the enrolment process has commenced and if you are looking to apply for enrolment for K2019 now is the time to lodge your application forms. Enrolments for 2019 will close on 31 May 2018, with our first round offers being sent on Friday 1 June for the 2019 academic year.

Should you require any additional information relating to the enrolment process, please don't hesitate to contact our school office on (02) 9419 2645 or via email at old@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Headlice

As parents, I'm sure you're all aware Headlice are an unfortunate part of primary school life. We can all help work towards being a headlice free school by regularly checking our children's hair and treating as necessary if you find anything. If headlice are found at any stage, please let the school office know—your child will be kept anonymous but it will enable us to notify your child's year so that all parents can be aware and check their own children's heads.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Community News

Willoughby Council are very excited to announce our first 'Community Speaker' for 2018.

A Parent Toolbox for Wellbeing

Youth Suicide is the number one cause of death for Australians aged between 15-24 years. Suicide rates are the highest they have been in over 10 years. The statistics are stark and it shows that despite all of the wonderful advancements in the World, our young people are struggling. We obviously need to be doing more...

Presented by Jacqui Jones in this 1.5 hour session you will learn:

- How to talk to your child about developing their mental strength;
- Tools & strategies that you can use immediately within the family home;
- The 4 key ways to help your family flourish!

This session has been developed in conjunction with the Greatfulness program, founded by Jacqui Jones. Greatfulness is a recommended Kidsmatter program and also endorsed by the NSW Education Standards Authority. Jacqui was recently featured on Channel 7's 'The Daily Edition' talking about the importance of mental health & her work delivering this program.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/the-daily-edition/video/watch/39430778/how-to-teach-young-kids-about-mental-health/>

When:

13th June 2018, 7pm

Where:

St Philip Neri Learning Centre

Cost:

\$12.50 per adult.

<https://www.trybooking.com/379274>

Please note the ticket price has been subsidised by Willoughby Council Community Grant.

This event is open to ALL parents and friends in our Willoughby Council Community, so please ensure you purchase your tickets to avoid missing out as there are limited seats available.



BIRTHDAY ICEBLOCKS PURCHASE FROM CANTEEN



As you are aware, there is no sharing of lollies, cakes or any food treats at school for birthdays.

If you would like to purchase ice blocks for your child's class on their birthday this can be arranged through the school canteen only.

Please email your order **with at least one weeks notice** to Janelle Arena or Zoey Cortese at olodcanteen@yahoo.com.au

Your choice of ice blocks are Quelch Sticks 50c, Icy Twists \$1 or Mini Calipos \$1

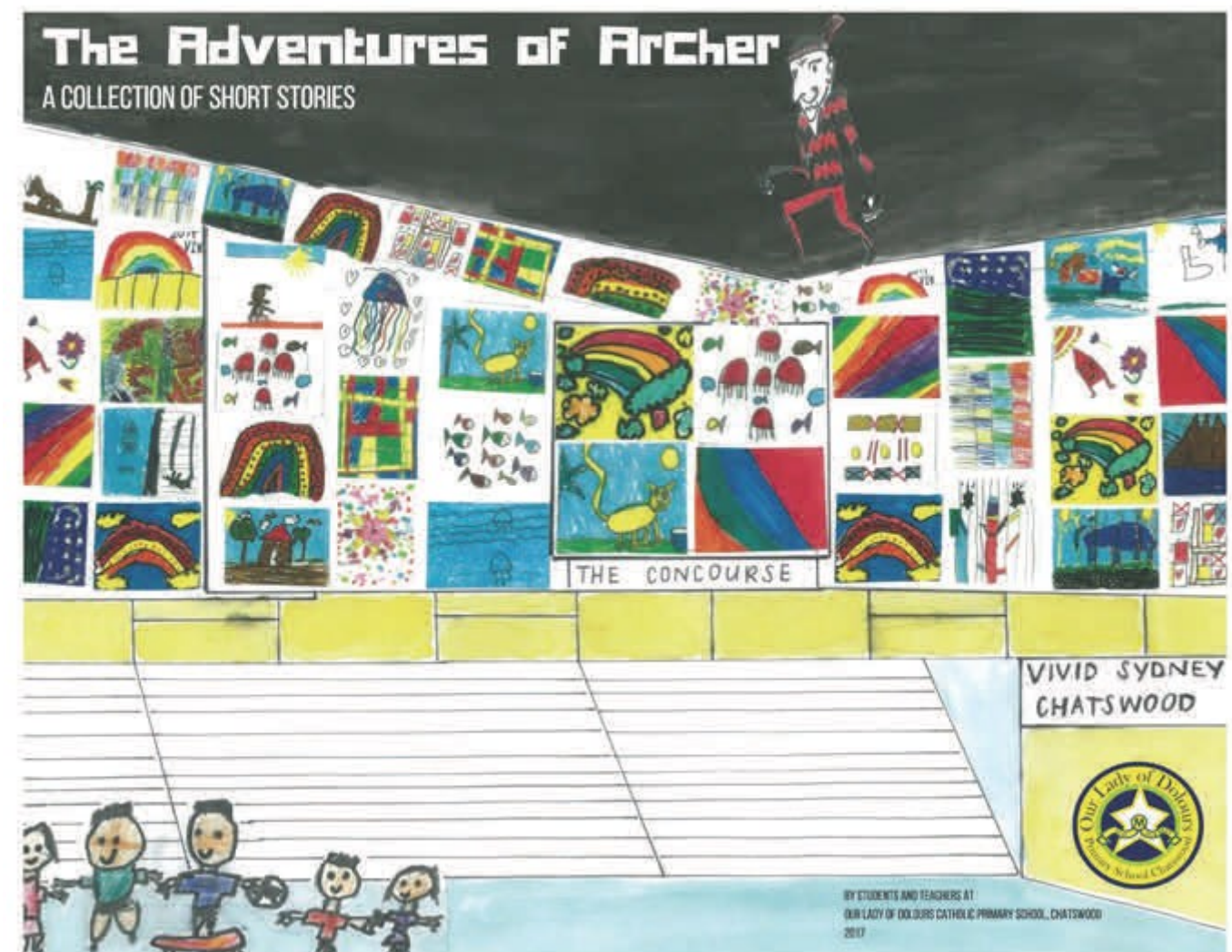
Payment is to be made on the day or before to the school office in an envelope marked **Canteen Birthday Ice Blocks** with your child's name and class.

Community News

Job Vacancy: The parish looking for a part-time Administration Assistant to work as part of our Children's Ministry team. This position is for six hours per week, with flexible hours to suit a parent with school-aged children available. Good written and spoken English, proficiency in MS Word, Excel and Powerpoint. This appointment is subject to a satisfactory Working with Children Check Clearance in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 (NSW). Please contact the parish office on 9410 9000 or office@chatswoodparish.org.au for a full position description and to send applications. Applications close May 16th.

"The Adventures of Archer: A Collection of Short Stories."

To obtain your own copy of this amazing book for \$16 please order via the QKR App.



Community News

total canteen solutions

MEAL DEAL 1

\$5.00



**6 CHICKEN NUGGETS
&
JUICE CUP**

total canteen solutions

MEAL DEAL 2

\$5.00



**SPAGHETTI OR LASAGNE
&
JUICE CUP**

total canteen solutions

MEAL DEAL 3

\$5.00



**CHICKEN BURGER
&
JUICE CUP**

total canteen solutions

MEAL DEAL 4

\$4.50



**HOME MADE PIZZA
&
JUICE CUP**

Lower North Shore Volunteer Expo

12pm – 3pm, Thursday 31 May
Dougherty Community Centre
7 Victor Street, Chatswood

Free
Event



Enjoy the many benefits of volunteering - make friends, learn new skills, and make a real difference in your local community.

Come along to find out about opportunities to get involved with a range of organisations; from delivering Meals on Wheels, helping on bus outings, assisting with community lunches or lending a hand with disaster recovery.



For further information,
please contact 9777 7815 or email lns-volunteer@willoughby.nsw.gov.au



Family &
Community
Services

The Commonwealth Home
Support Programme provides
funding for these services.



Walking The Way

A Parent Retreat Day

An opportunity to stop, slow down and take time-out from our busy lives.

An opportunity to listen to stories of life & faith in an atmosphere of peace, stillness and gentle reflection.

'A day spa for the soul'

Where & When:

Canisius Centre of Ignatian Spirituality
102 Mona Vale Road, Pymble

Friday 18th May 6.30-8.30pm
Saturday 19th May 9.00am-4.00pm

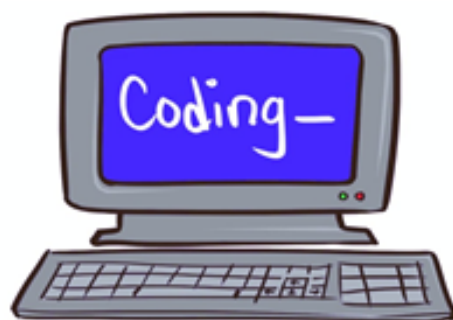
Cost: \$30 payable on the Saturday
Optional stay-over at Canisius at participant's cost

R.S.V.P / Enquiries

sallyanne.bntel@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Program includes storytelling, guided meditation, prayerful reflection, liturgy and lunch.
Join Karen Amos, Alison Newell and other inspiring women walking the journey.
(Geared to women, but men welcome too!)

An Initiative of Catholic Schools Office, Diocese of Broken Bay



Exciting news - Chatswood Library are starting a new Code Club: CoderDojo

CoderDojo is a worldwide club for programming enthusiasts between the ages of 10-15.

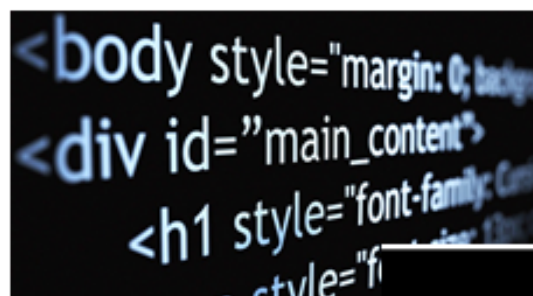
The Dojo will meet fortnightly to explore and share the skills required to start building websites, apps and games, in a fun and informal environment.

Please note:

- Participants must bring their own laptop.
- Children under the age of 12 must have a parent or guardian present in the Library during each session.
- CoderDojo will run fortnightly from 4pm to 5.30pm on Tuesdays 15 & 29 May, and 12 & 26 June.

Due to the popularity of our programs, we ask that you ensure you can commit to the fortnightly workshops before you book.

To register for our CoderDojo, book here <https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/EventDetails.aspx?PageID=1892&eventid=5416>



CODING
IT MAY BE THE CLOSEST THING
WE HAVE TO A SUPERPOWER

