

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Term 4 Week 9 - 9 December 2019

ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

As this is our final newsletter for 2019 (next week we will have a short 'News in brief') I want to wish everyone a very happy Christmas. May this season fill your homes with love and joy. If you are traveling this holidays, we pray that you stay safe and enjoy the memories you make with your families. I will be heading back to Cambodia to spend Christmas with 'my kids' and then spending some time travelling around Cambodia with my own parents. So thank you to those who again, have supported 'the Cambodia Stall' (which is now known at the school) as the proceeds from this stall will go towards buying new bedding and mattresses for the kids (maybe not the most exciting Christmas gifts but a necessary one).

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the staff at OLD for supporting and assisting me throughout Term 4 (and the entire 2019 school year) – your generosity of spirit, patience and enthusiasm for teaching makes every day at OLD a true blessing. We are truly lucky at OLD to have such dedicated staff, who are life-long learners and always up for a new challenge.



Thank you to the parent community for continuing to strengthen your partnership with the school as we work together to guide your child to bring to life the Mercy values. Thank you for supporting the classroom teachers with homework, home readers and other school projects – for helping during school excursions, in the library, during carnivals and other sport events – for those who have cooked BBQs, buttered pancakes and shopped for Mother's and Father's day stalls – THANK YOU!

Thank you for trusting us with the academic, emotional and social development of your child throughout 2019. Our partnership with you is imperative, so we thank you!

Thank you also to the parents and carers who have taken up roles in the Advisory Board, P&F executive, Grants Committee, who run the canteen and uniform shop and those on the Pastoral Council. We thank you so sincerely.

And finally, I need to thank our students – the life blood of this school. Every day our school is full of laughter, deep thinking, fun learning and blossoming friendships. You all gift your teachers with such joy that 'thank you' is simply not enough. We are so proud of you all and honoured to be part of your lives. To those who are leaving us – for high school, moving to another country or moving schools – we wish you all the very best on your new adventure and encourage you to uphold the school vision 'To Ignite, Innovate and Include in Mercy' that you have lived here at OLD.

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Fri 13 Gold Coin & Christmas decoration day

Community Christmas Palooza

5pm

Mon 16 Last day for lunch orders

Tues 17 Stage 3 Beach Safety Day

Wed 18 Last Day Term 4

KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE
UNDER 'CALENDAR - FOR POSSIBLE
CHANGES TO DATES
www.olddb.catholic.edu.au

[Our Lady of Dolours](#)



ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Staffing news for 2020

2019 will be the final year for two of our beloved OLD staff members, who are both retiring; Mrs Louise Murphy and Mr Brian Stanwell.

After contributing an extraordinary 18 years of dedicated teaching service at OLD Mrs Louise Murphy is retiring from teaching after working at nine schools over the span of an amazing 38 year career. She has given her heart, soul and love of books to OLD over this 18 year period. We have always enjoyed guessing what Mrs Murphy's Book Week costume will be - she never ceases to out-do herself year after year! We sincerely wish Mrs Murphy all the very best for her new adventures - may you enjoy your days reading books, traveling the world and spending time with your family. Below is a message to the school community from Louise;

Thank you and Goodbye.

It is with a combination of sadness and excitement that I wish to inform the school community that I will be retiring from Our Lady of Dolours at the end of the school year.

I have had several roles at the school, first as a Literacy support teacher with the ESL children and then for the last 12 years I had the dream job as the Teacher/Librarian. I am most grateful to have worked under two amazing Principals Mrs Helen Chambers and Mr Phil Ledlin who allowed me to foster a love of literature within the school.

It has been a privilege to work here with such wonderful children, dedicated staff and caring parents. Not too many jobs allow you to engage with the whole school. I am indebted to the amazing parents who have continually given up their time to help the Library run smoothly.

Special mention and enormous thanks to Tanya Ceravolo and Jeanne Espiritu. These two mothers have been unbelievably generous with their time. They have been my Library helpers since the day I became Teacher/Librarian! I couldn't have possibly shelved, covered and organised the books without you.

I know I will really miss this school and its thriving community. I wish every family all the best and hope that every child enrolled here continues to enjoy the exciting educational opportunities provided by this school.

Warmest thanks and goodbye.

Louise Murphy

*Teacher/
Librarian*



ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Mr Brian Stanwell has been a dedicated and compassionate staff member at OLD for over a decade. Not only has Brian been a passionate classroom teacher but he has also ensured the school community remain safe at all times by leading WHS in the school. Brian's talents of organisation, looking after every detail and great communication will be greatly missed by all. We wish Brian all the very best with his new adventure, spending his days with DIY projects, planning his next European holiday and enjoying time to relax in nature. Below is a reflection on his career and a special letter to the school community from Brian;

We often ask children to reflect by writing an acrostic poem so I set myself the same task on my teaching career! Our Lady of Dolours is a special place and I will treasure my years here. I turn 63 in 2020 so it is time to hand over to the next generation of teachers. I will miss our community next year. Have a happy holidays and a safe Christmas.

TEACHING

Terrific, tiring and tons of fun.

Each day brought variety and challenges.

Always ready to lend a kind ear.

Colleagues and families provided much support. You

Hope you reached most children and

Instilled a love of learning and self-belief.

Nice to hear from old O.L.D. students that have

Gone on and succeeded at High School and beyond.



Brian Stanwell (6 December 2019)

We also wish both Mrs Alix McKittrick and Mrs Cassie Cook all the very best of luck as they leave OLD for one year of maternity leave. Mrs Cook is currently pregnant (but for not much longer) with her third child and Mrs McKittrick is pregnant with her second daughter (again, not for much longer). All the very best of luck ladies and enjoy the blessings these new babies will bring to your lives.

Another very important celebration of thanks is to Mrs Kathryn Gray, who after 10 years of dedicated servant leadership has made the decision to retire from her REC (Religious Education Coordinator) position and move into the role of Literacy Coordinator. Mrs Gray has led the OLD school community in organising and leading school Masses and liturgies, faith formation opportunities and also developing the deep-thinking learning experiences of our Religious Education curriculum. We send a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Gray for her dedication and leadership in this area of OLD for the past decade and look forward to her leadership in the area of Literacy education.

We warmly welcome back Mrs Jill Greenwood in 2020, who has been working as an Acting REC at OLPS, West Pymble throughout 2019. Mrs Greenwood will return as a full-time classroom teacher.

At the closing liturgy for 2019 (Wednesday 18th December 10am) we will all get a chance to formally thank and farewell these wonderfully dedicated teachers who are leaving OLD.

A Note from Mr Ledlin

Dear Parents and Friends,

I thank you most sincerely for the care, concern, thoughts and prayers that you've afforded me over the past weeks. Please rest assured that I am recovering well and, each day, I am able to do just that little bit more. I do note that I am not dealing well with the loss of some independence, and I don't appreciate the fact that I can't more personally wish all families a safe and holy Christmas with family and friends. Importantly too, I am very sorry that I am unable to personally thank and farewell families leaving OLD at the end of this year.

I sincerely wish all students and families 'finishing up' at OLD every best blessing. Indeed, I also sincerely thank 'leaving students' and families for their contribution to the school and community. I love my job, and it's made so enjoyable by the specialness of our students, parents, staff, friends and the wider community members too.

I thank Miss Kirsty Thorpe for her leadership in my absence; the fact that Kirsty is leading the school makes my recovery at home so much more comforting. Indeed, I thank the School Leadership Team and the wider staff body, too, for 'carrying on' the important goals and targets that we pride ourselves on.

I know that we have a bevy of new Kindergarten 2020 students commencing soon - (and many new families too); I hope and pray that their induction and 'welcome' from everyone is special.

To the graduating students of Year 6 2019, I thank you for your leadership and the kindness you showed to the younger students each day ... I note that younger students will commonly emulate the kindness of older students; you should be proud of the care and concern you presented each day at school. I wish you every best blessing as you transition to High School ... Don't ever forget to come back and say, "Hi," and be sure to stop me (and any staff member) in Chatswood Chase to tell me how you're going!

On behalf of the OLD community, I boldly thank Mrs Louise Murphy and Mr Brian Stanwell, who have both given so much of themselves over so many years to so many students – and indeed to so many parents too. They have essentially made OLD a better place, and it's now time to wish them well in retirement.

And finally, with much joy and excitement, I wish Mrs Alix McKittrick and Mrs Cassie Cook every best blessing with their beautiful, growing families!

Wishing everyone a safe and holy Christmas with family and friends.

Philip Ledlin

ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Year 6 Students Leaders 2020:

Every Year 6 student at OLD is a school leader. Congratulations to each and every one of the following:

School Captains:

Genevieve Ho and Francesco Trani

ICLT Leaders:

Valentino Stewart, Evelyn Chan, Ryan Nguyen, Jayden Singh and Ethan De Los Reyes

Literacy Leaders:

Elizabeth Nicholls and Ysabelle Carreno

Galilee Sport Leaders:

Chloe Choy and Chloe Kuo

Cana Sport Leaders:

Grace Arena and Sofia Papa

Nazareth Sport Leaders:

Samuel Edwards and Kiara Alarcon

Bethlehem Sport Leaders:

Chloe Lee and Sara Andrew

Mercy Action Leaders:

Lara Silva Lopes, Alyssa Ding, Maggie Lin, Layla Ge and Keira Lee

Creative Arts Leaders:

Amitel McJarrow, Audrey Fowler, Iara Bastos Silva, Andrea Tadulan and Chloe Chow

Environment Leaders:

Allegra Tung, Kamakshi Ganduri, Camilla Diaz Cerpa, Keona Beltran and Evangeline Quniane

There will be a 'student leadership handover' moment at our liturgy on the last day (19.12.18 – 10am). And, at the Opening School Mass of 2020, all Year 6 students will be formally commissioned as school leaders.

MAI Assessments Our new school year will commence with each student completing a 1:1 assessment with their 2020 teacher. This will assess their ability to conceptually understand Mathematics and use a range of strategies to solve problems. The assessment is called an MAI (Mathematic Assessment Instrument). You will receive information about booking your appointment through COMPASS during Week 10 of this term.

ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Events Committee 2020 Next year we have some exciting changes to boost the engagement of parents within our school community and in the organisation of school **fun-raising** events. Starting in 2020, we will no longer have the P&F structure but we will have an 'Events committee'. This committee will have a representative for each grade that will meet once a term and plan all school **fun-raising** events. Each grade will be in charge of one or two events throughout the year that the events committee member will organise with the help of other parents in their grade, then there will also be whole school events, such as disco, that each grade will assist with.

Thank you to the following parents who have volunteered to represent their grade in the events committee in 2020:

Kindergarten	Debbie Liu
Year 1	Yini Peng and Max Tay
Year 2	Shelly McLoughlin
Year 3	Roderick Seeto and Francis Kwok
Year 4	Roselie Keledjian and Suzanne Chu
Year 5	Debbie Liu - <i>Please contact the school ASAP if you are able to assist us by being the Year 5 representative</i>
Year 6	<i>Please contact the school ASAP if you are able to assist us by being the Year 6 representative</i>

AWARD WINNERS Week 8



ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL—Miss Camilla Brown

Advent



As we journey together, united in faith, we continue to wait in joyful hope for the coming of Jesus. Thank you to 5G and Mr Martin who led us in beautiful prayer to celebrate the second week of Advent. The students reminded us how the weeks of Advent keep calling us to focus on what's truly important - the birth of our Saviour, the God who loves us, and our hope filled expectation that Christ will come again. Amid the pressures and joys of Christmas preparations, let us keep taking small practical steps to observe and enjoy this holy season in our family homes.

Pray always

Pray ALL ways

We welcome you to pray this Advent prayer together at home <https://cathfamily.org/advent-prayer-i/>, and remember to visit this wonderful resource to help you pray always and in all ways! <http://walkingtheway.dbbcs.org/>

Finally, on behalf of our staff at Our Lady of Dolours, we wish all our students and their families a Merry Christmas! We hope your holiday is filled with joy and blessings. See you in the New Year!

Friday 13th December: Christmas celebrations and fundraising for the drought: Our Year 6 Creative Arts and Mercy Leaders have created an initiative that on Friday 13th December all students will be able to wear a 'touch' of Christmas with their sports uniforms (Remember this is the day of our P&F Christmas evening celebrations). Everyone is also asked to donate a gold coin that will be donated to St Joseph's Primary School in Wee Waa. Please see below for some information about the cause we are supporting and Christmas ideas from our Year 6 leaders.

CHRISTMAS GOLD COIN DAY!

ON FRIDAY THE 13TH OF DECEMBER, WE INVITE EVERYONE TO WEAR SOME CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS OR AN ACCESSORY OVER THEIR SPORTS UNIFORM. STUDENTS HAVE PERMISSION TO STYLE THEIR HAIR WITH WHATEVER THEY WANT TO DO IN IT, HOWEVER IT MUST BE CHRISTMAS RELATED (INCLUDING COLOURED HAIRSPRAY).

SOME IDEAS ON WHAT STUDENTS COULD WEAR INCLUDE...
TINSEL, CHRISTMAS BAUBLES, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND ANYTHING YOU WOULD FIND ON A CHRISTMAS TREE!

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR GOLD COIN TO DONATE AND WEAR YOUR SPORTS UNIFORM, INCLUDING A HAT AND SPORTS SHOES

COMMUNITY

P&F News: Christmas Palooza

A bit more information on our O.L.D. Christmas Palooza which takes place on Friday, 13 December.....

ALL families are invited to attend!!

- ◆ The 'concert' will take place on the COLA and run between 5pm and 6pm—ALL children will perform carols with their class and the band and choir will also be performing
- ◆ This will be followed by a movie in the school hall and a movie in the library (these movies will run at the same time, the one in the library will be 'G' and the one in the school hall will be 'PG' - the 'PG' movie will require parents to sign children in (both movies will run between 6pm to 8pm—depending on the length of each movie)
- ◆ During this time there will also be other FREE activities including face painting, a craft station and outdoor play equipment for those children that don't want to watch a movie.
- ◆ A FREE sausage sizzle will be available for the children along with FREE popcorn, FREE candy floss and FREE slushies
- ◆ A selection of lucky door prizes!
- ◆ The canteen will be open where items can be purchased as normal



Please note:

- ◆ Parents/Guardians must remain on the school grounds at all times—you cannot drop your child and leave them unattended at the event.
- ◆ No alcohol is permitted on the school grounds

Finally, if you are able to help out during the evening, whether it's serving slushies, handing out sausages or assisting at the craft station then please let me know—Catherine@peopleintelligence.com.au or 0432 742 010.



Parent Education Program

Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Broken Bay – Parent Education Team

1-2-3 Magic Workshop, 2020

Building Emotional Intelligence & managing behaviour

Program consists of 2, 2 hour sessions, working through a parent resource booklet

The program supports parents and caregivers with effective strategies to help their children self-regulate and manage their emotions and behaviour. Children who have developed social and emotional skills find it easier to manage themselves, relate to others, resolve conflict, and feel positive about the world around them.



Date: 18th and 25th March, 2020

Time: 9-11am

Venue: Our Lady of Dolours

Parent workbooks are available for purchase on the day for \$10

RSVP: Please return the slip to the office or email by **February 21st 2020**
old@dbb.catholic.edu.au

YES I will be attending the 1-2-3 Magic Workshop 18th and 25th March 2020

Name(s)

Child's Class

From the Office

Important message – we need you to login to Compass, the new parent portal

On **21 November**, all parents were sent an email with information about our new Compass Parent Portal and App, including login details and instructions. The new system, Compass, will enable you to access Information online about your child/ren, anytime, anywhere, from any modern web-enabled device.

Please refer to the email dated **21 November**, and log into Compass if you have not done so yet. We will be using Compass to communicate with our parent community and need to ensure you are not missing out on key information.

Please let the school office know if you have not received an email, or have any questions. ***If the email is not appearing in your Inbox, please check your SPAM or Junk folder.***

COMMUNITY



Fresh cut Christmas Trees

Chatswood Scouts

- A range of sizes on offer
- High quality tree stands also on sale (\$35)
- Delivery available (within 5km radius)

When: Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th

December, 8am – 1pm

Where: Chatswood Brake and Clutch, 113

Fullers Road, Chatswood West.

Pick out your own tree or pre-order your tree online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XXXGD5B>

or email chatswood.scouts@yahoo.com



Thank you for supporting your local Scout Group 😊

COMMUNITY—CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS

Congratulations to Matt from Yr 6 on his successful soccer selection.

Matt started with Lindfield FC in 2018, playing in the Grade A development squad for under 10's, and again in 2019 for under 11's. The trials for the Super League Squad Under 12's 2020 have been held over the last few weeks and Matt has again secured his place in the top grade for his age group with Lindfield FC. From over 120 kids in his age group, Matt has been chosen for his excellent skills on the field as Left Wing, Left Back along with Striker. We look forward to watching him play in the 2020 season!



Congratulations to the Year 1 EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) group who have attended maths group every day for two terms and worked so hard on their Maths. We had the traditional end-of-EMU lunch to celebrate!

Congratulations to Emily (Year 2) who recently competed in a national dance competition and won! She will be travelling to Canada next year to represent Australia - well done Emily!



Congratulations Alice (Year 3) who has achieved amazing results in recent piano competitions. She competed in the 2019 Australia International Music Competition (AIMC) in October and won a Gold Medal (1st Prize) in the advance section of 8 years and under. She has also participated in the Ryde Eisteddfod this year and has achieved Highly Commended in the 8 years old section.

COMMUNITY— Book Club



Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support since Scholastic restarted last year. During this period, we've earned the school \$1700 to go towards library and some classroom resources. A big thanks to Mrs Murphy, Mrs Zahra, library leaders and the mums who came into help distributing the orders. We hope 2020 will prove a success as we improve on distribution procedures and transparency in rewards spent for resources.

We are currently looking for helpers!

If you have time to spare 3 times a year to help distribute books, please contact oldscholasticbookclub@gmail.com



Kind regards,

Julie Roman
(Ethan – 1G)

School Travel

Stay up to date with Opal and ticketing changes for school travel

2020 school travel applications now open



To assist with any enquiries you may receive regarding student travel applications, we have provided some information below.

Applications for student travel in 2020 opened on Friday, 11 October 2019.

Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 no longer need to re-apply *if* they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address

have *not* been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2019 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2019, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2020.

Our Lady of Dolours Primary School					
Term 4 Canteen Roster					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
14 October 2019	Rachel Ullman	Jungme Kim Laura Humell	Portia Wong	Vivian Tu Xi Yu	Louise Jin
21 October 2019	Jen Monteleone Yini Peng	Amy Chan Roselle Kaledjen	Sally Librille Tisha Valjeja	Debbie Liu Yuen Yuen Yip	Ofelia De Los Reyes
28 October 2019	Trish Sweto	Jo Mennering Nicole Chow	Daniel Musumeci Tom Allen	Yuen Yuen Yip Cynthia Lai	Michelle Stanley Katie Crichton
4 November 2019	Yini Peng	Sally Wiljaya Rachel Ng	Natt Yuesaphom Elaine Lin	Michael Chammas Melissa Chung	Cris Bernick
11 November 2019	Rachel Ullman Claire Choi	Sia Macrae Branka Posa	Portia Wong	Vivian Tu Xi Yu	Nicole Woods Louise Jin
18 November 2019	Ann Bacil Rachel Ullman	Roselle Kaledjen Seda Gukserden	Alison Henderson	Debbie Liu	Katie Zhang Wei Li
25 November 2019	Amy Chan Ann Bacil	Jungme Kim Laura Humell	Jacqui Fung	Lily Setawan Ani Wibisono	Cris Bernick
2 December 2019	Tom Allen Glenn Desettine	Nicole Chow Rachel Ng	SWIMMING CARNEVAL (NO CANTEEN)		Michelle Stanley Katie Crichton
9 December 2019	Amy Chan Yini Peng	Sally Wiljaya Branka Posa	Sally Librille Tisha Valjeja	Kath Element Kate Gipo	Melissa Surjan Julie Bernard
16 December 2019	Rachel Ullman Katie Bernard	Ji-Yun Yi Julie Bernard	Julie Bernard Portia Wong	NO MORE SCHOOL	

Above is the the canteen roster & we have a few spots to fill this term.

The canteen is open Mon-Fri from 12:40pm till 1:40pm, so just an hour of your time is all that's needed.

If you are available to fill any of the orange highlighted spots, please write your name in on that day.

Please unpack boxes of stock (if any) and refill fridge/freezer, etc. .

The kids thank you for your assistance!