

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Term 1 Week 1 - 27 January 2020

ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Welcome back to the 2020 school year! We have a really exciting year ahead, with many new families joining our community, whom I warmly welcome. This is just a short newsletter to welcome you all back and to communicate some important information for the start of school. Next Tuesday, our regular newsletters will commence.

Over the holidays Australia suffered greatly from the devastating bushfires. Our prayers and thoughts go to all those who lost lives, animals and property. We also thank all the volunteer and paid firefighters and other emergency services that have helped, and continue to help, so many people during this hard time. If any families have been effected by the fires I ask that you contact me, so as a school community, we can support you in your recovery from this traumatic experience.

Throughout the past week we have all heard and are concerned about the Novel Coronavirus, which has now spread to numerous countries, including Australia. As a systemic school, OLD will be following the advice and directions given by the Director of Schools for the CSO (Catholic Schools Office of Broken Bay), Dr Tony Bracken and Catholic Schools NSW. Policies and procedures directed by these organisations are in accordance and follow consultation with NSW Health. As soon as the school receives any updates, they will be communicated to parents. If you remain concerned, please follow the advice from your health care professionals. As previously mentioned, the school has ordered hand sanitiser for every classroom and the front office, however, the supplies are out of stock until late next week. Until then, you are welcome to provide your own child with hand sanitisers and educate them on how to safely use it. We also encourage all families to discuss good hygiene practices with their children.

Please contact the school if you travelled to China during the holidays as we require details of your travel dates and locations. This information will remain confidential.

Note from Mr Ledlin

Dear Parents, Friends and Students,

I sincerely wish everyone every best blessing for a fabulous 2020. Indeed, I particularly welcome all our new families to OLD.

You will be aware that I had a serious operation just before Christmas, and I am still on strict medical orders regarding my recovery plan; I note that my recovery has been satisfactory. On a lighter side, you might be interested to learn that I now have what's called a mechanical aortic valve ... and if you're ever in a quiet room with me, you just might hear me ticking!

Back on a serious note, I will be returning to school with a reduced workload towards the end of Term 1. I thank Miss Kirsty Thorpe for stepping into the Principal role in my absence; I have full confidence in her strong capacity to lead OLD School. I also thank the entire OLD School Leadership Team for 'stepping up' in my absence too.

Best wishes for a smooth start to the year.

Philip Ledlin

Start of school Reminders:

- ◆ Please label everything with your name (lunchboxes, drink bottles, hats, jumpers) - we are aiming for a ZERO lost property in 2020 (MANY other schools succeed with this!)
- ◆ Remember we are still in the middle of Summer; Hats are compulsory and you may wish to apply sunscreen on your child in the morning and if they are independently able to reapply during the day, they are welcome to bring their own sunscreen to school

Sports days - Term 1:

- ◆ Tuesday: KB, 1G, 2B, 2G and all Year 5 and 6 students
- ◆ Wednesday: KG, 1B, 3G, 3B, 4G
- ◆ Friday: All classes will wear sports uniform every Friday for Term 1

Library days—Term 1:

- ◆ Tuesday: KG, 1B, 2G, 4B and all Year 5 and 6 students
- ◆ Wednesday: KB, 1G, 2B, 3B, 3G, 4G