

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Term 2 Week 1 - 27 April 2020

ACTING PRINCIPAL—Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Welcome back to Term 2 - a very different start to the Term for us all, not only at OLD but around the world.

I am trying to touch base with all families over the next couple of weeks to see how everyone is and to see if there is anything the school can assist you with. So far it has been so wonderful to catch up with the families I have spoken to and to hear that you are doing ok. For some families this time has been extremely trying and exhausting, for others they are enjoying the time together as a family. As teachers, we are really missing the students and being part of our school community in a physical sense but we love seeing everyone on the daily Zoom meetings. Please keep the lines of communication open with the school if there is anything we can assist you with during this time period.

As you would have seen in a letter sent by the Director of Schools, Mr Danny Casey, last week, that we are currently in Phase 0 of the State Government's plan (Week 1 and 2). This phase includes Home Based Learning and the opening of schools for essential workers. Therefore, next week our teachers will be continuing with the same structure and procedures (with continual tweaks and innovations along the way) as they did in Week 1.

Below is the information communicated to families via Compass yesterday (Thursday 30th April) however, Step 3 is what you need to focus on today to book your child into their 1 day of school.

On May 11 (Start of Week 3) NSW schools will commence a gradual and staggered return to school when students will attend 1 day per week, we are permitted to have $\frac{1}{4}$ of the school population in each day. This is a State Government decision which the Diocese and OLD support. We will be having $\frac{1}{4}$ of the school population on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will continue to be our Wellbeing Wednesday. We do not know how long this process will go on for or when schooling will change again—these are decisions made by the Government, however, we will always keep our families informed when we know something new.

When students are physically in school for their face to face teaching, zoom meetings with the whole class will still occur as planned and the HBL will still be scheduled. In the classroom, the teacher will be assisting children complete the HBL tasks, working individually with them on such skills as reading, numeracy or writing and teachers will be conducting assessments on student learning to ensure future progress.

COMING EVENTS

MAY

*Every Wednesday School
Assembly via Zoom 8.45am*

*Friday 8 Mothers' Day Liturgy via
Zoom 8.45am*

*Monday 11 Children return to
school 1 day per week*

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

[Our Lady of Dolours](#)

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Year 2-6 will have 1/4 of the grade attending each day (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri). These students will be combined to make a group of approximately 12-15 students from the grade and be taught in this group for their day at school. The grade teachers will be scheduled to teach the students each day. ***Therefore, your child may not be taught physically by their classroom teacher on the day you choose to book your child into Face to Face teaching . However, they will be taught by the other grade teacher. We will not know what days teachers will teacher until closer to May 11.***

Please be advised that we do not know how long this phase will continue for—it may be two weeks it may be six—we don't know. So, as I have previously said our structures and procedures will continue to be evaluated and tweaked to cater for the needs of our students. Your patience and support is very much appreciated as we follow the guidelines of the Government to ensure the safety and health of our teachers, students ad parents.

As a school we have decided to move forward in a number of steps:

Step 1 (Completed): Kindy and Year 1 students have been organised into the most optimal learning groups for each child. Older siblings have been rostered on the same day as their Kindy/Year 1 sibling. Information about your designated day has been emailed to Kindy and Year 1 families.

Step 2 (Completed): Families with 2+ children at the school have been given an opportunity to book in their preferred day. These families have already received information.

Step 3: All other families will be given the opportunity to book their child in on a preferred day. Information about how to book your day is below. Please note that even though you are booking under your classroom teacher's name, this does not mean your classroom teacher will be teaching that day (this is the only way we can organise the bookings).

Please be aware however, that the restrictions placed on school for having only 1/4 of the population on the premises at any one time, may result in families not being able to secure their first choice. There will only be enough spots for 1/4 of the grade each day.

The day you book will remain the same for the entire time students are coming to school 1 day per week (Phase 1 of the State Government's 'return to school' plan)

How to book your day at school:

- 1. Log into COMPASS***
- 2. Go to Conferences and there will be a link to make a booking called 'Week 3: Return to school (1 Day)'***
- 3. Please ignore the times on the timeslots (each of these signify 1 full day at school)***
- 4. Choose a day you wish your child to come to school***
- 5. Click on one of the timeslots (they all mean the same thing—1 fill day at school)***
- 6. Once the time slot has been selected in the step before a confirmation box will appear. In this box will be the reason, staff member involved, student and the selected time for the meeting. Press OK if all the details are correct. Press cancel if you wish to go back and amend some details.***
- 7. Once you have clicked 'OK' the box will turn green, confirming your booking.***
- 8. In the event that you need to change your booking repeat the whole process. Once you click on your new preferred time slot/day, your former timeslot will have your name removed.***
- 9. This booking will remain the same the whole time students are coming to school 1 day per week.***

ACTING PRINCIPAL —Miss Kirsty Thorpe

What about children of essential workers?

Essential workers may still send their children to school when needed. These children will also be scheduled one day for Face to Face teaching with their teacher. The other days they are at school, they will work in the library and will be supervised by another staff member.

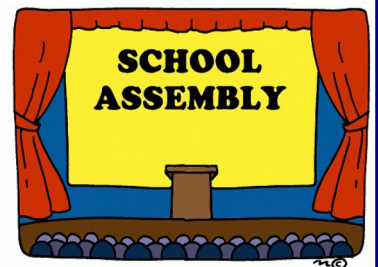
If you are sending your child to school more that the designated 1 day (and you have not yet informed the school) can you please email the school office asap.

If you are concerned about the health of your child and are worried about them returning to school starting in Week 3, please contact me vis the school office to discuss these concerns.

I sincerely thank the teachers for the extraordinary work they have done to successfully set up and run HBL and for being so flexible in the face of change.

School Assemblies: Every Wednesday at 8.45am we will be holding a school assembly with the school prayer, virtual awards and school messages. We would hope that all students log on for this assembly. The link to the Zoom is the same as the ANZAC Day assembly and will remain the same the whole term:

<https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97935728434>



Mother's Day Liturgy: Friday 8 May at 8.45am; please find attached information about our special Mother's Day assembly hosted by Miss Brown. The link is the same as the Wednesday morning assembly :

<https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97935728434>

ACTING REC —Miss Camilla Brown

Next Friday 8 May, we will celebrate a Mothers Day Liturgy from 8:45am-9am via ZOOM

As part of a school tradition, we would like to create a Mothers' Day slide show to share during this ZOOM. We invite our families to send a photo of their child with their mother or mother figure. If you would like to include your photo in this presentation, please upload a photo onto this Google Slide https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-FOc42LyYHtTP_6zhkgJZRdJHmbAMrX8UJqQsb0FJ8Q/edit?usp=sharing

Choose a blank slide and click 'insert' - 'image' - 'upload from computer' and choose your photo. We kindly ask you to only upload ONE photo onto ONE slide.

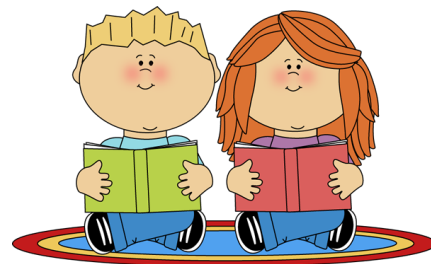
PRIVACY DISCLAIMER: This Google Slide link will be shared with the parents & carers of OLD. We kindly ask you to NOT forward this link to anyone outside our school community. The slide will be active for parents to view & upload photos in Week 1 & Week 2. You are only permitted to edit your own slide. This slide will be shared with the school community on Friday the 8th of May and deleted on Monday the 11th of May.

We look forward to celebrating our wonderful mothers with you and our school community!



OLD Library News.....

Premier's Reading Challenge 2020



We are participating once again in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). This year we are encouraging every child (**including Kindergarten**) to join this worthwhile reading experience.

What is the Premier's Reading Challenge?

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten—Year 6. Participation by schools and students is voluntary.

The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier's Reading Challenge is an initiative of the NSW State government.

All students who enter and successfully complete the Challenge will receive a Premier's Reading Challenge certificate for that year and their name will be published on an Honour Roll.

This year, the Challenge runs from 4 March to 28 August.

Doing the Premier's Reading Challenge at OLD?

We will be sending home each child's personal username and password and we are asking parents to log in and record their own child's electronic log of books read.

You can read the books to your child, especially in the K-2 level.

All K-2 will be reading some books from the Challenge in class and would have been read some during Library lessons in Term 1 but they will still need to read some at home with an adult to complete the challenge.

Which Challenge should I do?

You should do the Challenge appropriate for your Year level.

All students can read books from a higher Challenge booklist if the books are appropriate for their ability and maturity level. Students in K-2 who are able to read simple chapter books with little help are encouraged to attempt the 3-4 Challenge.

Speak to your Class teachers if you are not sure which Challenge you should be attempting.

Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge (please note the requirements have changed to accommodate during COVID 19). See table below:

Challenge	Total number of books to be read	Number of PRC books from the Challenge List	Free Choice Books
K-2	30	20	10
3-4	20	10	10
5-6	20	10	10

The list of official Premier's Reading Challenge Books can be found on the website www.schools.nsw.edu.au/premiersreadingchallenge. Each list can be viewed or printed by author or title. Please note the rules for books that are in a series (only 2 books from each series can be included in your reading challenge).

Once the Challenge is completed, please notify the school and we will verify your child's entries.

The Premier will send a signed certificate to all students who successfully complete the Challenge. If you receive certificates four years in a row, you will also receive a special Gold Certificate.