

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER** Term 2 Week 5 – 25 May 2020

## ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Thank you to OLD families for supporting our return to school this week. I understand for some this may have been worrying and concerning, for others it may have been warmly welcomed. For us as teachers, we were so excited to have our students back and I'm sure many teachers had sleepless nights because their minds were excitedly planning and organising how they would spend their first days back at school. I am so proud of how all the students have adapted so beautifully to the new routines that have been put in place to maintain a healthy and safe school environment.

I must also say a second heartfelt thank you to all the parents who have been following the dismissal procedures. I know these were very confusing as they changed over the past few weeks, but please know these practices have been put in place to protect the health of our parent community. Once an adult enters the school property it is the legal obligation of myself and all OLD staff to ensure everyone is following the social distancing guidelines. Therefore, if a staff member requests that you move on or distance yourself, please follow this request as they are doing it for everyone's wellbeing.

Attached at the end of this newsletter and as a separate attachment is a letter about the procedures the school will follow in the event of a positive COVID 19 case at OLD. These procedures have been created by the CSO in line with NSW Health Guidelines.

Here are some lovely photos capturing the first week back at school after HBL.



## COMING EVENTS

### JUNE

**Every Wednesday School Assembly via Zoom 8.50am**

**Monday 8 June Canteen re-opens for lunch orders**

### JULY

**Thursday 2 July Last day of Term 2**

**Friday 3 July Staff Development Day**

**Monday 20 July Students return for Term 3**

*Keep checking the school website under 'calendar' for possible changes to dates*

[old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au)



## ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

### **Message from the Interim Director of Schools: Danny Casey:**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since my appointment as the Interim Director of Schools, I have been delighted to be able to connect with members of the Diocese of Broken Bay community including our wonderful staff and parent representatives. Although it is not possible to meet with all of our individual families, I welcome feedback from one and all. I am very keen to hear your thoughts on how we are serving you and where we can improve our wonderful system of schools. This short survey will take less than 2 minutes to complete and I would be very grateful for your responses no later than 5pm Tuesday 2 June so that we can work together in creating an even better system. Rest assured your responses will remain anonymous.

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBB\\_Family\\_Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBB_Family_Survey)

Sincere thanks

Danny Casey

Interim Director of Schools

**Kirk street pick up:** Starting next Monday (1st June) we will be moving our Kirk Street pick up to the staff car park in Kirk Street - this is for OLD students only. There will be signs and teachers directing you to the entrance of the car park for the first few days. You then drive into the top of the car park, pick up your child and drive out the exit (which is at the bottom of the car park). We have found Kirk Street is becoming increasingly busy and is starting to become too unsafe and we need to make sure the safety of our children is at the forefront. Thank you for following these new arrangements.

If you wish to pick your child up from Kirk street car park we will arrive around 3.05pm with the children. If you haven't already, please email the school to let us know this is how your child will be picked up.

**Welcome Ms Phillipa Smith:** As Mrs Jane Bertinshaw is unable to return to work physically during Term 2 due to Coronavirus restrictions, Ms Phillipa Smith will be working at OLD as the Learning Support teacher while Jane continues to support the school by working from home on programming, student profiles and all the administration duties that the role encapsulates. And yes...there is a family connection with KB's teacher - Miss Smith!



**Semester 1 reports 2020:** This year our Semester 1 reports are going to be different from past reports to cater for the change in the teaching and learning styles of HBL and face-to-face. All schools in the Broken Bay Diocese will be assessing and reporting the subjects of English, Mathematics and Religious Education only. We have also transitioned to using Compass for reporting, so the format of the report will look slightly different and they will be delivered to you via the Compass app rather than email. All past reports are accessible on Compass for you to look at and print out. Over the next few weeks I will be going through some more changes for the Semester 1 reports.



*Book your school tour & enrolment interview today!*

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL OFFICE  
SCHOOL TOURS DAILY @ 3.30PM  
ENROLMENT INTERVIEWS: ONLINE DAILY



## ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

### Important reminders for Week 6:

**Punctuality:** We sincerely appreciate everyone for following the drop off arrangements we have in place. Please try to get all children to school before the 8.45am bell so they are able to have a calm and settled start to the day.

**Library bags:** In order for children to be able to borrow new library books, they must bring a library bag to school - this is to ensure the books stay in the best quality as possible.

**Canteen:** The OLD and Mercy canteen will be opening again in Week 7. Therefore, you are able to order lunch orders on QKR starting Monday 8th June. At this point in time, we are only permitted to have 1 adult in the OLD canteen (due to the small space and social distancing requirements), however, all students will have a designated time to visit the canteen each lunchtime, so it will be manageable for our parent volunteers.

**Co-curricular activities with external providers:** All external providers are permitted to start their activities again in Week 7 (Monday 8th June). We have contacted these providers and they will then make their own decisions about starting again, based on their individual company policy. If your child is enrolled with one of these providers, you will receive an email from the provider with an update and all the safety and health precautions they will put in place.

**School assemblies; Wednesday morning 8.50am:** Don't forget all parents are welcome to join us each Wednesday for our virtual school assembly via this link: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97935728434>

**Lost property:** Please spend some time this weekend labelling all clothing and equipment with your child's name (*especially hats, jumpers, drink bottles and ties*) - our lost property pile has already grown exponentially in 1 week!

### Dismissal times and locations continue

**NB: Siblings will be dismissed with the youngest child in the family**

Grade	Time	Location
Kindy	2.50pm	Front Office
Year 1	2.50pm	Kirk Street Gate
Year 2	3pm	Front office
Year 3	3pm	Kirk Street Gate
Year 4	3pm	Ferguson Lane Gate (near Pius)
Year 5/6	3pm	Stage 3 gate near church

***If you would like your child to use Kirk street pick up at 3pm, walking line (leaving school at 3.05pm) or walk home by themselves, can you please email the school. If you have already emailed earlier in the year can you please do so again as things may have changed with COVID-19.***

# AWARD WINNERS

## Week 4



*Book your school tour & enrolment interview today!*



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SCHOOL TOURS DAILY @ 3.30PM  
ENROLMENT INTERVIEWS: ONLINE DAILY

## COVID-19 Action Plan



*Our Lady of Dolours*

**Catholic Primary School**

94a Archer Street, Chatswood NSW 2067

Phone: 02 9419 2645

Email: [old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

29/5/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **COVID-19 Action Plan**

It is important to keep our school community updated on the arrangements we have in place in the event of a school closure. During the past week, the NSW Premier stated that opening and closing schools will now become part of the way schools operate due to COVID-19. Several schools have already been impacted, and this may become a common occurrence.

**I want to reassure you that our school is prepared and are ready to follow the procedures set by NSW Health and the CSO. Please be assured that there are currently NO diagnosed cases of COVID-19 at our school, and there is no need for concern.**

In the event of a positive COVID-19 case in our school, NSW Health will contact us. We will be required to follow directions received by NSW Health and Catholic Schools NSW. The school will activate its COVID-19 Action Plan. The school is likely to be closed for 48 hours to allow for deep cleaning.

#### **Communication in the case of a school closure**

In the event we need to close the school, families will be informed in the following ways:

- An email to each parent's email address.
- An SMS using the mobile numbers registered with the schools database.
- Further information about the operational status of the school will be provided to parents, students and staff as soon as possible via Compass, based on advice from NSW Health.

**Please ensure that your contact details are up to date. If you need to update any of your details, please email [old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au)**

If there is a notification of a COVID-19 case at our school we will take the following steps:

- We will call for an immediate lockdown to contain student and staff movements around the school
- Students will collect bags/iPads etc in case they need to resume HBL.
- We will check the roll.
- Students will be advised NOT to travel home by train or other public transport.
- We will contact all parents with arrangements to collect their children. We will advise parents of the best way to collect students without entering the site. The Department of Health recommends that students and staff leave the site within 2 hours of notification, if possible.
- Staff will supervise pick up areas. Parents must not enter the school premises if possible.
- For students who are not collected, having rung parents and emergency contacts, two designated members of staff will remain with the students until normal school pick up time.

## COVID-19 Action Plan

- NSW Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. A close contact is a person who has spent significant time either face to face (15 min) or in an enclosed space (two hours or more) as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. It is advising these close contacts about not attending work, school or early childhood and childcare services.
- We will arrange a deep clean of the school, or take other steps as directed by NSW Health.
- Counselling for students will be arranged, if needed.
- We will notify you of the school's reopening as soon as advice is received from NSW Health.
- We will decide if HBL needs to resume - eg if a whole class or year group has to self-isolate, and we will let you know as soon as possible.

**Please talk to your son or daughter about what you will do in the event of a school lockdown.**

### **Sick? Stay at Home!**

A reminder: For the sake of all the whole school community, please keep your child at home if they are sick, particularly if they are displaying symptoms of cold and flu including fever, cough and sore throat. If your child reports as ill at school, please assist us by picking them up as promptly as possible.

### **Reporting a COVID-19 Test**

The school is keeping a register of staff and students who are being tested and then cleared for COVID-19, so we can be prepared should we have a positive case. Testing is now a very common response by doctors who are recommending testing for anything that might be COVID-19. Please let the school know if this impacts you – email: [old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

*Please remain at home until given the all-clear and are symptom free. On return, please email the school to confirm negative test results.*

### **Further Information and Support**

It is important to have access to credible sources of information and support. Parents and Carers can:

- download the [COVIDSafe app](#) onto a mobile phone.
- call the National Coronavirus Health Information line (1800 020 080)
- review the [NSW Health COVID-19 website](#) for the latest information and advice.
- Visit the [Community of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Broken Bay Parent Hub](#)
- refer to the [Catholic Schools NSW website](#) for updates.
- obtain help and information from your local General Practitioner or Community Health Centre.

Thank you for your continued support in protecting all members of our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsty Thorpe  
Acting Principal

# Keeping Our School Safe!



## Student hygiene practices



1. Use of non-contact greeting methods
2. Clean hands with soap when entering the school and regularly during the day

3. Do not share personal items (school supplies or toys brought in)

4. Games where students touch each other directly or indirectly (through a ball) will be discouraged.



5. Avoid touching your face and cover your coughs and sneezes - use hand sanitiser after sneezing or coughing.

6. Students will not mix with students in other grades - we will have staggered break times and dismissal times. There are also designated areas of the school for each grade during break time and dismissal times.

7. Students must use drink bottles that can be refilled rather than bubblers.

## Whole school practices

1. A hygienist has been employed to be at the school during the day (additional to our regular cleaners) to:

- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, desks, chairs, and railings regularly.
- Clean highly touched surfaces in the toilets after each break time.



2. Increase ventilation in classrooms by opening doors and scheduling outdoor lessons throughout the day



3. There will not be whole school events until further notice (such as assemblies or sporting events) where students from different grades mix.

4. At this point in time the canteen & 2nd hand clothing stall remain closed.

**Keeping our parents safe:** We must still restrict parents entering the school grounds. Please adhere to social distancing measures at all times, as well as the dismissal arrangements. There are marks on the floor that we recommend you use for social distancing when picking up your children. Please follow the signs on our gates so we can keep everyone as safe as possible.

## All students and teachers must stay at home if...



- they have symptoms of COVID-19, a cold or flu (students will be sent home if they exhibit any of these symptoms)
- they have a sick family member at home
- an additional sick bay has been created for students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
- temperature checks will occur for any child exhibiting illness at school



## Take care of your emotional and mental well-being

Outbreaks are a stressful and anxious time for everyone. We're here to support you! Reach out to [old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au) if you need any support.

*Please visit our website for information about financial support or fee relief.*

***We appreciate your support with these health and safety measures.***



***Learn Music on Keyboard or Guitar  
at School  
Music Lessons are Back!***

*Great songs! Musical activities!  
Cool music knowledge!*

- Keyboard: kindy to Y6, Guitar: Y2—Y6
- Convenient at-school venue with additional health & safety measures in place
- Small group, 45- min weekly lesson
- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially
- Fun introduction to music



**To enrol: [www.learnmusicatschool.com.au](http://www.learnmusicatschool.com.au)  
(02) 9411 3122**

VIP *Music* est. 1984