

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Term 2 Week 9 – 22 June 2020

ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

As the term draws to a close I have been reflecting on what a whirl-wind of a term it has been. We have all experienced a global pandemic, which is (hopefully) a once in a lifetime event. We have all had to flip our lives upside down and even though some of us are still experiencing great difficulties, we are slowly coming out the other side.

From a school's perspective there have been many unintended blessings that have come out of this period.

- Our students have all returned to school with a renewed passion and excitement for learning, and for spending time with friends and teachers.
- I have noticed a dramatic increase in independence and confidence in our students as they walk through the front doors each morning.
- The dedication, talent, professionalism and expertise of teachers have been magnified on a global scale.
- And since returning to face-to-face teaching, we are experiencing such long periods of uninterrupted and focussed teaching time, which is so rare. Even though we are deeply missing our whole school events and gathering as a community, students are now getting more quality learning time.

However, we have had to make the very sad decision that we will not be able to hold our annual Creative Arts Festival in 2020. There are many disappointed and upset children and teachers at OLD today, as this is always such a highlight for the OLD community (including myself). However, with restrictions on social distancing, financial limitations and the contractual aspects of using the Concourse, this difficult decision needed to be made at this point in time.

I understand that for many of you this tradition is also the highlight of your time here at OLD as parents and you and your family will also be disappointed, but this is an extraordinary situation that we are living through and many things have had to be changed or cancelled due to factors out of our control. We appreciate your understanding with this.

We are looking into other innovative ways to showcase the Creative Arts and make sure our students get to shine and show their talents in other ways. I will continue to communicate with you all when there are new plans created.

Semester One Reports: Semester One reports will be available on Compass next Thursday, our last day of Term. The reports are reflective of the learning your children have done throughout Terms 1 and 2, however, this learning has been assessed during the periods of face-to-face teaching. We were so fortunate to return back to the classroom relatively quickly, so that teachers could use a range of strategies to assess the students' understanding and application of concepts and the use of the skills they had learnt during both HBL and face-to-face teaching in Semester One.

As I have been reading through the reports, I am so proud of the academic, social and emotional development of each child which is so clearly evident in the final comments of each report. These final comments give such a beautiful image of how your child is progressing in many aspects of school life and I believe they are such an important aspect of the reports. I remember the days when I would receive my primary school reports and our family tradition was that after my parents had read through it, the only parts they shared with me were my effort grades and the final comment - because my parents believed these truly represented the student I was developing into. So please enjoy celebrating your child's successes and achievements with them next week.

COMING EVENTS

JUNE

Every Wednesday School Assembly via Zoom 8.50am

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



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Parent/Teacher Interviews: For those who are having an interview with their teacher next week - don't forget all interviews are either by phone or Zoom (not face-to-face). Please check the Compass messages from 15th June for more information.

Wednesday morning Assemblies: A reminder that all parents are welcome to join our Wednesday morning assemblies at 8.50am via the zoom link: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97935728434>

Next Wednesday morning we will be celebrating the success of our primary students with their coding course and awarding some special coding awards.

Special virtual concert: Next Wednesday afternoon at 2.40pm we will also be holding a special virtual concert where families are invited to log in to watch some of our band students performing musical pieces they have been learning. We will use the same link as Wednesday morning assembly for this concert: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97935728434>

Pupil Free Day; 3rd July - Camp Australia will be open for families and you can book your child in for a day at Camp Australia via their website.

Coding at OLD: Our primary students have successfully completed 10 weeks of a new coding course with Code4fun. The children have had such a wonderful time working with their expert coding teaching, Daniel, and learning how to create their own games. The teachers have all been so proud of their enthusiasm, growth mindset and ability to persevere when learning new and challenging skills. Many of the students even wowed us by spending much of their free time continuing to develop their online games - make sure you ask them to show you (and even teach you) some of their new skills at home.

Next Term I am so excited to announce that our Year 1 and 2 students will commence their coding lessons in a face-to-face situation. They will have 10 lessons (one per week) and will start to learn the basics of coding. Kindergarten will commence their lessons in Term 4.

Code4fun will also be running a lunchtime club for students in Year 3-6. All details are included in the poster attached further in this newsletter.

ICAS: Each year the University of NSW offers schools online exams for students (at an extra cost to parents). In the past we have offered these exams to Year 3-6 students in a range of subjects.

We will be offering to hold these again for Year 3-6 students in 2020 but as they are not endorsed by educational bodies and are not aligned with the teaching and learning in the classrooms, we will hold them outside of school hours, so students don't miss important learning time.

The registration for these exams opens next term and they will be held in September. So please continue to check newsletters in Term 3 for more information.

Message from the School Banking Team:

School Banking update: The School Banking program will recommence from week 1 of term 3 (Tuesday 21 July). Thank you for your patience and understanding since the program was suspended. We are also on the lookout for more helpers. If you're able to spare 1hr on a Tuesday (usually 0930-1030) to assist, please contact Phil Munro via an email to the school office.

Promotional Videos: We have received the latest edition of our promotional video for 2020 and we are all so proud of how it shines a light on OLD. Here are the links to the videos of different lengths. Please share it with your family and friends and on social media!

<https://vimeo.com/430235626> (full length video)

<https://vimeo.com/430235869> (shorter version for social media)

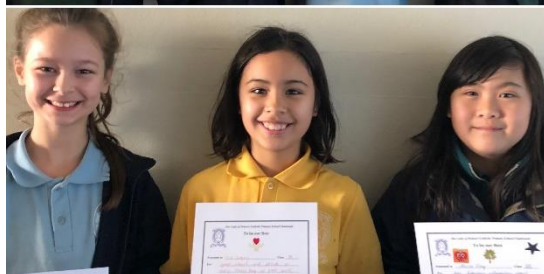


Book your school tour & enrolment interview today!



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

Week 8





**Learn to code and build
your own online projects
with CODE4FUN.**

Year 3 to Year 6 students are welcome to join. STEM focused programs – students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills by learning to code.



**SAVE \$100
ON YOUR CHILD'S
ENROLMENT**

CODING FOR KIDS

Term 3, 2020

Y3 - Y6 Students

CREATIVE CODING

EXTENSION LEVEL

Our Lady of Dolours

Face-to-face

Every Monday

20 July - 21 Sept | 10 weeks

12:40 pm - 1:40 pm

Y3 - Y6 students

\$220 per student per term

ENROL NOW AT
[**code4fun.com.au/old**](http://code4fun.com.au/old)

If you have any questions email us at
[**info@code4fun.com.au**](mailto:info@code4fun.com.au)
or call **0452 525 453**.

Check out our website at
[**www.code4fun.com.au**](http://www.code4fun.com.au) for more
details about our school.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Looking for a fun way to get your kids fit after COVID?

Then Chatswood Junior Rugby's GET INTO RUGBY! is for you!

\$50 for 5 one hour, non-contact, COVID-safe activity sessions

Join boys and girls in all age groups training strictly in compliance with COVID safety orders. Professionally facilitated, age-appropriate activity program run by Try Time Rugby – Trytime Rugby Camps

All new members receive a free Training T-shirt and a discounted membership if they choose to join for the competitions in Term 3.

Location:

Beauchamp Park, Chatswood

Dates:

2 program start dates on Wed/Fri 10th/12th June or Wed/Fri 17th/19th June (and then every Wednesday/Friday for 4 more weeks)

Ages:

Wednesday from 5pm for School years 4-6

Friday from 4pm for School years K-3

Register now:

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=630914&>

For more information: Call: Al Walker 0411 032 699 or Email: vpminis@chatswoodjuniorrugby.com.au



Junior
SCIENCE ACADEMY

**BLAST OFF INTO THE WORLD OF
STEM at MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY**

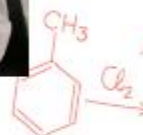
Join our exciting science, technology, engineering and maths programs for Years K- 7 during the July school holidays.

- Class topics include robotics, learning about dinosaurs, astronomy, DNA, and many, many more.
- Our classes are designed to teach concepts through experiments, art, drama, physical activity, craft & other hands-on activities.
- New courses are always added & all-time favourites are rotated each school holidays.
- Procedures for COVID-19 are in place and arrangements made for full refunds in the case of illness so parents don't lose money. Book with confidence.

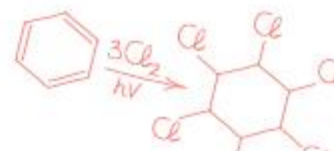
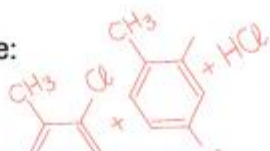


Creative Kids vouchers (value \$100) can be claimed for any robotics or coding class. Apply through ServiceNSW for your child's voucher.

Drop off	8.30am – 9.30am
Activities	9.30am – 4.30pm
Pick-up	4.30pm – 5.30pm
Cost	\$126.50



Want more information? Visit our website:
mq.edu.au/about/holidays





Junior Program

Tennis Lessons at Chatswood Tennis Club are open for enrolments.

Lessons are available every weekday afternoon as well as Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Active Kids Vouchers can be used for this program.

A FREE bus service runs on a Monday & Friday afternoon for Our Lady of Dolours students.



**Free bus service on
Mondays & Friday from
Our Lady of Dolours PS**

Please call 9411 1500 for more details or visit

<https://chatswoodtennis.com.au/kids-coaching/hot-shots-coaching/>



**HOLIDAY
CAMP**

Our holiday camp programs are designed for children ages 5-14 years old. Each day is action packed with professional tennis coaching, outdoor sports and games, and fun challenges with friends. Our camps are perfect for all levels and abilities.

ABOUT THE CAMPS

Our holiday camps provide a dedicated program for every level and age group. Modified equipment is used, enabling everyone to play and enjoy their progress. Varied activities ensure an engaging, fun and active holiday program experience.

BOOK ONLINE
www.chatswoodtennis.com.au/camps

**CAMP 1
29-3 JULY**

**CAMP 2
6-10 JULY**

**CAMP 3
13-17 JULY**

**CAMP 4
20 JULY**

WE OFFER

- PROFESSIONAL COACHING
- ACTIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
- COMPETITIONS
- BUS PICK UP & DROP OFF
- BEFORE & AFTER CARE

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 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.