

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER** Term 3 Week 1 – 20 July 2020

## ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Welcome back to another great term at OLD! It was so wonderful to welcome all our staff and students back on Monday with warm greetings and joyful smiles. Everyone has returned from holidays well-rested, healthy and ready to engage in some exciting learning experiences. We continue to pray for Phil during his time of recovery and pray that he is able to stay safe and healthy during this period of COVID restrictions.

A reminder to please feel welcome to contact me at any time throughout the term, or your classroom teachers, if you have any questions, concerns or feedback for the school, I am always willing to meet with you (in any mode you are comfortable with) to ensure we all stay connected throughout this unprecedented time.

**Welcome Ms Elizabeth Calabria:** Last term we were so fortunate to have the experienced Mrs Carmel Healey as our Acting Assistant Principal, unfortunately she was unable to continue with the role in Term 3. We now have Miss Elizabeth Calabria as our Acting Assistant Principal for Term 3. For all the staff and students at OLD, this is such wonderful news! Miss Calabria is currently the Education Officer/Curriculum at the Catholic schools Office and has worked with teachers, students and school leaders across all schools in the diocese, including our own, to develop challenging and engaging learning experiences for everyone. She has also had over 15 years experience as Assistant Principal in a variety of Broken Bay schools. We are so excited to have Miss Calabria's wealth of knowledge and expertise and we warmly welcome her to the OLD family.



**Welcome to OLD:** We are usually able to welcome our new students and their families to OLD during a school assembly, however, we have been unable to welcome Annabel (5/6G) who commenced at OLD this term. We are so happy to have you and your family part of the OLD school community.

**New awning:** During the holidays we installed a great new awning over the Stage 3 steps which will make sure our students remain dry and safe during wet days. (Please note; the awning is not complete yet as we are waiting for the plumber to finish off guttering and piping).



**Punctuality:** A reminder that school commences at 8.45am and all students need to be lined up with their class, ready to enter the classrooms at this time. Arriving after the bell, creates an unsettled start to the day and means your child often misses important messages which are relayed through our morning assemblies.

**Uniform reminders:** Students are reminded to only wear school jumpers and sports pants (available at Lowes) and only school colour hair accessories. Please also make sure no extra jewellery or nail polish is worn at school. Thank you.

## COMING EVENTS

### JULY

**Tuesday 28 Kindergarten 100 Days of School**

### SEPTEMBER

**Friday 25 Last day for term 3**

### OCTOBER

**Monday 12 Students return for term 4**

**Monday 12 School photos**

### DECEMBER

**Wednesday 16 Students last day term 4**

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

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



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**Food and eating at school:** Over the past week and at the end of Term 2, we have noticed a growing number of children coming to school without eating breakfast or not having enough food to sustain them throughout the day. We will always provide the child with a sandwich if they come to the office without food.

However, if you are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to have a confidential conversation with me about how the school can support your family with some food, please don't hesitate to call.

If you have noticed that your child (especially older children) is not eating due to body image concerns, please contact the school immediately so we can work together.

**Financial Assistance** I strongly encourage any family who requires financial assistance to visit our website and investigate how the Catholic Schools Office can assist you with fee relief: <https://www.olddb.catholic.edu.au/>

Alternatively you can contact the Fee Liaison Unit (FLU) at the CSO directly:

FLU phone number 9847 0728

FLU email [schoolfees@dbb.org.au](mailto:schoolfees@dbb.org.au)

Or visit [Fee Relief during Covid-19](#) on the CSO website

**COVID tests and communication with the school:** Thank you so much to all the families who continue to inform the school (email sent to Miss Thorpe via the school office) if someone in your immediate family (those that you reside with) is tested for Coronavirus. Please remember to also inform us of the results of the test. This is important information for our records in case anything happens in the future with COVID and NSW Health needs to trace close contacts. This information will remain confidential.

We would appreciate that you follow NSW Health guidelines that all your family isolates at home until results are received.

Thank you for your understanding with this procedure.

**Tuesday 28th July - Kindergarten 100 Days of School:** This is such an exciting day not only for the students but also the teachers and parents! We invite the whole school community to join us via the zoom link: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/94693449207> to congratulate our Kindy students for their 100 days of school. Each child will be acknowledged in a special ceremony and then have an amazing day filled with activities about 100 (I wonder if the teachers have jammed in 100 activities??). If weather permits we will hold the assembly in the COLA area, however, in the case of wet weather we will move the assembly to the school hall. We hope to see many community members coming along to congratulate our Kindy students (and teachers) for an outstanding first 100 days of school.



Please enjoy this video created by the Kindy teachers showing how the students track the number of days they have been at school: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/130zS5CASU89wB3Gjv5GKS5iy6uwliZQI/view?usp=sharing>

**Wednesday morning school assemblies:** This will be our final week hosting our school assembly via zoom (we will be moving back to school assemblies on the COLA in Week 2). However, we will continue to Zoom our assemblies for those families who wish to watch from home (Assemblies commence at 8.50am every Wednesday morning):

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

**School communication:** I wanted to take this opportunity to remind our parent community and to inform our new families of the ways the school communicates with families:

- **Compass notifications** (*All* communication to parents (including semester reports and newsletters) are communicated via Compass)
- **School newsletters** (Available on Compass and the school website each Friday)
- **School Facebook page** (our Facebook page is updated regularly with information about learning, photos of school events and daily life at school. *Please note; If you do not have a Facebook page you will not miss out on important information. All important information about school events and procedures will be communicated via Compass - no new information will be on the Facebook page*).
- **Parent Facebook communication page** (optional for parents to join to ask specific questions about school life to other parents)
- **School website** (includes such items as information on policies, school procedures and school calendar)
- **School email** [old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au) (parents can email their class teachers at any time via the school email address, these get sent to teachers automatically, Teachers may email individual parents via email)

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- **Parent meetings** (Parents are always welcome (at any time of the year) to make a meeting with their class parents to discuss concerns or their child's progress - please email via the school email address to book a time with your teacher)
- **Calling the school 9419 2645** (Parents are welcome to call the front office to communicate any urgent messages or ask questions of Jane and Sandra in the office, phone messages can also be passed on to teachers during their break times)

*Please remember that during dismissal time, a teacher has a duty of care to look after the students in their class. This is not a safe time to try and hold a meeting with your teacher or discuss an important issue. Rather than rushing a meeting during pick up time, please schedule a time to sit down with your teacher, so all concerns or questions can be properly addressed.*

**Coding at OLD:** We have had such an amazing week with our Year 1 and 2 students starting their coding journeys with [www.code4fun.com.au](http://www.code4fun.com.au). Our students were introduced to the 'Scratch' program and even started programming their little cat to move around the screen. I am so excited to see where this program takes us and how engaged and excited our students are to learn such amazing new skills.



**Year 3-6 parents, please make sure you ask your children to log into their Scratch account and show you the projects they made last term...they are simply amazing!**

**Lunchtime clubs at OLD:** We have kicked off Term 3 with an absolute bang! We are so excited to have our students back face-to-face and have commenced the term with the introduction of numerous new lunchtime clubs and co-curricular activities.

**Letter writing club** (Led by Year 5 girls): This is a weekly club open to all grades where children can come and learn the art of letter writing and in turn create beautiful hand-written letters that will be sent to individual residents of the Dougherty Centre in Chatswood.

**Friday games club** (Led by Year 5 boys - A different grade each week): The Year 5 boys lead games and activities for different grades each Friday lunchtime. The boys work together to create the age-appropriate activities for the students.

**Homework Club** (Wednesday lunch, starting Week 3): This is a club where children can come and complete some of their homework. There will be a teacher available to assist with any questions the children may have. The children will be reminded of this when it starts in Week 3.

**Choir** (Year 3-6; Thursday lunch): Mrs Hoy leads our primary students in a choir that then performs in our school and wider community. Your child can talk to Mrs Hoy at school if they have any further questions about choir or would like to join.

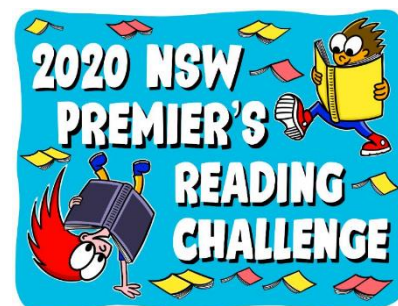
**Coding class** (Year 3-6; Monday and Tuesdays): This is a paid course that parents can register their child for (at an additional cost) by clicking on this link: <https://www.code4fun.com.au/old>

**Chess club** (Thursday lunch); This is a paid course that parents can register their child at an additional cost. Please refer to the Compass message sent on Monday 20th July for more information.

**Guitar and Keyboard lessons (VIP music):** This is a paid course that parents can register their child at an additional cost. Please email or call the office for more information.

**Premier's Reading Challenge:** Congratulations to all these children who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge over the school holidays. I wonder which class will have the most participants in 2020?

Mirin	Henry	Yeo Won
Chun-nan	Michaela	Ayuna
Cameron	Autumn	Sofia
Prisha	Thalia	





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**Upgrading the 'Grower's Corner'** Our School Captains, Genevieve and Frankie, are working on a project to make our Grower's Corner more engaging and filled with flourish nature. If you have a vegetable garden/pod (like the one pictured) or hanging garden at home that you no longer use and would like to donate to the school, please let us know!



**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.

**Free furniture available:** We still have numerous pieces of furniture available for families to pick up and use at home or at their workplace. Please email the school if you would like to take some free of charge.



**Enrolling now for 2021**  
Virtual Open Days and  
Online interviews available

**Looking for a school to ensure your child  
reaches their best and beyond; come  
along to our Virtual Open Days.**



**Monday 10th August 6-7pm**  
**Thursday 13th August 10-11am**

**To register click on the link below or contact the  
school office for more information**

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/fBA1xG9qWn7ZBCKx6>

Website: <https://www.olddb.catholic.edu.au>

Phone: 9419 2645

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

*I wanted to share this beautiful and emotive piece of writing from one of our extraordinary authors, Stephanie in Year 5. Enjoy!*

## **Broken**

By Stephanie (5/6P)

You think laughing kookaburras always laugh because they're happy, but they're not. Some are broken inside but they hide their sadness so they don't ruin the mood. They look so happy, but really, they're broken.

They get judged.

Bullied.

People call them names.

They wonder 'What's wrong with me?'



They doubt themselves. They think it's them that causes all the trouble. The chaos. The sadness. They blame themselves because bullies say false things to make them feel broken.

But still they stand tall. Smile. Laugh. Hiding the pain. They hold the tears. They try to ignore comments. Bad, Negative comments. Everyone thinks Laughing Kookaburras are freaks. They stand out. In a bad way. They have no friends. They're always lonely. Sitting alone. When no one is near, they cry. Not because they're weak, because they've been too strong for too long. No one cares about them. No one stands up for them. They're walked by. Bystanders. They don't help. They become more chipped and broken.

Until someone brave comes along. A hero. Someone who cares for them and knows they deserved to be loved. They stand up for the laughing kookaburras. They help them understand their sadness and give them strategies to heal, get better and improve their lives. They know the laughing kookaburras aren't freaks. They're just broken.

The hero helps them out of their tears. And kookaburras are lonely no more. They finally have friends. They are finally actually happy. They have learnt what to do to help themselves. They don't fake they're laughs anymore. They actually smile for real. They're happy. So happy. They're no longer broken. They are finally fixed.

## **Parish News**

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

We are delighted to announce that from **Sunday 26 July**, we will again be offering Children's Liturgy of the Word during our 9am Mass. Families with children who would like to attend, please listen out for the children to be invited by the priest at the beginning of Mass. Our wonderful parent volunteers have all been updated on operating in a COVID safe way as well as undergoing required child safeguarding training. If you would like to know more about our Children's Liturgy program, please contact our Children's Liturgy Co-Ordinator Branka Posa at: **branka\_111@hotmail.com**

### **Zoom Liturgy of the Word (LOW)**

The online ZOOM Liturgy of the Word (LOW) group began during lockdown as a way for families to listen to and reflect on God's Word together when we couldn't go to Mass. We currently have about 20 families who join us online from the comfort of their homes.

We start off with a welcome and catch-up before moving into the liturgy itself. The scripture readings are read out by the families. Fr Jim offers a short homily followed by a short individual family reflection time. We finish off in a 'breakout room' where we get a chance to socialise in smaller groups. The gatherings are relaxed, welcoming and inspiring and we would love more families to join! **We gather together on the first Sunday of every month.** Please contact Angela Hague on [angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au) if you would like to join. All welcome!

### **Parish Bulletin**

Click [here](#) for the Our Lady of Dolours Parish Bulletin (16th Sunday Ordinary Time/July 19th)

### **Parent Invitation - Home Based Spirituality**

Find out more about our new series of online parent sessions offered by the Diocese of Broken Bay. Click here for more information - [Home-Based Spirituality](#). You are invited to read/watch reflection material in your own time, then zoom in to share some thoughts with other parents. Parents can also go to the [Walking the Way website](#) and catch up on previous sessions. Please contact: Jo Spek [jo.spek@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jo.spek@dbb.catholic.edu.au) for more information.

# **AWARD WINNERS**

## **Week 1**





ACTING REC – Miss Camilla Brown

# AWARD WINNERS

## Week 1



*Book your school tour & enrolment interview today!*



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



## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Birthdays:** Children are invited to wear mufti clothes (play clothes) to celebrate their birthday. They will be acknowledged at morning assembly. Due to our regulations around food sharing (due to severe food allergies at the school) we ask that parents do not bring in edible treats for the children. **Please note this is a different arrangement than in the past:** Parents can purchase and bring in their own zooper-dooper style ice-blocks or icy-poles (no ice-cream) and the teachers will distribute them. Please note this should only be for your child's class not the whole year. You may bring in your ice-blocks frozen (clearly labelled with your child's name) or the school can freeze them for you – NB: It can take up to a week to freeze a whole bag/box of ice-blocks.



### **Learn Music on Keyboard or Guitar at School Enrolment for Term 3**

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

- Keyboard: kindy - 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



# Welcome back to your OSHC!

We are excited to welcome all families back to OSHC in Term 3.

We have been busy planning experiences to ensure the children are reconnecting with friends, enjoying their time with us and continuing to explore their interests while in service.



## Check out what's planned for the return of your OSHC:

### Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School

<b>Monday</b>	Magnetic Black Boards – Craft Activity
<b>Tuesday</b>	Make a Thermometer - Science Experiment
<b>Wednesday</b>	Carrot Dessert - Cooking Activity
<b>Thursday</b>	Make your own personalized pencil case - Art Activity
<b>Friday</b>	Corn Starch Constructions

### Enhanced safety and hygiene

With updated policies and measures, we commit to providing a safe and hygienic environment for your children to enjoy.

### FREE to Register

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

[Register now free](#)

### Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

[Visit our blog](#)

# 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.***