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Our Lady of Dolours News

From the Principal

<u>Home Based Learning Progress</u>

Congratulations and thank you to our students, parents and carers and our Teachers. Feedback around HBL, while it is not without its challenges, has been positive and we all seem to be finding our groove. Hard work and perseverance is paying off as we see our students producing wonderful work each and every day. While we are missing being with our beautiful students in person, all of the wonderful smiling faces our teachers are seeing on zoom each morning is making their day. Earlier this week you were sent a <u>link</u> via COMPASS with a special message from all our staff letting you know how much they miss you all and how proud of you they are - if you haven't had a chance to view this yet now is the perfect time to sit down with your family to watch.

A reminder that you are invited to our whole school assemblies which will be held via zoom each Friday afternoon at 12.30pm.

St Mary of the Cross Feast Day - Sunday 8 August

As the celebration of St Mary of the Cross approaches we encourage you to recall how Mary MacKillop accomplished God's work. Mary worked tirelessly to improve the lives of many young children who lived in the Australian bush. She gathered others around her to help her in this work and she found joy in making others happy. She showed us by her example how to treat others. May we strive to live like she did, treating others with love, compassion, tolerance and forgiveness. I encourage you to say a prayer on Sunday for St Mary of the Cross and think about how you will strive to live by her words **'never see a need without doing something about it'.** Further on in the newsletter you will find a list of quotes from Mary Mackillop's life that you may wish to reflect on.

Feast of the Assumption: Sunday 15 August.

We celebrate the Feast of the Assumption which is when we give thanks and praise to God for the blessings of Mary's life here on Earth as she ascends into Heaven. Mary lived her life with complete openness and trust in God and we pray to Mary for the same grace and trust in our God.

We ask all students to reflect on Mary's life and her ascension into Heaven to be reunited with Jesus.

CELEBRATING FAMILY WEEK 8 - 14 August 2021

This year we are celebrating 200 years of Catholic education in Australia, marking the bicentenary of the first Catholic school established in Parramatta in October 1820.

Parents and carers are the primary educators of their children, and as crucial partners in each student's learning journey. To recognise the significant contribution families have made to the foundation, growth and continuity of Catholic schools in Australia over 200 years, a Family Week will be celebrated nationally from 8 August 2021 - 14 August 2021.

The week coincides with the Feast Day of Australia's First Saint, Mary MacKillop, who was a passionate educator and advocate for children and families, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

For more information about bicentenary visit www.200years.catholic.edu.au



Upcoming events

August

HBL - Please remember do what you can and reach out if you need support.



Staff Development Days

Fri 17 September Thurs 16 December Friday 17 December

2021 - 14 August 2021. The week coincides with the Feast Day of Australia's First Saint, Mary **School calendar click <u>here</u>**



6 August 2021 Home Based Learning Highlights

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Thank you

Thank you for sharing your positive HBL moments with us this week.

It is wonderful to see the students not only working hard on their HBL but also making sure they are spending special moments with their families and pets and enjoying being outside exercising, exploring local bush walks, science and craft activities and baking.



Positive stories from HBL

Do you have a positive moment from HBL you would like to share with the school community? If so please email Jane - old@dbb.catholic.edu.au with an image, short video or quote to be included in the next newsletter publication.

Remember this time will pass and we can all only do our best to get through. We must actively look after ourselves to enable us to look after others so take care and be kind to yourself.

ATTENDANCE

The NSW Government and CSNSW have reminded us that parents must keep children of all ages across Primary and Secondary schooling, home if they can. Our school will ensure that our students are supported to learn from home during this time and have adopted HBL as our primary form of teaching. If your child needs to attend our school we are open and will provide the supervision needed.







Below is a list of quotes from Mary Mackillop's life that you may wish to reflect on during this time of challenge.

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Prayer is our great weapon. (1907) God will provide for the future. (1907) I must only trust in the mercies of God. (1867) God loves each one of us not withstanding our faults. (1874) With God on our side what need we fear? (1890) Lean more on God and less on ourselves. (1877) God's ways and ours are so different. (1878) **(III.OP** Never is God nearer to us than when danger threatens. (1880) OF AUSTRALL If men and women forget, God does not. (1884) PRAY FOR US Courage, trust in God who helps you in all things. (1874) God will draw good out of evil. (1874) When I could not see my way, God kept my heart full of trust to make all come right. (1874) God's love is too deep for words to express. (1874) A certain sense of God's wonderful love strengthens me. (1873) God wants us to take fresh courage. (1877) God understands us better than we understand ourselves or each other. (1877) God is good and merciful. (1870) Trust in God. (1874) God helps us walk on water like St. Peter until he began to fear. (1890) I can never think of God but as one of such tenderness that cannot be cast off. (1890) God's will be done. (1898) Be calm and full of hope. (1871) Let not your crosses make you unhappy. (1890) We must look before us; do what we do well and refuse undertaking too much. (1898) Our courage needs to rise with difficulties and obstacles. (1890) Try always to be generous. (1882) Keep young as long as you can. (1874) Let us all have courage. (1874) Of ourselves we can never be sure that all that looks good is really so. (1875) Never be ashamed of work done for God and for God's poor. (1874) Work with constancy and courage. (1876) No duty is too little to be done well. (1873) Be faithful in the least as well as the great. (1873) Do all you can to work on in unity. (1882) Let not weakness make you discouraged. (1876) We must take things quietly and just do what our good God enables us to do. (1875 No matter what your short comings you shall certainly succeed in the end. (1874) When a duty is clear to me it must be done at any cost. (1899) True happiness depends on ourselves not on those around us. (1907) We must teach more by example than by word. (1867) Gratitude is the memory of the heart. (1907) There where you are you will find God. (1871) So great is the strength we possess in our unity. (1874) Keep your mind in peace whatever happens. (1890) St Mary of the Cross Mackillop Let us never admit grades of distinctions we are all humble followers of Christ. Never see a need without doing Be eager in your desires but patient in their accomplishment. something about it. Never see a need without trying to do something about it

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Teacher Check In's

Classroom teachers have been contacting you to check in to see how you and your family are going. Please note that calls coming into your phone from your teacher will be from 'no caller ID'.



Communications

As you will be aware by now all updates for parents are being distributed through COMPASS, so please ensure you have your notification settings updated and you are logging in regularly. When changes are received or any updates provided, parents will be informed via Compass. The main thing we can do as a community is follow the advice from our medical experts. If you have concerns please consult your GP, visit the NSW Health website: https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Pages/ default.aspx or ring the NSW Health hotline 1800 022 222.

Starting to think about high school? Mercy College Chatswood will be holding a virtual Open Morning on Tuesday 10 August, click <u>here</u> to register your interest.



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From the Parish

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish



Please find here the links to <u>Fr David's Sunday Homily</u>, <u>The Parish Bulletin</u> and the <u>Sunday Extra</u>. Fr David has also recorded a message to our Parish, is has great advice for us at this juncture in our journey, <u>Fr David's message</u>.

I encourage you to take a moment to read Fr David's message of hope and encouragement during lockdown.

The Parish also has several online gatherings you are able to select to participate in during this time of lockdown, please click <u>here</u> to find out more.



Book Club Update

HOME DELIVERY NOW AVAILABLE FOR ANY NEW ORDERS.

In response to the extended lockdown Scholastic have added the temporary option for you to be provided with either school or home delivery for any new book club orders you place. This home delivery option will be available online to parents until August 16. Please note the home delivery option will be at a cost of \$7.50.

For any questions, please reach out to Mrs McKittrick via the school office at old@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Click <u>here</u> for catalogue

