

Our Lady of Dolours News

From the Principal

What a wonderful two weeks it has been welcoming our whole school community back to face to face learning. Kindergarten and Grade 1 returned first, successfully settling back into the routines of the classroom and enjoying the benefits of being back in the flesh with their teachers and friends. This week we saw the remainder of the school, with Grade 2 - 6, joining us. The smiles (hidden beneath masks that we have seen through the sparkle in their eyes), laughter, friendly chatter of those reconnecting and an amazing dedication to learning has brought endless joy. We are extremely proud of the positive attitudes to learning our students are displaying and for the resilience and adaptation to change they have demonstrated on their return.

I thank all the staff for their professional and dedicated work over the HBL period. Working remotely is not easy and has involved many additional hours of work and planning.

Congratulations to our parents and carers for taking on the role of teaching assistant. I hope you gained an insight into your child's learning and were able to spend some quality time together.

As we work on keeping the school as COVID safe as possible, we would like to ensure you that the students are adapting well to mask wearing, continual hand sanitation, staggered break times, designated play areas and new dismissal zones. We thank all our parents and carers for their assistance and cooperation with these changes to ensure the safety of our community as a whole. We also appreciate your understanding as we evolve with the ever changing circumstances this pandemic presents us with.

CULTURE SURVEY

Earlier this year parents and staff at Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood were invited to participate in a culture survey. Due to COVID there was a delay in receiving the results. Below is a summary:

Following our recent Culture Survey Catholic School Broken Bay received an excellent response with 4849 people responding including 2602 parents, 945 students and 1302 staff and clergy.

Overall, respondents were positive about Our Lady of Dolours' culture. There was a strong alignment to our values across all stakeholders and all participants felt a solid connection to our community.

Not surprisingly, our top 3 Personal Values were centered on caring, family and honesty.

In our Current Culture, parents listed our top 5 values as Faith, creativity, embracing diversity, accountability and compassion – again a strong reinforcement of our vision of an authentic professional Catholic education, delivered with care and compassion.

The top values selected by parents for our Desired Culture demonstrate that we are all focused on our vision. They are academic excellence, creativity, coaching/mentoring, leadership development and well-being.

This highlights that our foundations of faith and compassion are strong, and we need to continually work together as partners to ensure that all of our students are supported and encouraged to become the best they can be.

The themes we need to understand further and address are around ensuring our growth into the future, developing stronger relationships with all stakeholders and the operational structures of the school to support the desire for continued growth and development as a contemporary centre of learning for all students.

Thank you for your valuable contribution to our inaugural CSBB culture survey.



Upcoming events

November

Thurs 11 - Remembrance Day

Wed 17 - Kindergarten 2022

Orientation Morning

December

Fri 3 - Year 6 Graduation Liturgy and Function.

5pm Liturgy

6pm - 9pm Function - more details to come

Wed 15 Dec - last day term 4

Staff Development Days

Thurs 16 December

Friday 17 December

School calendar click [here](#)



Congratulations Fr Aldrin



Ordination of Fr Aldrin Valdehueza

Last Tuesday, Our Lady of Dolours celebrated an extraordinary movement for our parish community! Members of the parish community were invited to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for our newly ordained priest, Fr Aldrin Valdehueza. We give God thanks for his gift to us of Fr Aldrin. We are so excited to celebrate the Eucharist with Fr Aldrin at Mass.

We look forward to Fr Aldrin leading us at Eucharist at Mass. Please see the parish website for Mass times. All are welcome!



Bishop's Art Prize

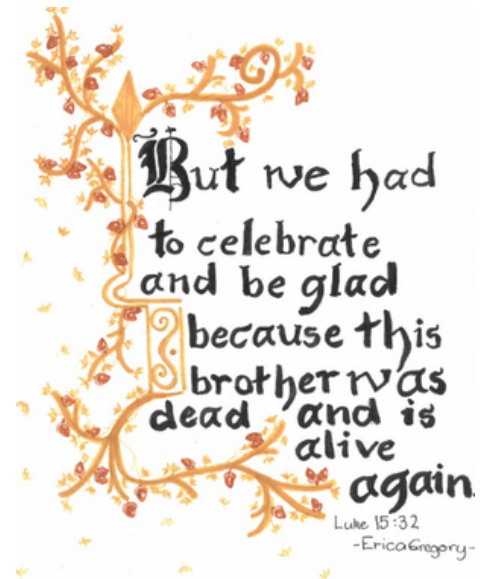
During Term 2 & Term 3, some of our students at Our Lady of Dolours entered the Bishop's Art Prize Competition. The theme for this year was to choose a story or significant verse from any of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

I would like to congratulate Erica Gregory in Year 6 for being selected as our Stage 3 winner for OLD. Erica used beautiful calligraphy and artistic design to depict the bible verse Luke 15:32.

I would also like to congratulate Sophie Chan in Kindergarten for being selected as our Early Stage 1 winner for OLD. Sophie's beautiful artwork depicting The Good Shepherd in which 'Jesus lays down his life for us and the sheep'.

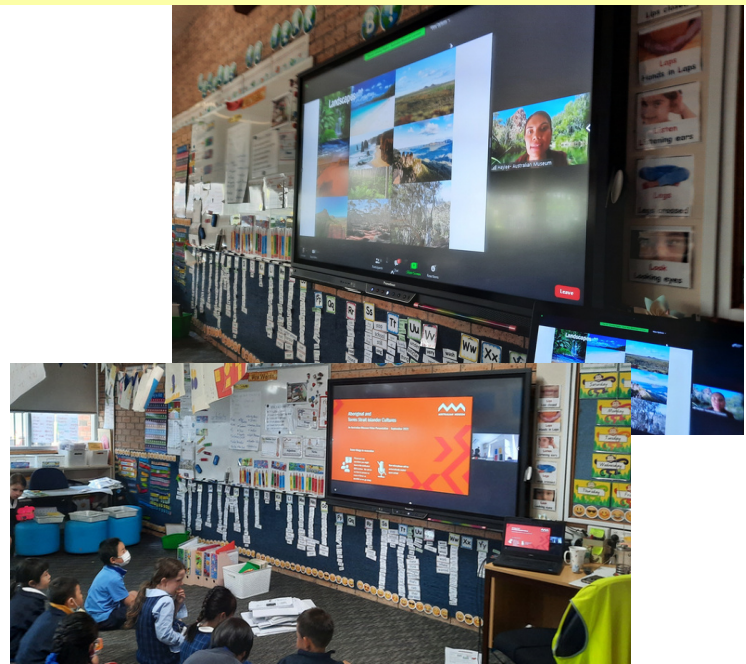
We are excited to announce that Sophie Chan's artwork was submitted to the diocesan-wide competition and personally awarded first place for Kindergarten by Bishop Anthony Randazzo! Sophie was awarded first place out of ALL the schools in the Broken Bay Diocese. We are extremely proud of you Sophie!

Sophie explained "the sheep are happy because they have lovely green grass to eat and they are safe. The Shepherd looks after his sheep and keeps them safe. Jesus and God keep us safe."



On Tuesday 26th October, Year 1 enjoyed a virtual incursion (via zoom) from the Australian museum to learn all about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Students learnt about the meanings of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags. They also learnt about totems, Australian animals, climate and Australia's changing landscape and much more. This incursion linked to Year 1 Geography and Religion units. All students loved learning new facts!

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The incredible efforts of Stage 3 during HBL are to be celebrated. Each student was allocated one square metre in their classroom to display the work they were most proud of.



Days of Face to Face Learning for Kindergarten!!!



Kindergarten were so excited to reach this milestone and celebrated with a day filled with all activities about 100!



From the Parish

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS
Chatswood Catholic Parish



Please find here the links to [Fr David's Sunday Homily](#), [The Parish Bulletin](#) and the [Sunday Extra](#).

I encourage you to take a moment to read Fr David's messages 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 [here](#) to find out more.

[Supporting the Parish](#) Our Lady of Dolours now has the capacity to contribute to our parish planned giving program online. The link is Online Giving - Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay (bbcatholic.org.au) Through this link you can give to the First Collection, the Second Collection and the Pastoral Works Fund. Of course, we desperately do need your financial support. Our parish continues on so many different levels, but without congregations joining us every weekend, our income is severely depleted. So if you can assist us in the same way as if you did before the lockdown that would be so greatly appreciated. And now the easiest way to do this is to go online and use the link. With our deep gratitude -

From Fr David.



LOWER NORTH SHORE
CHILD & FAMILY
INTERAGENCY

ONLINE FORUM 2021

KAREN YOUNG
Author of the best selling book,
"HEY WARRIOR"

Tuesday 9th November

❖ Working with Anxiety in Children and Adolescents

Thursday 18th November

❖ The Effect of Trauma on the Developing Brain and How to Support Children Towards Healing



Details

Date:

Tuesday
9th November,
9:00am-12:30pm

Thursday 18th
November,
1:00-4:30pm

Venue: ONLINE,
Zoom

Cost: \$10(ONE
SESSION)
\$15 FOR (BOTH
SESSIONS)

Register:

<https://www.trybooki.ng.com/BUNED>

RSVP:

Bookings close on
Monday 8th Nov, 3pm
sharp

For: Community,
Schools and other
service providers

Further Info

Please contact Maria
Comino
mariac@ransw.org.au



Integricare
Exceptional learning and care



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District

**Mosman
COUNCIL**

Relationships Australia
NEW SOUTH WALES

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay



Communities
& Justice

From the Parish

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS
Chatswood Catholic Parish



Parish Survey 2021

At the end of Term 2 you may also recall the completing a parish survey when attending the parents teacher interview. This survey was administered just before going into lockdown due to COVID and was optional. The survey was paper based and we thank the parents for the very high uptake on the two evenings. Below is a summary of our results. This will also be shared with parents at our next parent meeting:





*Year 6 Graduation and
Liturgy
Friday, December 3
5pm - more details to
come.*

Godly Play Kits - Helpers Needed!

Our school Religious Education Curriculum has some new and exciting changes coming in 2022! As part of the Early Learning Curriculum, we are looking for helpers to assist us with painting our Religious play materials.

If you are interested in assisting us with painting some figurines (see the pictures below) please contact Miss Camilla Brown via the office at old@dbb.catholic.edu.au



Catholic Mission Month & Socktober

This Catholic Mission Month. Pope Francis calls us to 'Rise up from the couch – with your boots laced - and turn your hands into signs of love...'

We extend a warm invitation to register your child/ren for [Socktober](#) online [here](#). Please register under the school (not class). All proceeds will go towards supporting the basic needs of vulnerable children in Thailand.

At home challenge.....

Try [making a Sockball](#) at home using recycled materials!

Try out Mrs Sargent's '[Sockball Sporting Challenge](#)' and send some photos of you in action!



How our fundraising can help.....



\$35

Can help towards the cost of school supplies for one child for one year



\$300

Can help purchase milk for all the children at the kindergarten for two weeks



\$102

Can help towards the meals and snacks for one child at the kindergarten for a year.



\$1500

Could purchase one school uniform for all 59 girls at the kindergarten for one year.



Thank you for helping us this Socktober!



Putting The Band Back Together!



Last term and across the school holidays, students from Our Lady of Dolours band were given the opportunity to participate in an optional recording project run by Teaching Services Australia (TSA).

Over 300 students joined from more than 50 school to rehearse weekly on Zoom.

They worked in 5 groups at various levels ranging from beginner to advanced and each group learned and recorded a band song. Some students submitted audio recordings whilst others also participated in the video recording session. Everyone worked hard, learned a lot and enjoyed making music together.

Congratulations to those students from Our Lady of Dolours who participated, you have done an amazing job keeping music alive in these challenging times.

If you would like to see an example of what these students achieved, please click [here](#).

OLD CHATSWOOD SCHOOL BAND JOIN THE BAND!

Is your child interested in joining the school band?

The school band is now taking enrolments for 2022 and is open to all students currently in years 2-5.

No prior experience needed!

During Term 4 students will see a band demonstration highlighting the different instruments available to learn at school. After this demonstration they will receive a flyer with information about school band and how to enrol.

What do you need to do?

1. Carefully read the flyer for information about the school band (or visit www.teachingservices.com.au/EOI)
2. Select which instrument** your child would like to play in the band – there are some important factors to consider when selecting an instrument and these are all covered on our website
3. Enrol online – once you have confirmed which instrument your child wishes to play, please finalise your enrolment online

Learning an instrument in an ensemble is a great way to experience the social, educational and personal benefits that music and the arts have to offer! TSA provides a variety of tuition options as well as instrument hire and sales to help parents give the gift of music to their children.

TSA is a registered COVID-safe provider and delivers instrumental programs with a focus on inclusion, student engagement and well-being.

***Selecting an instrument during remote learning and COVID restrictions will be different to previous years – TSA will provide parents with clear and simple advice to help you find the instrument best suited to your child.*



(02) 9651 7333
enrolments@teachingservices.com.au
www.teachingservices.com.au

