

FEBRUARY 2023 EDITION 1

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS NEWS

Ignite, Innovate & Include in the Spirit of Mercy



## WELCOME TO 2023

### MARCO IANNI PRINCIPAL

Welcome to all our students, parents, carers and staff to the 2023 school year. It is an absolute pleasure, to welcome all our families to Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School (OLD). I hope and pray that you quickly come to feel fully connected to, and supported by, the community. To all our existing families, I sincerely welcome you back.

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work over the holidays preparing the school for the start of the year. Your child's teacher is the key to learning success and such an important part of their development academically, socially and spiritually. The support staff are also always here to assist you in any way.

I look forward to a rewarding year as we work together in partnership as a Catholic school community within the Chatswood Parish, implementing an authentic learning programme that is aligned with our modern world. Our aim is to cater for the needs of all children in an inclusive setting where learning is valued and celebrated for each individual.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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Wed 15 & Thurs 16 Feb - Tell Me About Your Child Meetings

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Wed 15 Feb - Kindergarten Parent information session

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Fri 17 Feb - Beginning School Mass

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Tues 28 Feb - Open Day

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Thurs 6 April - Last Day Term 1

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Mon 24 April - Staff Development Day

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# OLD'S SCHOOL VISION

## IGNITE, INNOVATE & INCLUDE IN THE SPIRIT OF MERCY

The beginning of the school year is a perfect time to revisit our School Vision and make a commitment to bringing it to life as best as possible as we commence our 2023 journey together.

Some thoughts to inspire us:



*IGNITE:* How challenging and how exciting will our learning environment be in every classroom K-6? How will everything we do at school, home and within our parish community be inspiring? How can we ignite our passion for life-long learning, our faith, our friendships?

*INNOVATE:* How will OLD further become an authentic learning community - a community of learners who are natural problem solvers and creative thinkers in all aspects of school, home and parish/community life? How can we innovate parent engagement to optimise growth with all our community members?



*INCLUDE:* How 'inclusive' and 'accepting' will our community be in all areas of school and wider community life? How will academic learning, K-6, flourish in an inclusive learning environment? How will authentic connectedness to 'home', 'parish' and the wider community develop us as a community of learners?



# VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT OLD FOR 2023

Are you interested in becoming more involved in the OLD community?, if so volunteering may be for you. We have many wonderful opportunities to volunteer and support the school during the year. You don't need to be able to offer hours, you would be amazed at the positive impact just 30minutes of your time can make. Below are some of the opportunities currently available or you can contact the school office via email for more information. The students and staff of OLD thank you in advance for your ongoing commitment and support.

## Grade Parents 2023 Nominations



## Grade Parents Nominations

We are inviting nominations for Grade Parents for 2023. This is an easy, fun role and a great way to meet everyone in your child's grade.

The Grade Parent's role involves:

- Being a contact person for the Principal, staff and Parent Groups.
- Assist in providing a link between the school and the parish.
- Organise helpers for the classroom when requested by the grade teachers.
- Arrange social gatherings for students and parents to meet up outside of school hours.
- Organise one school-based function e.g. Tea & Tissues, Mothers Day Morning Tea.

If you are interested in this very important role in our school, please fill out the form [here](#) or scan the Qr code by Thursday 16th February. You will be required to attend a Grade Parent Briefing before commencing your role. Dates for the briefings are planned for Monday 20 February at 9.00m or Wednesday 22 February at 2.30pm.

Yours sincerely,  
Marco Ianni

## Events Committee Nominations

We are inviting nominations for Events Committee Members for 2023. This is an easy, fun role and a great way to meet other parents across the school community.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of the Events Committee, please click [here](#) or scan the Qr code by Friday 17 February.

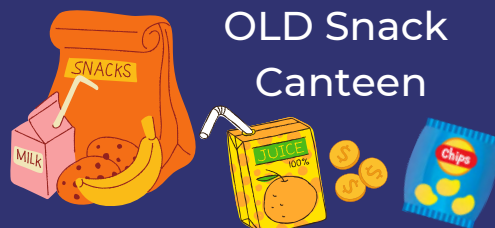
Once we have nominations back we can start to formulate and appoint a liaison person for each group.

Parents are required to complete the Parent Volunteer form for any of these committees.

Once formulated I will organise a meeting for us to get together and start planning.

Kind regards  
Marco Ianni

## Events Committee Nominations for 2023



## OLD Snack Canteen

The OLD Snack Canteen is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1.15-2pm for students to purchase snacks and drinks.

If you are available to assist please contact Cris on preferably via sms on 0478 019 838.

The students thank you for helping to provide this fabulous in school service.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Multilit Tutoring at OLD

**What is Multilit?**

The Multilit Reading Tutor Program (RTP), developed by Macquarie University, caters for students who have not yet acquired the basic skills needed to become independent readers. It takes an intensive, systematic approach to reading.

**What do we need?**

We are asking for anyone who is interested in being trained in Multilit and running sessions with students at OLD. Volunteers must have a Working With Children Check and be available 1-4 mornings per week during the school term. As this is a reading program, you must be proficient in speaking and reading English.

**I'm keen! Who should I contact?**

Please email the office and address to Miss Baynie.



## Preloved Uniforms

Could you spare 30-60minutes of your time to assist our Preloved uniform team in sorting and selling our preloved uniforms. The commitment is small, but the reward is large as not only will you be helping with an invaluable service you will also have the opportunity to meet some of our amazing parent community.

For more information please contact Jennifer via email [jenniferleighwhite@hotmail.com](mailto:jenniferleighwhite@hotmail.com)



# WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN 2023

MISS OLIVIA SMITH

I have the pleasure of introducing the Kindy Team this year. Angelina Femia is teaching Kindy Blue this year. She is a Mother to two grown up girls and loves spending time with her family. Angelina loves Zumba - you will always catch her doing the cha cha cha with her students! Rosie Rotherham is teaching Kindy Gold, and is the outdoor queen! She loves spending time with her family and friends on bushwalks. Rosie loves singing any old style music, like The Beatles (but don't listen too closely as she doesn't know the words!!). I am Olivia Smith on Kindy White this year. I love going to the beach with my family and friends or spending the afternoon walking my puppy Frankie. I love listening to John Mayer, and pretending I can play the guitar as well as him.. and unlike Rosie, I know the words to almost all songs!



We have loved getting to know your children so far, all the Kindy students have settled so well and are loving learning! We have engaged in play, literacy, numeracy, sport, music, library and a lot of getting to know you games. We can't wait to see how you grow and change over this year.. the best is yet to come!!!!



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Thank you for the  
amazing experience you  
all created for us to  
welcome the  
Kindergarten families on  
our first day of school  
“



# MATHEMATICAL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWS (MAI)

MRS KELLY CLOUSTON

Thank you for taking the time out of the last day of your holidays to bring your child to their Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) or Best Start Assessment. Most of our students have completed their MAI with their teacher and there are still some students who will have the opportunity to do this over the next week. This data provides a great insight around how individual students approach mathematical learning and enable teachers to plan specific learning tasks to cater for the diverse range of learners in each class. One of the benefits of administering the MAI is the chance to sit one on one with each student and closely analyse the way they think and reason mathematically.



## ATTENDANCE AND INDEPENDENCE



Punctuality is a wonderful skill to develop, and we have certainly begun our school year with students arriving on time for school. I have also noticed a greater level of independence from students (as young as kindergarten!). Helping your child to develop organisational skills such as packing and unpacking their own bag and being responsible for their learning tools will set them up with good learning habits for the future.

## 'TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CHILD' MEETINGS & KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT

Next week we will be holding the 'Tell Me About Your Child' meetings in the library and you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and share with them any relevant information to support your child's social, emotional and academic needs. Please complete the survey and bring to the 'Tell Me About Your Child' meeting next week. If you have any questions, please email me through the office. The information you choose to share will support your child to have a successful year of learning and we look forward to seeing you then.

*Please note that the Kindergarten Information Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th February 6:00-7:00pm in the Kindergarten rooms.*



I would like to thank all the teachers in OLD. This is my child's second week and they are happily going to school every day!

We are so happy to be part of the OLD community.



# PBL (POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND LEARNING) AT OLD



A graphic for the PBL framework at Our Lady of Dolours. It features three crayons at the top: a red one labeled 'SAFE', a blue one labeled 'LEARNERS', and a green one labeled 'RESPECTFUL'. To the right are two more crayons: a green one labeled 'RESPECTFUL' and an orange one labeled 'RESPONSIBLE'. In the center is the school crest. Below the crayons, the text reads: 'At Our Lady of Dolours, we strive To Be Our Best, by being a:'. This is followed by three columns of expectations, each with a colored header: 'Safe Learner' (red), 'Respectful Learner' (green), and 'Responsible Learner' (yellow).

**SAFE LEARNERS**

- We have safe and caring hands.
- We are in the right place at the right time.
- We make good choices.
- We wear a hat outside.

**RESPECTFUL LEARNER**

- We speak and act with kindness.
- We share and take turns.
- We include others and follow the rules.
- We care for our appearance.
- We care for belongings and the environment.

**RESPONSIBLE LEARNER**

- We are active listeners.
- We are prepared to learn.
- We learn and let others learn.
- We do our best and persist.

## SUN SAFETY

MRS CLOUSTON, MISS BAYNIE & THE PBL TEAM

PBL (Positive Behaviours for Learning) is an evidence-based framework that brings together the whole-school community to contribute to developing a positive, safe and supportive learning culture.



### Safe Learner



**We wear a hat outside.**



The framework assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people (NSW Government: Education).

At OLD, we have a PBL Matrix where we learn about what makes us Safe, Respectful and Responsible Learners. You might have seen these words on the crayons at the front of our school. Each fortnight, we focus on one expectation for these rules.

This fortnight, our focus expectation is "We wear a hat outside". We would love families to talk about the importance of sun safety at home and at school to support our teaching of this expectation at school... slip slop slap!





# WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

We are excited to welcome our new staff members to OLD in 2023.

We know you will help us to make them feel warmly welcomed as they get to know and become part of our wonderful community.



*Miss Rosie Rotherham:*

Kindergarten have been blessed with the lovely Miss Rotherham joining the team this year. Miss Rotherham enjoyed her early career in Early Childhood Education before embarking on her teaching degree to move into the world of Primary Teaching. When not in the classroom Miss Rotherham loves being in the great outdoors with nature or in the kitchen cooking up a storm.

*Mrs Beth Charlton:*

Our new Librarian extraordinaire!. Many in our community will know Mrs Charlton from her time at OLD in 2022. She comes to us as our permanent Librarian with extensive teaching experience across all year levels. When not at school Mrs Charlton is kept busy with her 2 young children. If you hear a musical number being sung around the school it's likely to be Mrs Charlton.



*Ms Raylene Fiorini:*

The Administration Team is excited to have Mrs Fiorini joining the office this year. Mrs Fiorini comes to OLD with extensive administration experience with her expertise being in finance. When not behind the front desk or tending to students in sick bay Mrs Fiorini enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and pets and thanks everyone for the warm welcome into the OLD community.



# Awards

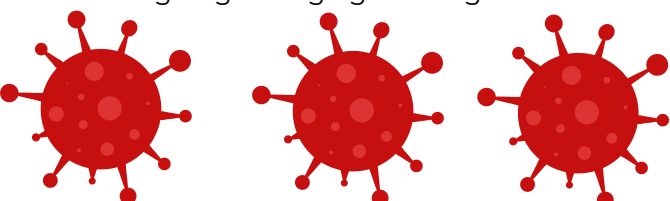


## REDUCING RISK OF ILLNESS



All students, staff and their families should follow NSW Health's advice to reduce the risk of not only COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect schools. We reinforce the following NSW Health messages with our community:

- Stay home if unwell or showing even the mildest of symptoms
- Keep up to date with vaccinations – including the flu vaccine, which is available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service
- Get tested immediately for COVID-19 if you become symptomatic and isolate until you receive a negative result and are symptom free
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing regularly with soap and water
- Take a RAT before visiting vulnerable loved ones or going to large gatherings and events.



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2023

**Staff Development  
Day**

**Monday 24 April**

**Staff Development  
Day**

**Friday 30 June**

**Save the date  
Creative Arts  
Festival**

**Thursday 21 September**

**Staff Development  
Day**

**Friday 22 September**

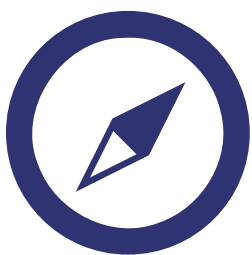
**Staff Development  
Day**

**Monday 18 December**

**Staff Development  
Day**

**Tuesday 19 December**





COMPASS is the main communication app for the school and where you will note student absences, find school reports and book meetings with teachers. In the case of a full day absence parents must enter their child's absence before 9am. If your child is marked 'not present' by the teacher and you have not entered an absence note you will be sent a notification informing you that your child is not at school. You will need to add the absence as soon as possible. You will also receive an email to remind you to enter the absence reason within 7 days. Remember, every school day is important for your child's social, emotional and academic development.



A reminder that all parents must email teachers via the school email ([old@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:old@dbb.catholic.edu.au)) this gets forwarded to each teacher. A teacher is unable to reply to emails or phone calls during school time, as their main priority is the education of your children and every teacher has a duty of care for their students. If a message is urgent please call the school office for the message to be communicated to the teacher as soon as possible



Safety at OLD regarding Nuts/Nut products & Egg/Egg products

Several students at OLD have a serious, life threatening allergic reaction to nuts/nut products, eggs/egg products. Because of this, we strenuously ask all families to not send nuts/nut products and egg/egg product to school in your children's lunches. Thank you for your anticipated support of this critical matter.



Dropping *forgotten items* at school. In a bid to encourage independence in our students we would ask that you do not drop forgotten items at school unless it is an emergency. Getting items to students once the school day has started interrupts valuable learning time for the student. Instead we encourage you to assist your child/ren to develop a routine in packing their school bags the night before—you will quickly be amazed by how independent and responsible your child becomes.

**Dismissal confirmation & Photo permissions:**

Please remember to complete your dismissal & photo permission forms on COMPASS. If you need assistance, please drop into the school office.







# Open Day



**Our Lady of Dolours  
Catholic Primary  
School**

**Our Open Day is a structured morning that will provide you with an opportunity for meaningful insight into our school.**



Meet our Principal, teachers, students, parents.



Learn about Our Lady of Dolours's faith led approach, including and inclusive model of education.



Visit our classrooms, play area, library, specialised media room, music rooms.

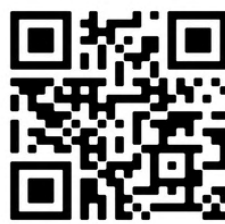


Gain a real sense of the Our Lady of Dolours's community.

**Tuesday  
28 February  
2023**

**9am – 11am**

**Come and experience first hand why Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood is a great choice for your children.**



**Scan Now  
To  
Register**

**Marco Ianni, Principal**

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