

FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION 1

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS NEWS

Ignite, Innovate & Include in the Spirit of Mercy



Upcoming Events

Wednesday 14 February 9am Ash
Wednesday Liturgy on the COLA

Wednesday 21 February
5-6pm K-2 info evening
6-7pm 3-6 info evening

Friday 23 February 2pm
Beginning School Mass &
Commissioning of Leaders

Monday 26 February 2pm
Mercy College visiting Yr 2 - Yr 6
girls

Friday 29 March
Good Friday

Monday 31 March
Easter Monday

WELCOME TO 2024

MARCO IANNI PRINCIPAL

Welcome to all our students, parents, carers and staff to the 2024 school year. It is an absolute pleasure, to welcome all our new 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.

Enrolling now for 2024



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 2024 journey together.

Some thoughts to inspire us:



*'Ignite' the students' desires
and their imaginations to
keenly learn and improve in
all aspects of school and
community life.*

*'Innovate' where a community
of learners are natural problem
solvers and creative thinkers.*



*'Include in a spirit of Mercy'
where the responsibility for
ensuring an inclusive spirit of
Mercy flourishes and rests with
all staff, students and parents
working together in partnership.*

INTRODUCING OUR 2024 CAPTAINS



School Captains: Rachel & Mathew (middle)
Vice Captains: Isabella & Curtis



Hi, my name is Rachel, I am 11 years old. I am the School Captain of O.L.D. I love our school because in this school everyone knows each other. As a leader, I want to achieve many things, but one of my main goals is to help and do my best to be a good role model. When Mr Ianni picked me to be the School Captain, I cried my heart out. I would like to be a lawyer when I am older. I love O.L.D., it is a welcoming community and a wonderful school.

Hi, my name is Mathew, I am 11 years old, and I am School Captain. As a leader, I want to help and be kind to everyone. What I love about Our Lady of Dolours, is that every day is a fun day and there are many nice people. Finally, my goal for the future is to be a popular Youtuber.

Hi, my name is Curtis, I am 11 years old. I am the School Vice Captain for 2024. As a Vice leader, I want to provide help to younger students that actually need help. Finally I like O.L.D. because everyone has always been nice to me, ever since I started in Kindergarten. In the future, I want to be a professional gamer or a very famous Youtuber.

Hi, my name is Isabella, I am 11 years old and I am the School Vice Captain. As a leader, I want to inspire others to know that no matter what your dream is, you can achieve it, as long as you put your mind to it. Who knows maybe one of us could become the Prime Minister. What I love about O.L.D. is that your peers and teachers always encourage you when you make a mistake and help you grow into a better person. My life long dream is to be a Human Rights Lawyer. This way I don't just inspire others to fulfill their dreams, but help others who truly need it. That is what it means to be a leader.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT OLD FOR 2024

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.

Parents will be required to complete the Parent volunteer form for all volunteering positions.

Grade Parent nominations for 2024



Grade Parents Nominations

We are inviting nominations for Grade Parents for 2024. 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 Friday 16th February. You will be required to attend a Grade Parent Briefing before commencing your role. Dates for the briefings are planned for Monday 19 February at 9.00m or Wednesday 21 February at 2.30pm.

Yours sincerely,
Marco Ianni

Events Committee Nominations

We are inviting nominations for Events Committee Members for 2024. 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 16 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.

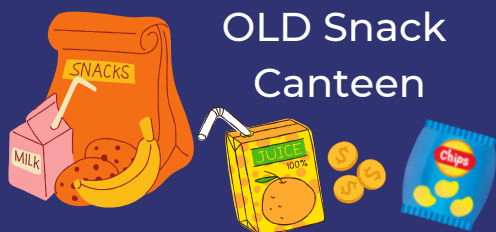
Once formulated I will organise a meeting for us to get together and start planning.

Kind regards
Marco Ianni

Events Committee Nominations for 2024



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 preferably via sms on 0478 019 838.

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Multilitt Tutoring at OLD

What is Multilitt?

The Multilitt 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 Multilitt 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
old@dbb.catholic.edu.au



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



WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN 2024

The Kindy Team this year are:

Angelina Femia - teaching Kindy Blue.

Angelina 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!

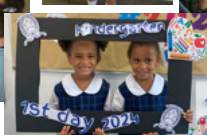
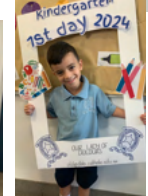
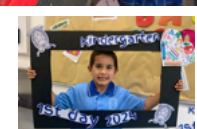
Rosie Rotherham - teaching Kindy Gold, and

is the outdoor queen! Rosie 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!!).

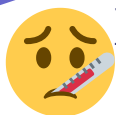
Joy Flores - teaching Kindy White. Joy

loves fishing on the weekends, baking bread and playing soccer.

The teachers have loved getting to know your children so far, all the Kindy students have settled well and are loving learning! They 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 they grow and change over the year.. the best is yet to come!!!!



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

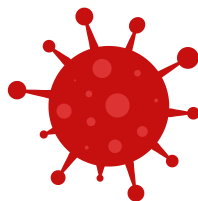
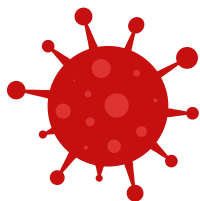
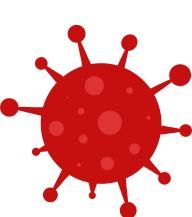


REDUCING RISK OF ILLNESS



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 symptoms of illness
- Keep up to date with vaccinations – including the flu vaccine, which is available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing regularly with soap and water



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.



PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS - COME AND MEET YOUR TEACHER

On Wednesday 21 February we will be holding our Meet the Teacher - Grade Information Evening. These sessions will be held in the classrooms with K-2 sessions being from 5-6pm and 3-6 sessions being from 6-7pm.

These sessions will parents a chance to meet their child/ren's teacher, hear about the year to come and to ask any questions they may have. Handouts will be available to all families on the night.

Early next week students will be bringing home a student survey, we ask that these please be completed and returned to classroom teachers by or on Wednesday 21 February.

Please note the information sessions are for parents only, there will be no supervision on the night and students are not to attend.



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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BROKEN BAY PARENT CHARTER

Building positive relationships among all stakeholders in a child's education is the cornerstone of nurturing student learning and success. To formalise our commitment to effective communication and mutual respect, Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) has recently launched a Parent Charter, a copy of which is available on the [CSSB website](#). In support of this initiative, we kindly ask parents to be mindful of the following guidelines when communicating with staff at Our Lady of Dolours:

- Stay Informed: Stay informed about your child's progress by attending parent-teacher conferences, reading newsletters, and checking COMPASS.
- Initiate Contact: Don't hesitate to reach out to the appropriate staff member if you have concerns or questions about your child's progress, behaviour, or any other aspect of their education. Initial communications should always be with the appropriate school personnel, e.g., the classroom teacher. If further support is required, please contact school leaders as per the issue resolution process.
- Be Respectful: Approach conversations with staff in a respectful and professional manner, as they are dedicated to helping your child succeed.
- Respect Response Time: Recognise that staff have multiple students and responsibilities. Allow them time to respond to your inquiries and respect their working hours. Staff will usually respond within 48 hours.

Effective communication between parents and school staff is the key to a successful educational journey for your child. When both parties approach interactions with respect, empathy, and a shared commitment to the child's well-being, positive outcomes are more likely to be achieved.

I encourage you to read the Parent Charter document carefully and welcome your feedback. We value your input and are committed to working together to ensure that our schools remain collaborative, safe, and supportive environments.





Awards



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2024

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 2 April

Monday 29 April

Staff Development Day

Friday 5 July

Monday 22 July

Staff Development Day

Friday 27 September

Monday 14 October

Staff Development Day

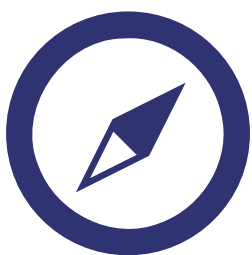
Thursday 19 December

Friday 20 December

Save the Date

Tuesday 17 September
Creative Arts Festival

Friday 6 December
Year 6 Graduation



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) 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.



Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Primary School Chatswood



OPEN DAY

Tuesday 5 March 2024 9am – 10.30am



Meet our Principal, teachers, students, parents.



Learn about our School's faith led approach.



Visit our classrooms, play area, library, TV studio, music rooms



Gain a real sense of the OLD School's community



**Scan now
to register**

Marco Ianni, Principal
Our Lady of Dolours
Catholic Primary School
94A Archer Street,
Chatswood NSW 2067
(02) 7256 2118
olddb.catholic.edu.au



*Authentic, professional Catholic education,
delivered with care and compassion*



TERM 1 ENROLMENT STILL ONGOING

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- 10 weekly classes per Term
- Discount for bookings between 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Monday to Friday
- No Chlorine
- Indoor heated pool (32 °C)

OUR REVIEWS

Ada Tong ★★★★★

My 6 and 4 year olds have progressed really well since starting swimming at SDA. Both Kyle and Roxy are kind but work them hard. The pool is great too - no chlorine so the kids skin doesn't get irritated and quieter and less overwhelming than a public pool, if you've got a child who's a bit sensitive.

BOOK NOW

Osborne rd Greenwich, Sydney, NSW Australia 2065

0247616924

www.swimdevelopmentaustralia.com.au



Private 1:1 or 2:1



chatswoodjuniorrugby.com.au

CHATSWOOD Junior Rugby Club


Try Mini Tag & Rugby

Sunday 18th Feb

Boys and Girls 4 years and up

11am to 1pm Beauchamp Park Chatswood



Minis (u6-u9) Games Now

SUNDAY